

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2348  
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013  
GUNPOWDER AT SONAR FORT  
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that over 1,500 kgs. of gunpowder contained in five leather bags has been found near the Jain temple in the Sonar fort of Jaisalmer;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the gunpowder is expected to be 500 years old; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CULTURE SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH

- (a) & (b) Some gunpowder in five leather bags has been found on 20.12.2012 in a bastion near the Jain temple in the Sonar fort at Jaisalmer (Rajasthan) a centrally protected monument. The District Administration acted immediately, inspected the site and removed the gunpowder with the help of Army Expert on 31.12.2012.
- (c) & (d) At this stage it is not possible to comment on age of the gunpowder.