

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1156
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2019

WORLD HERITAGE SITE

1156. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN :

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

- (a) whether the Government has any intention to impose restrictions across the Western Ghats region, as UNESCO has declared it as a World Heritage Site;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any communication in this regard from UNESCO;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has ratified the UN Heritage site declaration of Western Ghats; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a)& (b) The Government has no intention to impose restrictions across the Western Ghats on World Heritage Sites inscribed under UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 1972. All restrictions/regulations on these sites are operational, depending upon their legal status under appropriate national laws.
- (c) & (d) No such new communication has been received by the Government from UNESCO in this regard. The UNESCO World Heritage Committee generally recommends various measures to maintain the OUV (Outstanding Universal Value) for individual World Heritage Sites during the time of inscription into the World Heritage List.
- (e) & (f) India is a signatory to the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which was ratified by the Government of India in 1977. Western Ghats, India was inscribed on the World Heritage List by UNESCO during the 36th Session of the World Heritage Committee at Saint Petersburg in 2012, based on the proposal submitted by the Government of India.