

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 217**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2022

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS IN TAMIL NADU**

217. SHRI D.M. KATHIR ANAND:  
SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has done any new archaeological explorations and excavations in Ancient Historical and Dravidian sites in South India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether archaeological remnants belonging to Sangam period in ancient Tamil Nadu have been recovered from Tamil Nadu in various ancient sites like Poompuhar and Korkai;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether ASI proposes willing to associate with the State Department of Archaeology, Tamil Nadu in the marine exploration works and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN  
REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Archaeological Survey of India is conducting archaeological excavations at Vadakkupattu and Adichanallur.
- (b) Yes, Sir. Archaeological remnants belonging to Sangam period have been found at & number of sites.
- (c) The details are at Annexure- I.
- (d) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) & (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 217 FOR 18.07.2022.

DETAILS OF SITES FROM WHERE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMANANTS BELONGING TO SANGAM PERIOD HAVE BEEN RECOVERED FROM ANCIENT TAMIL NADU.

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of site</b>	<b>Distirct</b>	<b>Nature of remnants</b>
1.	Kaveripattinam	Myladuthurai	A massive brick structures of Buddhist stupa, the remains of Buddha Pata, sculpture.
2.	Manigiramam	Myladuthurai	A brick Warf near the sea shore and associate of ceramics.
3.	Thondi	Ramanathapuram	The trial excavation was conducted at a mound near Thondi Amman Temple. Potteries and bricks belonging to late period like coarse red ware were collected.
4.	Alagankulam	Ramanathapuram	The most significant findings of the excavation are hundreds of potsherds of the Mediterranean region. They include Rouletted ware and Amphorae jar pieces. Pieces of Red ware with Tamil Brahmi letters have been found. They are assignable to the first century BCE. Other antiquities include beads, perforated tiles, and bricks in various levels. Three Roman coins were unearthed. They contain the figure of the head of the Roman emperor on one side and the figure of goddess of victory, holding a globe on the other side. The legend on them shows that the Roman Emperor Valentine II who ruled around 375 CE issued the coins.
5.	Kayalpattinam	Thoothukudi	A few ceramics of sangam period such as Black-and-red ware, sherds on black slipped, plain red ware.

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| 6. | Korkai       | Thoothukudi | <p>Black-and-red ware, sherds on black slipped, plain red, and red slipped wares, terracotta tiles also found. The bricks also available in this site (45cmx28cm x7.5cms). Yielded number of Graffiti and inscribed potsherds bearing Tamil Brahmi scripts. The Antiquities from this site consists various object copper and iron, torso in terracotta, bone earlobes and arrow-heads.</p> <p>The pearl-oysters found in various level of the trenches.</p> |
| 7. | Adichanallur | Thoothukudi | <p>Black-and-red ware and red ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc., Copper object such as lamps and rings, bangles, Copper Coins, iron implements such as Arrow head, Antimony rod.</p>   |
| 8. | Keeladi      | Sivaganga   | <p>Coins, Brick Structure, Semi-precious beads, Galss Beads, Tamil Brahmi pot sherds, Graffiticmarcks, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc.,</p> <p>The lamps and rings, bangles, Copper Coins, iron implements such as Arrow head, Antimony rod.</p>   |
| 9. | Porunthal    | Dindigul    | <p>Glass, Semi-precious beads, Coins, Brick Structure, Beads, Tamil Brahmi pot sherds, Graffiti marks, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc.,</p> <p>The lamps and rings, bangles, Copper Coins, iron implements such as Arrow head, Sword.</p>  |

10.	Kodumanal	Erode	Glass, Semi-precious beads, Brick Structure, Beads, Tamil Brahmi pot sherds, Graffiti marks, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc., The Bone Tools, lamps and rings, bangles, Copper Coins, iron implements such as Arrow head, Sword.
11.	Uraiyur	Trichy	Beads, Brick Structure, Tamil Brahmi pot sherds, Graffiti marks, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc.,
12.	Karur	Karur	Brick Structure, Beads, Tamil Brahmi pot sherds, Graffiti marks, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc.,
13.	Perur	Coimbatore	Graffiti marks ,Brick Structure, Beads, , ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc.,
14.	Vallam	Thanajvur	Tamil-Brahmi pot sherds, Graffiti marks, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc.,
15.	Teriruvelli	Ramanathapuram	Graffiti marks, Tamil-Brahmi pot sherds, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, plate, shallow bowl, etc.,
16.	Mangudi	Virudhunagar	Tamil-Brahmi pot sherds, Graffiti marks, ware with associate pots such as bowl, lid, ring stand, etc.,