

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4659
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
RENOVATION OF VIKRAMSHILA MAHAVIHAR
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;Singh Smt. Meena

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has started the renovation of Vikramshila Mahavihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any recommendation has been made to the UNESCO for including Vikramshila Mahavihar and ancient Nalanda University in the list of World Heritage;
- (d) if so, the details and present status thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of the schemes formulated to promote/create publicity of the remains of Nalanda University in order to attract tourist towards this heritage site; and
- (f) the time by which the said world heritage sites are likely to be revived?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARA KATOCH)

- (a) &(b) Conservation and maintenance work of Vikramshila Mahavihar is attended to regularly. Presently conservation work of a Votive Stupa at the site is in progress and that of monastic cells on western side is scheduled to be taken up by funding from National Cultural Fund.
- (c)&(d) Yes, Madam. These sites are already included in the Tentative List of UNESCO which is a pre-requisite for inclusion of any monument in World Heritage List.
- (e) Various functions, seminars, lectures, etc. are organized on different occasions, throughout the year, to give wide publicity to monuments and sites including Nalanda University.
- (f) Conservation work of the monuments is a continuous process.