

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1727
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.03.2020

ACCESSIBILITY OF HERITAGE SITES TO DIFFERENTLY-ABLED PERSONS

1727. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR BELLANA:

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

- a) whether the country has 38 UNESCO World Heritage Sites from which 30 are cultural sites, 7 are natural sites and 1 is a mixed site which makes India a home of World Heritage sites and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the Government is contemplating to make these heritage sites accessible to differently-abled persons which will further strengthen the country's rank in upcoming editions of the Travel Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI) and also establishing the country as a leading model of accessibility planning and implementation in the South Asian Region;
- c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- d) whether the Government proposes to improve infrastructure in present museums and art galleries for differently-abled persons rather than building separate art galleries or sections at museums to meet the needs of such persons with disabilities; and
- e) the efforts made to develop inclusive cultural spaces, technologies and learning programmes to encourage the participation of differently-abled persons?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM
(PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a) Yes Sir, India has 38 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, out of which, 30 are cultural sites, 07 are natural and 01 is a mixed site. The list of world heritage sites is annexed at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c) Yes Sir, arrangements have been made at most of the World Heritage Sites under Archaeological Survey of India to make these sites accessible to differently-abled persons by providing wheel chairs, ramps, Braille cultural notice boards, etc.

(d) & (e) Visit of differently abled persons is facilitated at museums and art-galleries by way of providing wheel chairs, ramps, signages and brochures in Braille. In addition, special section 'Anubhuti' with tactile/brail enabled narrative has been installed at National Museum, Delhi.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1727 FOR DATED 02.03.2020

WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN INDIA (38)

CULTURAL SITES:

Under Protection of Archaeological Survey of India (22)

S. No	Name of Site	State
1.	Agra Fort (1983)	Uttar Pradesh
2.	Ajanta Caves (1983)	Maharashtra
3.	Ellora Caves (1983)	Maharashtra
4.	Taj Mahal (1983)	Uttar Pradesh
5.	Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram (1984)	Tamil Nadu
6.	Sun Temple, Konarak (1984)	Odisha
7.	Churches and Convents of Goa (1986)	Goa
8.	Fatehpur Sikri (1986)	Uttar Pradesh
9.	Group of Monuments at Hampi (1986)	Karnataka
10.	Khajuraho, Group of Temples (1986)	Madhya Pradesh
11.	Elephanta Caves (1987)	Maharashtra
12.	Great Living Chola Temples at Thanjavur, Gangaikondacholapuram and Darasuram (1987 & 2004)	Tamil Nadu
13.	Group of Monuments at Pattadakal (1987)	Karnataka
14.	Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi (1989)	Madhya Pradesh
15.	Humayun's Tomb, Delhi (1993)	Delhi
16.	Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi (1993)	Delhi
17.	Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka (2003)	Madhya Pradesh
18.	Champaner-Pavagarh Archaeological Park (2004)	Gujarat
19.	Red Fort Complex, Delhi (2007)	Delhi
20.	Hill Forts of Rajasthan (Chittaurgarh, Kumbhalgarh, Jaisalmer and Ranthambhore, Amber and Gagron Forts) (2013) (Amber and Gagron Forts are under protection of Rajasthan State Archaeology and Museums)	Rajasthan
21.	Rani-ki-Vav (The Queen's Stepwell) at Patan (2014)	Gujarat
22.	Archaeological Site of Nalanda <i>Mahavihara</i> (Nalanda University) at Nalanda (2016)	Bihar

Under Protection of Ministry of Railways (2)

23.	Mountain Railways of India (Darjeeling,1999), Nilgiri (2005), Kalka-Shimla(2008)	West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh
24.	Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus) (2004)	Maharashtra

Under Protection of Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee (1)

25.	Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya, (2002)	Bihar
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Under Protection of Rajasthan State Archaeology and Museums (1)

26.	The Jantar Mantar, Jaipur (2010)	Rajasthan
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Under Protection of Chandigarh Administration (1)

27.	The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement (2016)	Chandigarh
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Under Protection of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (1)

28.	Historic City of Ahmedabad (2017)	Gujarat
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Under Protection of Bombay Municipal Corporation (1)

29.	Victorian and Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai (2018)	Govt of Maharashtra
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Under Protection of Jaipur Municipal Corporation (1)

30.	Jaipur City, Rajasthan (2019)	Govt of Rajasthan
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NATURAL SITES: (7)**Under Protection of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Changes**

31.	Kaziranga National Park (1985)	Assam
32.	Keoladeo National Park (1985)	Rajasthan
33.	Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (1985)	Assam
34.	Sunderbans National Park (1987)	West Bengal
35.	Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks (1988, 2005)	Uttarakhand
36.	Western Ghats (2012)	Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu
37.	Great Himalayan National Park (2014)	Himachal Pradesh

MIXED SITE: (1)**Under Protection of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Changes**

38.	Khangchendzonga National Park (2016)	Sikkim
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