

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.46**  
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

**CRITERIA TO DECLARE NATIONAL IMPORTANCE MONUMENTS**

46. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:  
COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any formal policy or criteria in place for the selection of monuments to be designated as national importance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the key factors considered in this process;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to implement a strategy for rationalizing the existing list of monuments of national importance, in the light of Economic Advisory Council's recommendations and the steps being considered to address issues such as skewed geographical distribution and inadequate expenditure on upkeep; and
- (d) whether the Government has initiated any comprehensive review or assessment of the current list of monuments of national importance and if not the plans to undertake such a review to address the reported problems including erroneous selection and over-concentration in certain States?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) The declaration of monuments and sites is done under section 4 of the Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958. The proposals, accompanied with
- (b) supporting documents in the designated proforma, are evaluated by the Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). Upon recommendation of the TEC, Central Government notifies, seeking views of the public. Thereafter, a final notification is issued declaring the monument(s) to be of national importance.
- (c) The ASI has noted the observations.
- (d) The review of monuments of national importance is a regular process. The historicity of any place often results in protection of monuments/sites in certain States. The actions are initiated by the field officers on the basis of inputs from the members of the public and other agencies.

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