

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2053  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009  
PRESERVATION OF HERITAGE SITES  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to preserve heritage sites as per the directions of UNESCO;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;
- (c) whether the Government launched the world heritage series commemorative medal programme recently;
- (d) if so, the details thereof State-wise including Andhra Pradesh heritage sites; and
- (e) the steps taken to make Indian cultural heritages compete with World cultural heritages and inclusion in the World Wonders?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. As per the requirement of UNESCO, all Member-States are obliged to prepare Site Management Plans (SMP) for their sites inscribed in the World Heritage List and submit them to UNESCO who periodically monitors implementation of the SMPs. India has taken appropriate action in this regard in respect of its inscribed sites.

(c) & (d) MMTC-PAMP India Pvt. Ltd. (a joint venture between MMTC Ltd; a Govt. of India undertaking and PAMP S.A. Switzerland) and UNESCO, New Delhi in association with Archaeological Survey of India have launched World Heritage Series Commemorative medals in November 2009 with the World Heritage logo on one side and the monument picture on the other side. Presently, the medals pertaining to Taj Mahal, Agra; Humayun's Tomb & Qutub Minar, New Delhi and Brihadisvara Temple, Gangaikondacholapuram (TN) have been launched.

(e) Identification of sites having potential for inscription in the World Heritage List of UNESCO and posing them for consideration to UNESCO against yearly quota of the country is a continuous process. Actions have also been taken to create state-of-the-art tourist facilities at our World Heritage Sites to make them more attractive and popular.