

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5503

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2015

MERGER OF SILK ROUTE PROGRAMME WITH MAUSAM PROJECT

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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has indicated to merge its Silk Route Programme with India's Mausam and other plans to enhance connectivity with South Asian nations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government with respect to enhancing connectivity with China and the South Asian Countries; and
- (e) the common benefits likely to be derived as a result thereof.

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (e) No, Madam. Archaeological Survey of India has not received any communication regarding the merger of Silk Road Programme with India's Mausam. The Government of India is regularly attending the meetings of coordinating Committee on serial nomination of Silk Road sites and has agreed to follow the corridor strategy adopted in this connection by UNESCO. The Conservation team of ASI has proposals to work in Nepal and Sri Lanka. A collaborative programme on Silk Route may enhance sustainable tourism development along the historic Silk Route. It may stimulate investment and promote the conservation of the route's natural and cultural heritage.