

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4587
ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012
EXCAVATION OF BUDDHIST CIVILISATION
Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether to mark the birth centenary of Alexandar Cunningham, father of ASI, the Government has explored Nalanda University and Buddhist Temple at Bodhgaya and excavated a number of related places;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with details of the landmark work of excavation by Alexandar Cunningham of Buddhist Civilisation for promoting tourism; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a): Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has informed that Alexander Cunningham's birth centenary was in the year 1914 and as such ASI has not taken any exploration and excavation to mark the birth centenary of Alexander Cunningham.

(b) & (c): Does not arise.