

an>

Title: Regarding declaration of Durgadevi settlement, Balasore as a protected site -laid.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): A 4000 year old settlement and ancient artifacts have been discovered in Durgadevi village in Remuna Tehsil of Balasore district recently. The Odisha Institute of Maritime and South East Asian Studies, the archaeological wing of the State Government has sought permission from the Archaeological Survey of India to document the site which has a circular mud fortification of about 4.9 kms in between Sona river in the South and the Burahabalang river on its north-eastern borders. Interestingly, traces have been found beyond the Early Historic Period, Iron age upto Chalcolithic period which is 2000 to 1000 BC in the excavation site. The fortification signifies the emergence of urbanisation at Durgadevi around 400 to 200 BC.

I would urge the Government to publicize this 4000 year old settlement of our country and declare Durgadevi as a protected site.