

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3709
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
TEMPLE SURVEY
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Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has a separate organisation to undertake temple survey work;
- (b) if so, the details of the various old temples being currently surveyed by the said organisation;
- (c) the details of the supervisory authority for the temple projects in the Country; and
- (d) the funds provided for the temple projects during 2002-2003?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India has two separate offices at Bhopal and Chennai for undertaking temple survey work.
- (b) Details are given in the Annexure
- (c) Each of these two offices is supervised by the concerned Superintending Archaeologist.
- (d) The funds provided for the temple survey project offices at Bhopal and Chennai are Rs.26.15 lakh and Rs.27.60 lakh, respectively.

ANNEXURE

DETAILS OF CURRENTLY SURVEYED TEMPLES

I The temple Survey Project, Bhopal carried out the architectural survey of brick temples of Orissa in the upper Mahanadi and Prachi Valley, assigned to the Gangas and Somavamsis.

The details of a few important temples are given below:

Pataleswar temple, Buddhi Komna, Distt. Nuwapada

The brick temple at Buddhi Komna, locally known as Pataleswar temple, dedicated to Lord Siva, is composed of duel, antarala and jagamohana. The elevation of the temple shows components of pitha, jangha and gandi. The two-storied jangha is decorated with chaitya motifs, while the gandi with anka sikhara followed by larger amlaka and kalasa. The door frame of the temple is decorated with three dwara sakhas; the lintel is decorated with navagraha panel, Gajalkshmi, Ganga and Yamuna. On stylistic ground, the temple may be dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Indralath temple, Ranipur-Jarial, Distt. Bolangir

Indralath temple, on plan, consists of duel, antarala and jagamohana. The elevation shows components of paga, jangha, gandi, amlaka and kalasha. The temple originally dedicated to Lord Vishnu is now converted as a Siva temple. Its devakosthakas contain images of Narashimha, Lakulisa, Hunuman, Trivikrama and Chamunda. Stylistically, the temple may belong to circa 10th or 11th century A.D.

Siva Temple, Belkhandi, Distt. Kalahandi

Dedicated to Lord Siva, the temple on plan consists of duel, antarala and jagamohana and elevation-adhisthana, jangha and sikhara. Because of extensive local renovation work, the ancient structure has totally lost its architectural features.

Siva Temple, Titilagarh, Distt. Bolangir

The brick temple of Lord Siva is located on the hill top, datable to circa 8th or 9th century. On plan, it has a garbhagriha and small mandapa. The ancient structure has recently been renovated with the help of ancient bricks strewn at the site.

Brick Temple, Patnagarh, Distt. Bolangir

A brick temple, constructed over laterite stone jagati, has new duet and antarala on plan and adhistana and a part of jangha in elevation. Stylistically the temple may be dated to circa 8th or 9th century A.D.

Kusaleswar Temple, Baidyanath, Distt. Boudh

The east facing temple is situated on the left bank of Tel river, dedicated to Lord Siva, locally known as Kusalesvara. The temple largely renovated, shows in the pillars of the jagamohana original decorative elements of lion capitals and the figures of Nagas and Naginis. The adhistana of the mandapa shows the mouldings of kura, kumbha, patti and karnika. The jangha is decorated with devakosthakas and vajramundi designs. It may be assigned to circa 10th Century A.D.

II The Temple Survey Project, Chennai, carried out architectural Survey of structural temples of Imperial Rashtrakutas scattered in Bagalkot district of Karnataka State.

The details of a few important temples are given below:

Temple No.3. in Kuntigudi, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

The temple belongs to Chalukyas of Aihole. In the central portion of the hall stand four massive and highly decorated pillars, whereas, in the periphery less decorated pillars and pilasters of equal massiveness, support the drooping slabs of the roof. The central back bay of this hall is converted in to main shrine having an independent adhistana of its own. The garbhagriha has an ashta-sakha entrance doorway having images of dvarapalas and Ganga-Yamuna on either side.

Temple No.53 in Galangantha Group of Temples, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

This temple No.53 facing west on plan, has a garbhagriha and an open mukha-chatushki. The temple stands on a kapota bandha adhistana. The walls of the garbhagriha are relieved by bhadras, karmas. The bhadra portion bears makara toranas. An interesting feature of this temple is the presence of ashta-dikpalas and other divinities on the lower portions of the walls on all the three sides. Whereas, the upper levels of the walls are the figures of Gods like Narashimha, Ram, Vishnu riding Garuda, Garuda and other musicians, mendicants etc. Stylistically, it is datable to circa 10th century A.D.

Hall Basappa Temple, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

The temple is dedicated to Lord Siva and faces east. On plan this temple has garbhagriha and a square guda mandapa. The interesting feature is the main entrance doorway of the hall. It is a three sakha door jamb, having on either side river Goddesses Yamuna and Ganga standing on their respective vahanas. On stylistic ground, the temple may be dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Chandrasekhara Temple, Pattadakal, Distt. Bagalkot

The temple dedicated to Siva, locally known as Chandrasekhara temple, faces east. On plan it consists of a garbhagriha, a narrow antarala and a gudamandapa. All these three components stand on a common kapota bandha adhistana. The garbhagriha is relieved by kudyastambhas. There exists no superstructure on the garbhagriha. The temple is assigned to circa 10th century A.D.

Melgudi Jaina Temple, Hallur, Distt. Bagalkot

This south facing temple stands on kapota bandha adhistana. The exterior walls of the both garbhagriha and gudamandapa show karna, pratibhadra and bhadra parts with salilantara recesses in between and relieved by bramha kanta pilasters. Originally the temple was dedicated to Jain faith, but presently it enshrines a linga and nandi. Stylistically, the temple is dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Visveswaragudi, Halluru, Distt. Bagalkot

Locally known as Basavesvara temple stands on kapota bandha adhistana. The exterior walls are relieved by kudyastambhas, thus dividing into bhadras and karmas. There exists a hamsamala beneath the prastara kapota. Two upper talas have usual but plain haras. The temple complex may be dated to circa 9th century A.D.

Bachalingesvara temple, Bachenagudda, Distt. Bagalkot

The square vimana temple enshrines a Sivalinga. The interesting feature is the presence of kuta topped devakostas on the subhadra. These devakostas contain images of Brahma (north) Ugra Narasimha (west) and Lakulisa (south). The temple may be dated to circa 8th century A.D.

Bhairavesvara Temple, Mahakuta, Distt. Bagalkot

This tritala Dravida vimana has, on plan, a square garbhagriha, an antarala and a gudhamandapa. The temple dedicated to Siva, faces east. It has a unique architectural feature in the form of four central pillars and as many as twelve pilasters existing within the garbhagriha. Besides, there is standing image of Lord Vishnu in samabhanga which stylistically belongs to north Indian style. This temple may be dated to circa 10th century A.D.

Makaratorana in Galaganatha Temple complex, Distt. Bagalkot

A makara torana, stylistically attributed to the Rashtrakuta period, bear two makaras showing foliated tails. Each makara has two warrior-riders. From the mouth of the makaras issue out a rajju motif. The central two arches are occupied by Gajalakshmi and Ganesa. The other two arches are occupied by rampant vyalas. Stylistically, it may be dated to circa 10th century A.D.

A secular structure with Rashtrakuta inscription in Galaganatha Temple complex, Aihole, Distt. Bagalkot

A Rashtrakuta inscription of Krishna III reign was found engraved on the slab resting over the doorway of a cell. The inscription refers to Monibattara, a sage, residing in the cell. The inscription is dated Saka 868, Prajapati Samvatsara i.e. 946 A.D.