

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:398  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014  
UNESCO S WORLD HERITAGE LIST  
Biswas Shri Radheshyam;Chakravarty Smt. Bijoya

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

- (a) the criteria for inclusion of ancient sites, monuments, temples, cities and other tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the UNESCO'S World Heritage List and the details of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the country included in the said list so far;
- (b) the details of benefits derived/accrued therefrom;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take steps for inclusion of Mughal Garden and Dal Lake in Kashmir, Majuli Island in Assam and Jalore Fort in Rajasthan in the UNESCO's World Heritage List, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the proposals received from the States and submitted by the Government to UNESCO for inclusion in the UNESCO'S World Heritage List; and
- (e) the present status of these proposals along with the reasons for pendency for different monuments?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) CULTURE & TOURISM (SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the house.

STATEMENT REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 398 FOR 5.8.2014

(a) The criteria for inclusion of ancient sites, monuments, temples, cities and other tangible cultural heritage in the UNESCO'S World Heritage List is given in annexure I. The details of the tangible cultural heritage of the country included in the said list are given in annexure II. The Intangible Cultural Heritage elements are not included in the UNESCO's World Heritage List, instead, as per UNESCO's Conventions on Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003, the UNESCO updates/ publishes, normally every year, a List, termed as Representative List, of significant Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in order to ensure their better visibility and awareness of its significance, and to encourage dialogue which respects cultural diversity etc. Presently, India has 10 Intangible Cultural Heritage elements inscribed in the above mentioned Representative List. The details are given in annexure III.

(b) As far as accrued benefits arising out of these nominations are concerned, being Intangible Cultural Heritage elements, it may be impracticable to quantify them. Moreover, such recognition inter-alia provides an international recognition to the cultural heritage which directly/ indirectly invites preferred attention in preservation/ promotion of such Intangible Cultural Heritage elements. World Heritage Site status provides wider recognition and a higher profile, broad legal status, economic, technical assistance and networking opportunities and International Collaboration in protection. It improves the management, preservation and conservation levels of the site. The site is viewed more favorably and provides a promotional advantage and a 'branding effect' which encourages new investment and increases tourism and hence sustainable development.

(c) to (e) Yes, the Mughal Gardens of Kashmir and Majuli Islands in Assam are included in the Tentative List of India. The nomination dossier of Majuli Island was returned from World Heritage Centre (WHC) in March 2012 as it was not complete as per the latest Operational Guidelines (OG) of 2011 at that time. It was thereafter decided that the revised nomination would be prepared by Government of Assam. The State Government was accordingly requested for this purpose. These will be taken up when the same is submitted by the state government. As per the Operational Guidelines ( no.63, Decision 24COM para.VI.2.3.2) of World Heritage Committee to consider the proposal for inscription in World Heritage List, a property first need to be listed under the Tentative List. At present Dal lake and Jalor Fort are not included in tentative list of World Heritage. The details of the proposals submitted by the Government to World Heritage Committee and included in tentative list of World Heritage are given in annexure-IV. The reason for pendency of different monuments is that as a part of the convention, a country can submit only one nomination from cultural category and one from natural category per year.