

Haryana Sarasvati Heritage Development Board (HSHDB) in a bid to promote and preserve the various archeo-cultural facets of the Sarasvati Heritage Area (SHA). A decision to this effect was taken in the Cabinet meeting of the State presided by Chief Minister Mr. Manohar Lal Khattar in Chandigarh. Haryana Sarasvati Heritage Development Board (HSHDB) HSHDB will conduct meticulous field work to understand and unearth the past and the present content of the Sarasvati Heritage Area in Haryana. Data collected from the field work will be used for exposition of cultural patterns and values of SHA. The registered office of the HSHDB will either be located in Chandigarh or Panchkula. The board will also publish books, monographs, journals and also biographies of scholars who have contributed to the study of SHA. The board will maintain effective liaison with the UNESCO, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and other related National and International Institutions for participation and exchange of scholars and researchers working in the area of Sarasvati Heritage. Rs. 10 crore provision has been made for establishment and smooth functioning of the HSHDB.

The Haryana Government would soon constitute Sarasvati Heritage Development Board to take up research on River Sarasvati. The Centre would provide financial assistance of Rs100 crore for the setting up of this Board. Haryana Chief Minister Mr. Manohar Lal on Wednesday said that the proposed board will be tasked to revive the river.

The controversy about the existence of Sarasvati river has been lasting for a long time. The previous Congress led State Government had in 2009 claimed to have traced the course of the river. The Sarasvati river had dried up centuries ago and had gone missing from all maps. The mention of the Sarasvati river comes in the 'Vedas'. Mythology has it that the 'Vedas' were written on the banks of the sacred river, which, according to Hindu religious beliefs, is believed to be flowing underground now.

Last year, Water Resources Minister Shri. Uma Bharti had stated that scientific evidence and information is being collected to revive the ancient river Sarasvati which disappeared long ago. Sarasvati is not a myth but scientific evidence is now available to prove its existence.