

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1308#**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025

**DEVELOPMENT OF BUDDHIST CIRCUIT IN THE KONKAN REGION**

1308# SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of conservation of Thanale caves in Raigad District, especially in view of their cultural significance;
- (b) whether any measures have been taken to conserve the unique Buddhist heritage of these caves; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to develop a heritage circuit comprising Thanale, Gomashi, Gandharpale and Kuda caves and the steps proposed under this initiative?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) Thanale caves in Raigad District of Maharashtra is a centrally protected & monument under the jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
- (b) and is in good state of preservation. Conservation and preservation of these caves is a regular process and is taken up as per the need and availability of resources including to conserve unique Buddhist heritage of these caves. Adequate watch and ward staff is also deployed at these caves for safety and security. The details of expenditure incurred for conservation and preservation of these caves are as under:

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Year	Expenditure incurred
1.	2020-21	3.25
2.	2021-22	2.26
3.	2022-23	2.38
4.	2023-24	1.73
5.	2024-25	3.12

- (c) No such plan is under consideration with the Government.

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