

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7528
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
DISCOVERY OF URN BURIAL SITE
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a vast urn burial site was discovered at Mandapam village near Kancheepuram in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the artifacts discovered therefrom;
- (c) whether any conclusion has been made from the study of the archaeological remains of the said site;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect and preserve the said site for its archaeological importance/ value?

Answer

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) & (b) Mandapam is the name of a bus stop in the revenue jurisdiction of village Arpakkam. The presence of urn burials in village Arpakkam in Kanchipuram District is well known to archaeologists.

ASI has granted a license for excavation of Arpakkam, District Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu for the field season 2010-11 and 2011-12.

The urn burial site has not so far been excavated.

(c) & (d) The excavator from Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, University of Madras has not published any excavation report.

(e) This has not been declared a site as of National Importance under The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.