

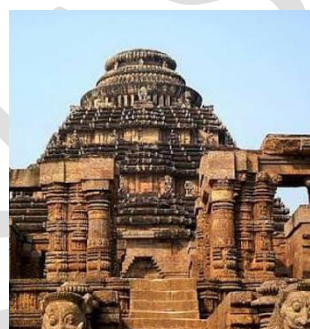
1. The list is maintained by the international World Heritage Programme administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, composed of 21 UNESCO member states which are elected by the General Assembly.
2. Each World Heritage Site remains part of the legal territory of the state wherein the site is located and UNESCO considers it in the interest of the international community to preserve each site.
3. To be selected, a World Heritage Site must be an already classified landmark, unique in some respect as a geographically and historically identifiable place having special cultural or physical significance.

12. Konark Sun Temple

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is carrying out the conservation of the Sun Temple at Konark. The **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** has taken up **the Complete Solarisation of Konark sun temple and Konark town in Odisha.**

About the Temple:

1. Built in the 13th century, the Konark temple was conceived as a gigantic chariot of the Sun God, with 12 pairs of exquisitely ornamented wheels pulled by seven horses.
2. It was built by **King Narasimhadeva I**, the great ruler of Ganga dynasty.
3. The temple was included in **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1984 for its architectural greatness and also for the sophistication and abundance of sculptural work.
4. The temple is a perfect blend of **Kalinga architecture, heritage, exotic beach and salient natural beauty.**
5. It is protected under **the National Framework of India by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act (1958) and its Rules (1959).**
6. The Konark is **the third link of Odisha's Golden Triangle.** The first link is Jagannath Puri and the second link is Bhubaneswar (Capital city of Odisha).
7. This temple was also known as **'BLACK PAGODA'** due to its dark color and used as a navigational landmark by ancient sailors to Odisha. Similarly, the Jagannath Temple in Puri was called **the "White Pagoda"**.
8. It remains a major pilgrimage site for Hindus, who gather here every year for **the Chandrabhaga Mela around the month of February.**



13. Lingaraja Temple

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) seeks inquiry into demolitions by Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) around the 12th century **Lingaraj temple.**

What's the issue?

According to the ASI, it is the custodian of the Lingaraj shrine, which is protected under **the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act (AMASR Act).**

Local municipal officials did not take permission before carrying out the demolitions.

According to the AMASR Act, the 100-metre area surrounding a monument is declared a prohibited zone and another 200 metres in the periphery a regulated area for construction, reconstruction, repairs and renovation work. Any construction or repair work in that periphery requires permission from the National Monument Authority and ASI.

