

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3215
ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014
DIGGING WORK BY ASI
Raghavan Shri M. K.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the procedure followed by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for undertaking any digging work;
- (b) whether the ASI or any other Central Agency is equipped with modern equipment to determine the availability of material beneath the earth before digging;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether recently ASI started digging a spot on a statement made by certain individuals with out cross-checking it scientifically ; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATICHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

- (a) The Director General, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) invites proposal concerning Exploration & Excavation including documentation projects from all the Universities, State Archaeology Departments, Research Institutions besides Archaeological Survey of India and accords permission after consulting the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology in its Annual Meeting.
- (b)&(c) ASI determines the availability or otherwise of material beneath the earth before digging by collaborating with institutions like the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), CBRI, GSI, etc. which are equipped with and have the expertise for conducting Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Surveys, as and when the requirement comes up.
- (d) No, Madam.
- (e) Does not arise.