

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1310
ANSWERED ON 30.07.2026

Recognition of Mudumal Megalithic Menhirs

1310. Dr. K. Laxman:

Will the Minister of **Culture** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken following inclusion of Mudumal Megalithic Menhirs in Telangana on India's UNESCO Tentative World Heritage List in March 2025;
- (b) the steps taken for archaeological documentation, scientific conservation, site management, community participation and visitor infrastructure at the site; and
- (c) the broader strategy of Government for increasing India's tally of UNESCO World Heritage Sites beyond the current 44?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Mudumal Megalithic Menhirs in Telangana was listed on India's UNESCO Tentative World Heritage List in March 2025. In this regard, the proposal of Preliminary Assessment (PA) has been received by the Archaeological Survey of India from the Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture department of Telangana.
- (b) The Mudumal Megalithic Menhir is protected with Department of Heritage, Telangana. As per information received from Department of Heritage, Telangana; the department has undertaken detailed archaeological documentation including photographic recording, GIS mapping, condition assessment and inventory preparation of the megalithic remains. Department of Heritage Telangana, in collaboration with the District Administration and the Education Department, conducted heritage awareness programmes for nearly 600 school teachers, highlighting the importance of heritage conservation and protection.

Based on the excavation proposal submitted by the Department of Heritage, Telangana, the Archaeological Survey of India has accorded permission to carry out the excavation at the site.
- (c) The Archaeological Survey of India under the Ministry of Culture has taken the necessary steps to enhance India's representation on the UNESCO World Heritage List by ensuring the timely submission of Preliminary Assessment (PA) and Nomination Dossiers to the UNESCO, World Heritage Centre in accordance with the prescribed timelines.

During the 48th session of the World Heritage Committee recently held in Busan, Republic of Korea, India added Ancient Buddhist Site, Sarnath, Varanasi to the UNESCO World Heritage List. With this India has 45 Sites on the World Heritage List.
