

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 330
ANSWERED ON 01.04.2022

HERITAGE PRESERVATION IN RAILWAYS

330. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote heritage preservation in Railways and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to identify various heritage items or artefacts that are currently lying unnoticed or overlooked at different locations and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Government proposes for the maintenance of Railways in hilly areas and bring them to the world standard to promote tourism; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 330 BY SHRI SUJEET KUMAR ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 01.04.2022 REGARDING HERITAGE PRESERVATION IN RAILWAYS

(a) Ministry of Railways have taken several steps to promote heritage preservation in Indian Railways (IR). These include launching of a special drive to identify various heritage items/artefacts at different locations of IR; maintain a logbook of all major events, at Zonal Railways as well as at National Rail Museum to record the timelines of Railways' history, preservation of Steam Locomotives; upkeep and preservation of Hill Railways, strengthening of railway museums, conservation of built heritage etc.

(b) Ministry of Railways have directed all Zonal Railways/Production Units for identification and preservation of Railway heritage assets like buildings, bridges, rolling stocks, documents, photographs, artefacts, equipments, clocks, benches etc. This is a continuous and ongoing process for preservation of heritage assets on Indian Railways.

(c) & (d) Ministry of Railways is maintaining 05 hill railways of India [Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR), Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR), Kalka Shimla Railway (KSR), Matheran Light Railway (MLR) and Kangra Valley Railway (KVR)] to world class standards and in immaculate state for promoting tourism and heritage preservation. Since the last visit of UNESCO team on Indian Railways in 2019 by Reactive Monitoring Mission of World Heritage Committee (UNESCO) and several recommendations forwarded by them have been complied with.
