GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6464 ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013 REMAINS OF HARAPPAN CULTURES Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the remains of Harappan culture unearthed in various parts of the country in the recent past, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has any proposal to develop the new sites where remains of Harappan cultures have been found and set up museums there so as to attract large number of tourists; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise? ANSWR

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH

(a) Archaeological Survey of India is at present carrying out excavation of Harappan site at Khirsara, District Kachchh, Gujarat and Karanpura district Hanumangarh, Rajasthan.

The three season's excavations at Khirsara, District Kachchh, Gujarat, have yielded mature Harrapan period structures made of coarse stones consisting of house hold rooms, kitchen, bath-room, steps and fortification. The antiquarian finds include beads, stone weights, terracotta animal figurines, toys, ornaments, household's objects etc. Beads made of gold, copper, semi-precious stones like carnelian, agate, chert, chalcedony, jasper, lapis lazuli, faience, steatite, shell and terracotta have been found. Square, rectangular and bar type seals, made of steatite, soap stone and chert have been discovered. Weights made of agate, quartz, basalt, chert, and sand stone were excavated. The terracotta objects consists of rattles, gamesmen, sling balls, hopscotches, objects of amusement, figurines representing bulls and birds. Besides this, toy cart frames of both varieties, painted and plain, have been recovered in good numbers. Objects of copper, stone tools, saddles and querns, pounders are also recovered.

The excavation at Karanpura, District Hanumangarh, Rajasthan, has produced early and mature Harappan pottery and house complexes built of mud bricks of both the early and mature Harappan period. The other important artefacts consist of copper arrow heads, mirror, bangle, rings and fish hooks. Beads made of steatite and semi-precious stone of agate, faience, carnelian and terracotta and spindle whorls were also found excavated. Besides a large quantity of animal bone fragments and a few varieties of grains were also unearthed.

(b)&(c) No Madam, there is no such proposal by ASI.