

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-346**  
ANSWERED ON- 06.02.2025

**ANCIENT TAMIL CULTURE**

346. SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that archaeological evidences brought to light through various excavations and exploration by the Archaeological Survey of India and State Department of Archaeology, Government of Tamil Nadu has revealed the ancient Tamil Culture dating back to 2500 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(C) the proactive steps taken by Government to conduct extensive excavations at potential sites like Keezhadi, Kodumanal, Mayiladumparai in Tamil Nadu to bring out remnants of Archaic Tamil Civilization?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) and (b) Archaeological evidence in Tamil Nadu have been brought to light through various excavations and explorations conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and State Department of Archaeology, Government of Tamil Nadu. The details of excavations conducted during the last 5 years is enclosed at Annexure.

(c) ASI had initiated excavation at Keezhadi from 2014 to 2016 which was continued by the State Archaeology Department, Government of Tamil Nadu from 2020 till date. State Archaeology Department, Government of Tamil Nadu had also conducted excavation at Kodumanal in 2020 and Mayiladumparai in 2020 and 2021.

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**ANNEXURE**

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) AND (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 346 FOR 06.02.2025.

**EXCAVATION CONDUCTED IN TAMIL NADU IN LAST 5 YEARS**

Sl. No.	Name of the site	Name of the Institution	Year
1.	Palaeolithic site of Sendrayanpalayam, Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu	Sharma Centre for Heritage Education, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	2020
2.	Salvage archaeology at the Palaeolithic site of Kunjavam, District Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu	Sharma Centre for Heritage Education, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	2020
3.	Keeladi and its cluster (Keeladi, Kondagai, Agaram and Manalur), District Sivagangai, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2020, 2021, 2022, 2024
4.	Sivagalai and its clusters (Sivagalai, Sekkati, Sri Mulakkarai, Petmanagar, PerurrThiradu, VellaiThiradu, ParakkiramaPandi, Pottalkottaithiradu and Avaranagadu), District Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2020, 2021
5.	Adichanallur and its Clusters (Puliankulam and Kalvai), District Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2020
6.	Kodumanal, Taluk Perunturai, District Erode, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2020
7.	Korkai and its clusters like Agaram, Maramangalam, Arumugamangalam, District Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2020
8.	Gangaikondacholapuram-Maligaimedu, District Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2020, 2021, 2022
9.	Mayiladumparai, District Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2020, 2021
10.	Valasai, Taluk Gudiyatham, District Vellore, Tamil Nadu	University of Madras	2020
11.	Vadakkupattu, district Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu	ASI	2021, 2022
12.	Adichanallur and its associated Sites in Tamirabarani River Valey, Taluk Srivaikundam, district Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu	ASI	2021, 2022
13.	Ellantakarai and its surroundings, Taluk Kalayarkovil, District Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu	Alagappa University	2021
14.	Nagapattinam, district Nagapattinam,	Tamil University	2021

	Tamil Nadu		
15.	Nerumbur, taluk Tirukalukundram, district Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu	University of Madras	2021
16.	Vembakottai, district Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2021, 2022, 2024
17.	Thulakkarpatti, district Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2021, 2022
18.	Perumbalai, district Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2021
19.	Kilnamandi, District- Thiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2022, 2024
20.	Porpanaikottai, District- Pudukottai, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2022, 2024
21.	Boothinatham, District- Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2022
22.	Pattaraiperubudur, District- Tiruvallur, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology	2022
23.	Chettimedu Pathur, Taluk Madurantakam, District Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu	University of Madras	2023
24.	Megalithic cists and cairn, Amur-Iron Age burial site in Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu	ASI	2024
25.	Habitation mounds at Kodumbalur	ASI	2024
26.	Tirumalapuram, District Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu	Department of Archaeology and Museums, Govt. of Tamil Nadu	2024
27.	Chennanoor, District Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu	Department of Archaeology and Museums, Govt. of Tamil Nadu	2024
28.	Kongalnagaram, (Habitation and Graveyard), District Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu	Department of Archaeology and Museums, Govt. of Tamil Nadu	2024
29.	Marungur, locality- 1 (Habitation), District Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu	Department of Archaeology and Museums, Govt. of Tamil Nadu	2024
30.	Molapalayam, District Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	Tamil University	2024

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