

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3613**  
ANSWERED ON 8.8.2022

**EXPLORATION BY ASI TO IDENTIFY ANCIENT STONE SCULPTURES**

3613. SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has made any recent exploration to identify and record ancient stone sculptures and icons in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the important findings made during the last five years in this regard; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for the digital record of ancient stone sculptures and icons and the funds allocated to the same?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN  
REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) regularly conducts Village to Village Survey to & explore and record the antiquarian remains.
- (b) During the last five years (2017-2021) 3152 villages were surveyed out of which antiquarian remains were reported in 905 villages.
- (c) The National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities is mandated to prepare the national database of antiquities, including stone sculptures and icons, within regular budget allocated to ASI.

\*\*\*\*\*