

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3232
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
PROTECTION OF HISTORICAL MONUMENTS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to formulate a programme or constitute a body to monitor protection of historical sites in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (c) The Government proposes to constitute a Heritage Sites Commission as the present legal and institutional framework is inadequate to address the conservation of built heritage in its broadest outline. The commission would lay down broad policy guidelines and take steps to ensure that such guidelines are observed. The functions of the proposed Heritage Sites Commission would include:

- # tender advice to the Government on heritage matters.
- # frame guidelines in the matter of conservation of heritage monuments and sites.
- # can study or cause to study important matters regarding conservation of heritage and submit reports to the Government.
- # suggest appropriate amendments to the existing heritage legislations.

A draft legislation in this regard has been framed and is being examined by the Ministry of Law and other Ministries/Departments.