

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4201**  
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2021

**DEVELOPMENT OF FIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AS ICONIC SITES**

4201. DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:  
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:  
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJU BHAIYA):  
SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:  
SHRI NISITH PRAMANIK:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has planned to develop five archeological sites as Iconic Sites with on-site museums and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed to set up Museum on Numistics and Trade, Maritime museum and Tribal museum and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has identified four museums from across the country to be taken up for renovation and re-curation including Indian Museum in Kolkata and if so, the details thereof ;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to establish an Indian Institute of Heritage and Conservation; and
- (e) if so, the other important steps taken/being taken by the Government for the development of museums in the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

- (a) Yes Sir,  
The Ministry of Finance in the budget 2020 has announced development of five (05) nos. of Iconic sites with on-site museums across India which include – 1. Hastinapur (Uttar Pradesh), 2. Rakhigarhi (Haryana), 3. Sibsagar (Assam), 4. Dholavira (Gujrat) and 5. Adichannalur (Tamil Nadu) to promote tourism. The sites were selected because of their Outstanding Archaeological/

Historical Value. Each of the sites represents unique aspects of Indian history and cultural development.

- (b) Finance Minister in her Budget Speech on 01.2.2020 made certain announcements in the field of Culture. Some of the announcements and their status are as under:

**A museum on Numismatics and Trade in the historic Old Mint building Kolkata** – The vacation process of the Old Mint premises by CRPF had been completed. Ministry of Finance has recently transferred back ownership of the said premises to SPMCIL. SPMCIL may work with CRPF that they may leave a small contingent till construction/ renovation work start for security of the Old Silver Mint, Kolkata premises. The matter is also taken up with Ministry of Finance for finalizing execution of project.

**Maritime Museum at Lothal** - To showcase India's rich and diverse maritime heritage, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is developing a world-class National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujrat. NMHC shall consolidate all diverse and rich artefacts from ancient to modern times and provide access to public and make them aware, learn and get inspired from maritime heritage.

**Tribal Museum** – Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum in the following 10 States under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institute':-

Sl. No.	State	Location
1.	Gujarat	Rajpipla
2.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Lambasingi
4.	Chattisgarh	Raipur
5.	Kerala	Kozhikode
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Chhindwara
7.	Telangana	Hyderabad
8.	Manipur	Senapati
9.	Mizoram	Mualngo, Kelsih
10.	Goa	Ponda

- (c) Finance Minister has announced in her budget speech for 2020-21 for developing of 05 iconic museums in Delhi, Shimla, Srinagar, Chennai and Indian Museum, Kolkata.

The following nine galleries of Indian Museum in Kolkata have been identified for curation/re-curation and re-development:

- 1) Entry Mauryan Foyer
- 2) Bharhut
- 3) Gandhara
- 4) Numismatics
- 5) Long Archaeology
- 6) Pre and Proto History
- 7) Bronze
- 8) Human Evolution
- 9) Cultural Anthropology

The Civil and Electrical work for 9 Galleries have been awarded to CPWD.

(d) Yes, Sir.

To fulfil the Budget Announcement made at para 73 of 2020-21 the Ministry has approved establishment of an Indian Institute of Heritage and Conservation by integrating some of the institutions under Ministry of Culture.

(e) Ministry of Culture operates Museum Grant Scheme under which financial assistance is provided for setting up of new Museums, development of existing Museums managed by State Governments and Societies, Autonomous bodies, Local Bodies and Trusts registered under the Societies Act, to strengthen and modernize the existing museums at the regional, state and District level, digitization of art objects in the museums across the country for making their images/catalogues available over the website and for capacity building of Museum professionals. Museum Grant Scheme is applicable to all States and UTs of the Country.

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