

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**RAJYASABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 340**  
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

**INCLUSION IN THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

340. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes Bidar Fort, Chitradurga Fort, Gulbarga Fort, Kittur Fort, Chamundeshwari Temple, Mysore, Durga Parameshwari Temple, Kateel, Hasanamba Temple, Hassan, KolluruMookambika Temple, Kollur, Kudalasangama, ManjunathaSwamy Temple, Dharmasthala, Nanjundeswara Temple, Nanjangud, Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangapatna and Virupaksha Temple, Hampi for inclusion in the World Heritage list and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the criteria/benchmark for inclusion of any site in the World Heritage list; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme/Annual Conservation Plan for the renovation of such ancient forts and temples and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) The monuments of Bidar, Gulbarga forts and Ranganathaswamy Temple in Srirangapatna, have been included in the Tentative List under the titles “Monuments and Forts of Deccan Sultanates” and “Monuments of Srirangapatna Island Town”, respectively. Meanwhile, the Virupaksha Temple in Hampi has already been declared a World Heritage Site under the Group of Monuments at Hampi. However, the remaining forts and monuments have not been proposed for inclusion in the Tentative List.
- (b) As per the Operational Guidelines, 2024, the selection criteria for including any site in the World Heritage List are provided in **Annexure-I**.
- (c) All Centrally Protected Monuments, including forts and other monuments, are maintained and preserved as per the approved Annual Works Programme and the allocated funds, in line with the National Conservation Policy, 2014 of the Archaeological Survey of India. Conservation and restoration work is carried out as and when required.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 340 FOR 06.02.2025.**

**Selection criteria**

- (i) To represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii) To exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) To bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) To be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) To be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;
- (vi) To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria);
- (vii) To contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;
- (viii) To be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;
- (ix) To be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x) To contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.

\*\*\*\*\*