

The list of the Indian sites already inscribed on the World Heritage list is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

Statement*World Heritages sites in India***CULTURAL SITES**

Sl. No.	Name of site	State
1.	Ajanta Caves (1983)	Maharashtra
2.	Ellora Caves (1983)	Maharashtra
3.	Agra Fort (1983)	Uttar Pradesh
4.	Taj Mahal (1983)	Uttar Pradesh
5. ¹	Sun Ternple, Konarak (1984)	Orissa
6.	Group of monuments at Mahabalipuram (1984)	Tamil Nadu
7.	Churches & Convents of Goa (1986)-	Goa
8.	Group of temples, Khajuraho (1986)	Madhya Pradesh
9.	Group of monuments at Hampi (1986)	Karnataka
10.	Group of monuments, Fatehpur Sikri (1986)	Uttar Pradesh
11.	Group of temples, Pattadakal (1987)	Karnataka
12.	Elephanta Caves (1987)	Maharashtra
13.	Great Living Chola temples at Thanjavur, Gangaikondacholapuram and Darasuram (1987 and 2004)	Tamil Nadu
14.	Buddhist monuments at Sanchi (1989)	Madhya Pradesh
15.	Humayun Tomb, Delhi (1993)	Delhi
16.	Qutab Minar complex, Delhi	Delhi
17.	Mountain Railway of India (1999, 2005)	West Bengal and Tamil Nadu
18.	Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhgaya (2002)	Bihar
19.	Prehistoric Rock shelters of Bhimbetka (2003)	Madhya Pradesh
20.	Champaner-Pavagarh Archaeological Park (2004)	Gujarat
21.	Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus) (2004)	Maharashtra
22.	Red Fort complex (2007)	Delhi

NATURAL SITES

Sl. No.	Name of site	State
1.	Kaziranga National Park (1985)	Assam
2.	Manas Wild Life Sanctuary (1985)	Assam
3.	Keoladeo National Park (1985)	Rajasthan
4.	Sunderban National Park (1987)	West Bengal
5.	Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks (1988, 2005)	Uttaranchal

Declaration of Ram Setu as national monument

†319. SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Madras High Court has directed to declare Ram Setu (between India and Sri Lanka) as national monument under the National Monument and Archaeological Place Law, 1958;

(b) whether its existence is the oldest in comparison to the many declared monuments;

(c) whether such sentiments alongwith logic have also been expressed by many archaeologists, legal experts, Members of Parliament, social and religious organizations; and

(d) what is the difficulty in declaring it national monument by keeping the above things in mind, if there is no difficulty or objection in it then what steps have been taken to make declaration by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No such directions have been received from the Madras High Court.

(b) No archaeological study has been made in respect of Ram Setu by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) Such sentiments have been expressed by way of representations to the Government and petitions before Courts.

(d) As per the scientific evidence available so far, Ram Setu does not fulfil the criteria to be declared as a monument of national importance under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

Protection of cultural heritage sites in Uttarakhand

†320. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether work is under process to declare some villages of the State of Uttarakhand alongwith Dwarahat and Adibadri as 'cultural village' and whether the work is going on the special plan for the protection of the cultural heritages situated in these villages; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi