

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2735
ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

**PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES OF CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND
EXCAVATION OF RAIGAD FORT**

2735# SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which co-ordination is being established between the Raigad Development Authority (RDA), Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and National Monument Authority (NMA) in the conservation and restoration of Raigad Fort;
- (b) the reasons for non-completion of excavation, conservation and restoration work of the fort as yet, and the financial and technical challenges faced in this process; and
- (c) the expected time frame for completion of this project and the efforts being made by Government to complete it in a timely manner?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Raigad Fort is Centrally Protected Monument under jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) since 1909. Conservation and restoration is carried out as per requirement and approved conservation programmes.
An MoU was signed between the ASI and Raigad Development Authority (RDA) in 2017 as per which RDA has taken up works related to the development and provisions of amenities within the periphery of Raigad Fort.
National Monument Authority regulates the area of 100 & 200 meters for construction and mining in the periphery of the Raigad Fort as per the provisions of Ancient Monument Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 (Amendment and Validation, 2010)

- (b) ASI has undertaken several excavations since 1980 in various parts of the Raigad Fort that has revealed residential and administrative structures called “Wadas”. Conservation of various structures within Raigad Fort, such as Maha Darwaza, Simhasana, Nagarkhana, the Jagdeswar temple, Bazarpet, Hathi tank walls, Palki Darwaza, Meena Darwaza, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Samadhi area and Ashtapradhanwada have been carried out by ASI. In addition, various amenities such as pathway, toilets block, drinking water, benches, signage and Cultural notice boards have also been provided by ASI. Conservation of Raigad Fort is a continuous process and is carried out as per available resources and requirement.
- (c) Raigad fort is one of the prime and prestigious monuments of ASI. The conservation of monuments is continuous process and it is carried out by ASI in timely and regular manner for preserving the Monument for posterity.
