

further emphasized keeping in mind the need to improve facilities at such places from the point of view of tourism, culture and civic cleanliness.

World Heritage status to historical paintings of Bhimbaitaka caves in M.P.

†1003. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UNESCO, is considering to grant of World Heritage status to historical paintings in Bhimbaitaka caves near Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the World Organisation has agreed to give financial assistance for the purpose and if so, the extent of assistance proposed to be provided; and

(d) whether Government are also considering to give financial assistance and if so, the extent of assistance proposed to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN):
(a) and (b) The World Heritage Committee its 27th session, held at Paris between 30th June and 5th July 2003, has approved the inscription of the Rock Shelters of Bhimbetha near Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, on the World Heritage list as proposed by India for 2003.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A sum of Rs. 112 lakhs has been earmarked for conservation, excavation and area development.

Development of tourism in upper Assam

1004. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken any comprehensive view to develop tourism in upper Assam as it contains the Kajiranga

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.