

Regarding publication of Keezhadi excavation report-Laid

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI (THOOTHUKKUDI): I would like to bring the urgent attention of the Government to the delay in publishing the Keezhadi excavation report. The Keezhadi excavation was conducted in two phases ? 2014-15 and 2015- 16 under an archeologist whom the Union Government transferred midway and had later stopped the third phase of excavation stating that there were no significant findings. Later the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology took over it in 2018 and had discovered 15,000 artefacts so far and had also proved that Keezhadi was a thriving urban civilisation that dates back to 6th century BCE. A detailed report on the first two phases of the excavations was submitted to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in January 2023 by the archaeologist. The ASI returned the report to him on May 21, 2025 asking him to revise the report for greater authenticity. It must be noted that the report has evidence based on scientific methods including carbon-dating accredited by international labs like the US Beta Analytics labs, multiple experts support that as the same provides ample proofs for authenticity. Therefore, I urge the Union Government to publish the Keezhadi excavation report as early as possible without any further delay.