

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1202
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014
PROJECT MAUSAM
Gawali (Patil) Ms. Bhavana

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revive ancient links in Indian Ocean by launching 'Project Mausam'.
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives of this project; and
- (c) whether the project would counter China's silk route and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Madam. The Government has decided to revive ancient links in Indian Ocean by launching 'Project Mausam'.
- (b) Project 'Mausam' will reach out to various coastal states and UTs in India, advocating for coastal sites and cultural landscapes that have potential to be part of various events and activities under Project 'Mausam' including active participation in transnational nominations as identified under the Project. It will also tie up with regional researchers and academics to bring forth their work on a common platform, so as to gain a more holistic understanding of the subcontinent's coastal and maritime history. It will enable collaboration between regional researchers; improve accessibility and dissemination of knowledge across India as well as other countries in the Indian Ocean region in future. Review of existing material and database on 'Monsoon', 'Indian Ocean Region' and 'Coastal cultural landscapes and coastal heritage sites across India' with various organisations and institutions in order to identify future possibilities of data collation and collaboration for the Project, review archaeological sites (excavated/unexcavated), architectural and industrial heritage, cultural landscapes along the Indian Ocean Coast in India for marking them as potential sites for transnational nominations.
- (c) No, Madam.