

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2691  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2018

**INCLUSION OF TOURIST SITES OF BIHAR IN UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

**†2691.SHRI RAMA KISHORE SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether the UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organizations) has included several tourist sites in Bihar including the historical site, Vaishali in conditional list instead of permanent list of world heritage sites;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the effective steps taken by the Government to get various historical tourist sites specially Vaishali included in the permanent list of the world heritage sites?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR  
CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT,  
FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a)&(b) Yes Madam. Few sites from Bihar including Ruins of Ancient Vaishali feature in UNESCO's Tentative List under:
  - (i) Silk Road Sites in India
  - (ii) Sites along the Uttarapath, Badshahi Sadak, Sadak-e-Azam, Grand Trunk Road
  - (iii) Sites of Satyagrah, India's non-violent Freedom Movement
- (c) India has at present 42 sites on the Tentative List and as per Operational Guidelines, only one site can be considered in a year for inscription on the World Heritage List. Augmentation of sites on the World Heritage List is a continuous process. Several sites have been included in the List with the support of various State Governments after selecting the sites on the basis of their potential for fulfilling criteria and demonstration of Outstanding Universal Value.