

(a) the present status and details of formalities required to be completed towards inscription of Majuli Island in the World Heritage list indicating the date of communication received from World Heritage Centre (WHC) and point-wise response made on those queries;

(b) the details of progress made so far on compilation of revised dossier, preparation of management plan and related promotional activities carried out in consonance with world heritage convention and as part of the national responsibility towards this heritage island along with agency entrusted, fund allocated and target fixed for each component; and

(c) the list of properties or sites of India being proposed for world heritage nomination during 2014?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH):

(a) 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 of 2011. It was there after decided that the revised nomination would be prepared by Government of Assam. The State Government was accordingly requested for this purpose.

(b) As the Operational Guidelines of UNESCO have been revised in 2011, the whole nomination dossier is required to be prepared accordingly to the latest guidelines which is an extended work. The State Government of Assam is to prepare the revised dossier and the matter is being pursued with the State Government for early preparation of the revised dossier. The State Government has been addressed in August, 2013 as well as January, 2014 in this regard.

(c) The dossiers for Rani Ki-Vav under Cultural category and Khangchendzonga National Park under Natural category have been submitted to world heritage centre for inscription in world heritage list, 2014.

Criteria for declaring classical language

1573. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria evolved by Government to determine declaration of a language as a Classical language;

(b) whether the criteria have been followed to the hilt in declaring languages as Classical language so far; and

(c) whether Government will declare Oriya as a Classical language on the basis of criteria applied to other languages so declared and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH):

(a) Sir, the criteria is as under:

- (i) High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years;
- (ii) A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers;
- (iii) The literary tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community;
- (iv) The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. The proposal is under process.

Conservation and protection of monuments in Tamil Nadu

1574. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial and technological support provided during last three years by the Archaeological Survey of India for the conservation, preservation and protection of Centrally Protected Monuments in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether funds provided in last three years for most important heritage monuments in Tamil Nadu are inadequate;

(c) if so, the measures taken by Government to provide adequate funds for conservation and preservation of important heritage monuments in Chennai Circle; and

(d) the year-wise and Monument-wise funds allocated and released in last five years protection and beautification of World Heritage Monuments in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH):

(a) Adequate technical support has been provided in Tamil Nadu for conservation, preservation and environmental development of centrally protected monuments. The year-wise details of expenditure incurred for conservation of monuments in last three years are as under: