PROTECTED MONUMENTS IN KARNATAKA AND MAHARASHTRA.

2393. SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:
SHRI ANNASAHEB SHANKAR JOLLE:
DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:
SHRI SHA.BRA:
DR.JAI SIDDESHWAR
SHIVACHARYA MAHASWAMIJI:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified any protected monument or site in Karnataka under Bengaluru, Hampi, or Dharwad Circles and Mumbai, Nagpur, or Aurangabad Circles of ASI;
(b) if so, the names of such heritage sites;
(c) whether it is not unjustified to discard many States by not including their potential heritage sites in the list of iconic sites having rich history and cultural significance; and
(d) whether the Government has any plan to identify and promote potential heritage sites in Karnataka and Maharashtra as iconic destinations in the near future and if so, the time by which such an exercise is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a)&(b) Government has declared 506 monuments/sites in Karnataka as protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. Out of which 129 are under Bengaluru Circle, 95 under Hampi Circle, and 282 under Dharwad Circle. There are 286 protected monuments/sites in the state of Maharashtra out of which 117 are under Mumbai Circle, 94 under Nagpur Circle and 75 under Aurangabad Circle. Names of protected monuments/sites are available on web site of Archaeological Survey of India www.asi.nic.in

(c)&(d) Identification and protection of monuments/sites under Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act is a continuous phenomenon. Monuments and sites, having rich history and cultural significance and protected in the state of Karnataka and Maharashtra are well maintained and visited by a large number of tourists. Among these 02 properties in Karnataka and 04 properties in Maharashtra are also inscribed on World Heritage list of UNESCO.