

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1286**  
ANSWERED ON 28.07.2025

**PROMOTION OF CULTURAL AND HERITAGE SITES IN LADAKH**

1286. SHRI MOHMAD HANEEFA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has identified key cultural and heritage sites in Ladakh, including ancient monasteries and rock carvings for protection under centrally sponsored schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the funds have been allocated under the “Adopt a Heritage” or “Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive”(PRASHAD) schemes for conservation or tourism-linked development of sites such as Hemis, Diskit or Lamayuru monasteries and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is working with local stakeholders and Buddhist organizations to digitize manuscripts and promote Ladakhi language and folk traditions and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has any plans to establish a regional cultural centre or museum in Leh or Kargil to showcase Ladakh's unique trans-Himalayan heritage and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) There are 15 protected monuments in the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh under & regular conservation and maintenance by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- (b) The officers of ASI conduct periodic inspections to monitor the status of conservation, maintenance and any necessary repair works of these monuments. These efforts ensure the proper upkeep and protection of heritage structures within the Union Territory.
- (c) No protected monument in the UT of Ladakh has been taken up under the “Adopt a Heritage” 2.0 program.

Under the PRASHAD Scheme of Ministry of Tourism, no project is sanctioned in the UT of Ladakh.

- (d) Ministry of Culture has an Autonomous Institution namely Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (Deemed to be University) operating from Leh, UT of Ladakh. Among other activities, CIBS helps in the promotion of Ladakhi language and folk tradition of Ladakh. It also runs Certificate and Masters Courses in Bhoti language & literature.

The Sahitya Akademi, an Autonomous Institution of Ministry of Culture has been working for the promotion of Indian Literature in 24 Indian languages recognized by it, besides unrecognized and tribal languages. The Sahitya Akademi conferred the Bhasha Samman in Ladhakhi language in 1998 and 2015.

Under the National Mission for Manuscript (now Gyan Bharatam Mission), Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh has been documenting and executing the conservation of Manuscripts since 2003.

The Government has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres having their headquarters at Patiala, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kokata, Dimapur, Nagpur and Thanjavur with objectives of preservation, promotion and dissemination of the traditional folk arts and culture of the various States/ Union Territories including Union Territory of Leh, Ladakh.

- (e) There is no proposal under consideration to establish a regional cultural centre or museum at Leh or Kargil.

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