

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3475
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
SETTING UP OF HERITAGE SITES COMMISSION
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to set up a Heritage Sites Commission to ensure conservation of the historical monuments in the country;
- (b) if so, the details therefor; along with its objective;
- (c) whether the Government has delegated all the statutory powers to the Commission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (e) Yes Madam. The National Commission for Heritage Sites & Bills, 2009 which inter-alia provides for constitution of a National Commission for Heritage Sites, as introduced in the Rajya Sabha in February 2009 envisages responsibilities for the Commission that include (a) make lists of heritage sites for nomination to UNESCO and also maintain a National Register of such sites (b) identify and recommend measures and guidelines and short and long term policies for conservation, protection and management of heritage sites and the integrated intangible cultural systems (c) conduct research for identifying and categorizing heritage sites and (e) publish heritage maps on the basis of such studies (requires local expertise and application) (d) make recommendations on matters referred to it and periodic reports on any matter relating to heritage sites.

Based on comments received from various stakeholders, Ministry of Culture has proposed to review the Bill.