

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 55**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2022

**CONSERVATION OF EXCAVATION SITE IN KALABURGI**

55. SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:  
DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Kanaganahalli and Sannati in Chittapur Taluka of Kalaburagi district in Karnataka represents one of the earliest stupa settlements in the country and is dated earlier than Sanchi Stupa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including its historical and archaeological importance in the history of Buddhist excavations conducted in the early 1990s and 2000s by ASI which had resulted in interesting structural remains and archaeological findings;
- (c) whether only a small portion of the excavation done by the ASI is under the protection of the Government and fairly a large part, prone to open under the bare sky, still unprotected;
- (d) if so, the measures taken to conserve the excavation site by the ASI; and
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to declare the ASI site as UNESCO World Heritage and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN  
REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Kanaganahalli and Sannati in Chittapur Taluka of Kalaburagi District represents one of the earliest stupa settlements in the country which is contemporary to Sanchi stupa.
- (b) The site of Sannati has four mounds which are archaeologically significant. The mounds are namely, Benagutti, Hasargundigi, Kanaganahalli and Ranamandla. The mound Benagutti is located on the left bank of Bhima basin in Chitapur Taluk. The mound yielded an elliptical brick vihara of Satavahana period. Ranamandla has an ancient fortification. Ruins of a Buddhist Stupa, ayaka pillars, limestone railings with a panel depicting Mauryan king Ashoka, standing and seated figures of Lord Buddha of 1st-2nd CE and other artefacts were found at Kanaganahalli. The site was patronised mainly by the Satavahana dynasty.
- (c) The ancient site where excavations were conducted is protected. Architectural stone & members are safely kept under roof shed. The conservation work of the main portion of Stupa has been initiated.
- (d) Stupa has been initiated.
- (e) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.