

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2764
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE SERVICE
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have decided to create a New Indian Archaeological and Heritage Service (IAHS);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith details of the proposals; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for proper preservation of the vast cultural assets of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

- (a) There is a proposal to create such a service.
- (b) To bring in greater professionalism in the management of archaeological monuments and optimal utilization of the resources of the Archaeological Survey of India in integrating cultural assets.
- (c) There are 3622 Monuments and Sites of national importance under the care of the Archaeological Survey of India. Adequate attention is given for protection, conservation, preservation of the monuments/sites . There are two legislations viz. the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 and the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 governing the subject.