

**Take over of caves at Panhalekaji by
Archaeological Survey of India**

2020. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 36 caves have been found at Panhalekaji in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India propose to take them over for preservation and maintenance;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) to which period, and to which religion do these caves belong?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Archaeological Survey of India has decided to protect the caves and the necessary notification to that effect will be issued as soon as the revenue data is collected and finalized.

(d) While some of the caves are Buddhist, others were used for the worship of Brahmanical deities. The caves appear to range in dates between the second and thirteenth centuries A.D.

Capacity of sugar mills

2021. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of each of the sugar mills in the country for producing sugar each year;

(b) what has been their performance during the last three years; and

(c) reasons for the shortfalls and remedial measures being undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-11307/76].

(c). The shortfall in sugar production was either due to non-availability of sugarcane sufficient or due to old and obsolete plant and machinery in some of the sugar factories. The Government have sponsored a Central Sector Scheme for the development of sugarcane in the areas of all the existing sugar factories during the Fifth Five Year Plan. A scheme to forestall sickness in selected industries, including sugar industry, by grant of soft loans through the Industrial Development Bank of India, to enable them to improve their productivity and competitiveness by modernisation and rehabilitation, has been formulated.

Irrigation Schemes in Maharashtra

2022. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) which irrigation schemes in Maharashtra have been sanctioned by the Centre for the year 1976-77;

(b) what is the irrigation potential of each of them; and

(c) what is the estimated cost of each and how much of it is being borne by the Centre?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) Four major irrigation schemes of Maharashtra viz., Upper Wardha, Jayakwadi State-II, Upper Penganga, Manjra and one medium scheme viz. Abhora have been cleared so far by the Planning Commission during the year 1976-77.

(b) and (c). The annual irrigation and the estimated cost of each of the