

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1492
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.07.2019

INCLUSION OF KAILASH MANSAROVAR IN UNESCO LIST

1492. SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has included Indian side of Kailash Mansarovar in its tentative list of world heritage sites;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the timeline for permanent inclusion of Kailash Mansarovar in the world heritage sites list; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the impact of climate change on Kailash Mansarovar?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM
(PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a)& (b) Yes Sir, proposal for 'Sacred Mountain Landscape and Heritage Routes' (Indian side of Kailash Mansarovar) has been included in Tentative List of World Heritage Sites of India as a Mixed site in April, 2019. The site has been proposed under UNESCO criteria (iii), (vi) & (x) of Operational Guideline. (Annexure-A)

(c) As per UNESCO's Operational Guidelines 2017, a site must be on tentative list of UNESCO at least for a period of one year before proposing it for final nomination. Once the nomination dossier is completed, it is sent to the World Heritage Centre (WHC) by the stipulated deadline of 01 February of a calendar year. In furtherance an expert of the respective field in cultural & natural fields is deputed for the evaluation of site by WHC. Accordingly, decision of permanent inclusion of any site in World Heritage list is taken by the members of the World heritage committee.

(d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India and the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India have initiated several programmes for the mitigation of Climate Change with particular reference to the Himalayas, e.g. National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) is one of the eight missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1492

Selection criteria as Operational Guidelines 2017

- (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.

