

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.928
ANSWARED ON 29.07.2024

KEELADI EXCAVATION BY ASI IN TAMIL NADU

928. COM. SELVARAJ V:
SHRI SUBBARAYAN K:

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

- a) the number of phases of excavations that has been completed by the ASI in Keeladi (Tamil Nadu) and when;
- b) whether the reports of excavation have been presented to ASI;
- c) if so, whether ASI has published the reports;
- d) if so, the details of the reports and also provide copies thereof;
- e) whether the ASI has subjected the findings of Keeladi excavation to carbon dating;
- f) If so, the details thereof; and
- g) If not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Archaeological Survey of India carried out archaeological excavations at Keeladi, Sivaganga district, Tamil Nadu for the field season 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17.
- (b) The report on the excavations at Keeladi has been submitted for the field season 2014-15 and 2015-16.
- (c) & (d) The vetted report for the field season 2014-15 and 2015-16 is awaited.
- (e) & (f) Yes Sir, several samples from the Keeladi excavation were subjected to carbon dating and the range of dates is from 280 BCE to 680 CE.
- (g) Question does not arise.
