

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:679  
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009  
WORLD HERITAGE STATUS FOR NALANDA  
Panda Shri Baijayant

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

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has moved UNESCO seeking world heritage status for the ruins of Nalanda, the ancient Buddhist Centre of Learning;
- (b): if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of the proposal;
- (c) whether there is any proposal for moving UNESCO or some other International body for grant of heritage status to such sites in Orissa; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a)&(b) As per the guidelines laid down by the World Heritage Centre (WHC) of UNESCO, it is mandatory to include a site having Outstanding Universal Value in the Tentative List of WHC for one year before it is considered for inscription in the World Heritage List of WHC. Our proposal to include Nalanda site in the Tentative List was considered and accepted by the World Heritage Committee in its 33rd session held last month (June, 2009) at Seville, Spain.
- (c) No.Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.