

Need to set up a special task force for protection of archaeological sites and historical monuments of Manipur

SHRI MAHARAJA SANAJAOBA LEISHEMBA (Manipur): Sir, Manipur State Archaeology established in 1978 has devoted to preservation, protection, maintenance and conservation of monuments and sites. It has also conducted various exploration and excavation ventures, documentation, registration of antiquities, etc., and creating awareness among the general public by publishing books, brochures, organizing seminars, workshops, etc., on archaeological theme.

At present, there are 63 protected archaeological sites and historical monuments all over Manipur under the Manipur Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1976. However, some of these protected monuments/sites are located at international border or State border area, namely inscribed stones of Maharaja Chandrakriti of Behiang, Churachandpur, Megaliths at Mao, etc, and interior parts of State.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Maharajaji, you can only speak; you cannot read. I am allowing because you are a new Member.

SHRI MAHARAJA SANAJAOBA LEISHEMBA: Sir, I will conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. But, be brief.

SHRI MAHARAJA SANAJAOBA LEISHEMBA: Megalitho at Phunyyar, Anal Khullen (Chondel), Khangkhueave (Ukhrul), etc.

In order to protect and preserve these monuments from encroachers, vandalism and unwanted incidents, a Special Task Force is required to set up. Therefore, I request the Government of India to set up a Special Task Force for the same purpose. Thank you.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by the hon. Member.