

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1699  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS  
Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

to reply given to USQ No. 5374 dated 28.4.2010 and state:

(a) whether any further research study has been undertaken on the objects excavated and excavations made in the regions in Ahichhatra, Ramnagar, District of Bareilly, UP and Kondapur, District Medak in Andhra Pradesh for throwing further light on ancient civilization; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTRY OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has carried out excavation at (i) Ahichhatra, District Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh and (ii) Kondapur, District Medak, Andhra Pradesh.

The details of the excavations carried out by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are enclosed at Annexure.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY PART TO (a) & (b) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1699 FOR 4.8.2010

I. Excavation at Ahichhatra, District Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh:

The excavation at the Ahichhatra has been carried out in 2007-08 and 2008-09 sessions by the Agra Circle of the Survey. The site has yielded fresh evidence of the Painted Grey Ware (PGW) to the Early Medieval period. A fresh light has been thrown on the extension of the settlement beyond the fortification wall. Apart from the structures belonging to various periods, the excavation has also yielded a variety of antiquities amongst which are the coins of Achyu (ta), the king mentioned in the Prayag Prashasti of Samudragupta. Other important coins are of Phalgunimitra, Bhanumitra, Agnimitra, etc. Other finds include tubular amulets, antimony rods, inscribed object of copper, beads of semiprecious stones including carnelian, quartz, amethyst, garnet, chert, etc., spools/ear-studs of lead, and a few punch-marked coins of silver and copper-silver alloy.

Painted Grey Ware (PGW) sherds were recovered in association with red ware, plain or mica dusted and basket or chord impressed pottery. A lot of animal bones were found within the cultural deposit. A considerable amount of charred grains of different varieties are also present at the site. The excavation yielded a total deposit of 3.4m so far.

II. Excavation work at Kondapur, District Medak, Andhra Pradesh

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has carried out excavations at Kondapur, Sangareddy Taluk, District Medak, Andhra Pradesh in the field season of 2009-2010 which yielded important evidence of the material culture of the early Satavahana period. Though the previous excavation gave glimpses of material culture but did not enlighten the other aspects of the stratigraphical context. The present excavation revealed that this was a thriving urban city of the Satavahanas and also proved to be an important kshetra of Brahmanical faith particularly Sakti cult of that time which was clearly shown through the exposed structures and other associated findings such as coins and sealings. The excavation yielded a large number of glass vessels indicating Roman influence that indicate the existence of a separate settlement of Romans in Kondapur who had brisk contact and trade with India. On the basis of the material evidence Kondapur site can be tentatively datable to 200 BC - 1st Century AD.