

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether any specific efforts are being made to help rural consumers in the event of such a decrease in the number of bank branches; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (d) No Sir. Since the launch of the National Mission for Financial Inclusion in August, 2014 the number of rural branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), as per Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has increased from 41,823 in March 2014 to 51,653 in March, 2019. Number of Branch less mode/Business Correspondents (BCs) of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) has also increased from 3.37 lakh in March, 2014 to 5.15 lakh in March, 2018. Besides, 42,583 ATMs as on March, 2019 are providing banking services in rural areas. Further, Indian Post Payment Bank (IPPB) through its network of 650 branches and 1.31 lakh postal access points, working as its BCs, has started delivery of banking services in the country.

With the enhancement of banking touch-points as per RBI, between March 2014 and March, 2018, number of savings accounts in rural areas has increased by 22.43 crore (from 35.39 crore in March, 2014 to 57.82 crore in March, 2018). Under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), as on 26.6.2019, a total of 35.99 crore accounts have been opened in the country. Out of the total Jan Dhan accounts, while 21.34 crore accounts (59 %) have been opened in rural/semi-urban areas, 19.14 crore (53%) have been opened by women. Further, 28.36 crore RuPay debit cards have been issued to the Jan Dhan account holders to facilitate banking transactions.

#### **More Excavations by ASI to Unearth Earlier Civilisation**

\*167. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is considering to carry out more excavations in the country to unearth more findings of earlier civilization:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ASI has come out with a latest report on the findings unearthed from the excavations carried out earlier; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the Statement-I (*See*

below).

(c) and (d) The mandatory reports of the excavations carried out earlier have been received by ASI. However, the list of latest published reports of important excavations is given in the Statement-II.

***Statement-I***

*List of excavations carried out by ASI during 2018-19  
(October, 2018 to September, 2019)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Site	Importance of the site
1.	Phupgaon, district Amaravati, Maharashtra	Iron Age habitation site datable to the first millennium BCE (900-600 BCE), consisting of house complexes and artefacts including beads, iron objects.
2.	Kesariya, district East Champaran, Bihar	Brick terraced stupa, datable to 2nd c. BCE and subsequent periods, with images of seated Buddha in stucco. The peripheral wall of the stupa was discovered.
3.	Asurgarh Fort, district Kalahandi, Odisha	Early historical remains in the form of habitation, artefacts like beads, bangles, iron objects and coins.
4.	Vadnagar, district Mehsana, Gujarat	Extensive remains of nearly 2500 years of occupation history, house complexes, monastery, variety of artefacts like beads, bangles, seals, coins, sealings, etc.
5.	Taranga, district Mehsana, Gujarat	Buddhist monastic complex datable to 10th-15th c. CE.
6.	Gunja, district Mehsana, Gujarat	Temple remains and architectural members datable to 10th-14th c. CE.
7.	Gottiprolu, district Sri PottiSriramulu Nellore, Andhra Pradesh	Early historical remains datable to early centuries of current era.
8.	Vangchhia, Champhai, district, Mizoram	Structural platforms with post-hole like formations, datable to 600-1400 CE were found.
9.	Thed (Ther) Mound, Sirsa, district Sirsa, Haryana	The remains of Gupta period (3rd c. CE) to Mughal period (17th c. CE) were found.

Sl. No.	Name of the Site	Importance of the site
10.	Sanauli, district Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh	The remains of a late Harappan cemetery datable to early second millennium BCE (2000-1800 BCE) with eight burials out of which six were coffin burials. The remains of chariot is a significant find.

***Statement-II****List of latest published excavations reports by the  
Archaeological Survey of India*

Sl. No.	Name of the excavated site	Published in
1.	Lalitagiri, Odisha	2010
2.	Antichak, Bihar	2011
3.	Bharadvaja Ashrama, Uttar Pradesh	2011
4.	Udayagiri-2, Odisha	2011
5.	Siruthavur, Tamil Nadu	2011
6.	Kanaganahalli, Karnataka	2011
7.	Saluvankuppam, Tamil Nadu	2015
8.	Kalibangan, Rajasthan	2015
9.	Adam, Maharashtra	2016
10.	Dhalewan, Punjab	2018
11.	Golbai Sasan, Odisha	In press
12.	Hulas, Uttar Pradesh	In press
13.	Paithan, Maharashtra	In press

**Utilisation Of Funds Released for Swasthya Mela**

†\*168. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released funds to organise Swasthya Mela (Health Fair) in every Lok Sabha constituency under the National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details of the allocated funds thereof, State-wise;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.