

## **Regarding Hindu Temple Architecture**

**SHRI PARVATAGOUDA CHANDANAGOUDA GADDIGOUDAR (BAGALKOT):**

Madam, I am privileged and take pride in introducing the very beginning of Hindu temple architecture in the Historic sites of Aihole - Badami - Pattadakal. Referred as a cradle of Hindu temple architecture, temples complex of Aihole, dating back to the 4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. is the oldest known Hindu temples in the world, and also known as the laboratory for Hindu temple architecture. The grandiose 130 temples complex of Aihole in a single square kilometre was considered the primary and secondary schooling in temple architecture.

The world famous Badami cave temples of the 6<sup>th</sup> century took 12 years to carve out from a single rock-cut, worthy of coronation arena for Pulikesan II of the glorious Chalukya Empire, which ruled almost all of peninsula India.

The group of monuments at Pattadakal in Karnataka was declared as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987. However, Badami's extraordinary temple complexes, parallel to none in rock-cut temple architecture deserve to have been included in this UNESCO list long back.

Therefore, Madam, through you, I would like to bring this important matter to the notice of the hon. Union Minister of Culture and request him to make renewed efforts for this important historical site of Badami's temple complexes in Karnataka to be included in the UNESCO World Heritage Site List.