

(Amount ₹ in crore)	
Total budget of Archaeological Survey of India	Expenditure on exploration /excavation
218.41	3.12
1.43 % was incurred on the exploration/excavation activities/work	

Declaration of Kolkata as a Heritage City

2945. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to declare a few cities like Delhi and Mumbai as Heritage City, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Kolkata would also be declared as a Heritage City; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. Two cities have been identified for the nomination 1. Delhi's Imperial Capital cities and 2. Mumbai's Victorian and Art Deco Ensemble and their nomination dossiers have been submitted for inscription to World Heritage List of UNESCO.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. 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 needs to be listed under the Tentative List. No, proposal for inclusion of Kolkata city in the tentative list of world heritage list has been received by the Archaeological Survey of India so far.

Funds to M.P. for conservation of archaeological

†2946. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides financial assistance/grants to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh or certain institutions/private institutions for the conservation and promotion of the archaeological sites of the State; and

(b) if so, the site-wise/institution-wise details thereof during the last five years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such scheme is there with Archaeological

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Survey of India (ASI) to provide financial assistance/grant to State Government of Madhya Pradesh/Institutions in the State for conservation and promotion of the archaeological sites. However, the conservation work of protected monuments of ASI in the country including Madhya Pradesh is attended regularly and they are in a good state of preservation.

Celebration for Classical Languages

2947. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sanskrit Week celebration followed by Government is applicable for other Classical Languages such as Tamil, Kannada and Telugu; and

(b) if so, whether it will be celebrated throughout the country so that all Indians learn a Classical Language under Three Language Formula too ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey to identify monuments of national importance

2948. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has conducted a comprehensive survey or review to identify monuments which are of national importance for inclusion in the list of centrally protected monuments;

(b) whether the ASI has conducted a review to identify monuments which have lost the stature of national importance over a period of time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The exploration of archaeologically important sites is an ongoing process and the Archaeological Survey of India conducts explorations and comes across certain monuments/sites and of which a few merit consideration for declaration as of national importance under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 provided they meet the criterion. The latest proposal for protection of monuments and sites is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The monuments/sites under ASI are conserved, preserved and maintained by way of structural repairs on priority basis, as per archaeological norms, subject to availability of resources. Periodical review of the status of monuments/sites declared as of national importance is taken up by ASI.