

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5244
ANSWERED ON 03.04.2023

EXCAVATION AT TELHARA

5244. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether statues of Lord Buddha, inscriptions including monastery seals written in Pali language have been found during the excavation at Telhara located in archaeological site of Nalanda;
- (b) whether the Mahavihara University destroyed in 1198 AD was built in the first century;
- (c) whether any resolution has been passed by the Government to set up an Indian Heritage and Conservation Institute;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to restart the excavation at Telhara, an important archaeological site, so that the future generations can have access to authentic information about their glorious history; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the excavation is likely to be restarted?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN
REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes, Sir. During the excavation at Telhara conducted by Bihar State Department of Archaeology, the statues of Bodhisattva and seals associated with monastery having inscriptions in Sanskrit languages using Nagari script have been found.
- (b) During the course of excavation, the structural remains datable from 1st century to 12th – 13th centuries have been found.
- (c) There is no such proposal under consideration.
- (d) The Directorate of Archaeology, Government of Bihar has submitted a proposal to conduct & archaeological excavation during the field season 2022-23.
- (e)
