

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-510
ANSWERED ON- 04.12.2025

PROCESS OF PUBLICATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT

510 SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

- (a) whether experts are consulted after submission of a report and whether this is a standard procedure for archaeological reports;
- (b) whether results of such a review process are binding on the authors of the report,
- (c) whether there is a usual timeline for submission, review and publication of reports and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Ministry plans to bring in a policy to ensure timely submission, review and publication of archaeological reports and if so, the details thereof, and
- (e) the details of process undertaken for publication of Keezhadi excavation report and the current status thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The procedure followed after the submission of an excavation report includes vetting of the report by subject experts to ensure that it is fit for publication and conforms to the standards laid out for the publication of an excavation report.
- (b) Author of the report may either defend or improve the report according to observations, and comments of the vetting authority in the larger academic interest to ensure accuracy and technical soundness.
- (c) The submission, review, and publication of excavation reports follow an interconnected workflow, with each stage progressing upon the completion of the previous one. Timelines may naturally vary depending on the nature and complexity of the material, but efforts are made to ensure that the entire process proceeds efficiently and without undue delay.
- (d) Submission of report is an integral part of excavation. Administrative actions are taken for timely submission of the report and required support is provided to staff members.
- (e) The Keezhadi Excavation Report was submitted for vetting to two subject experts, and their comments have been communicated to the author of the report. The report has also been examined by an internal committee of experts.
