

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM AND CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2125  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000  
EXCAVATION IN HARYANA  
DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU

**Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a three year long excavation at Rakhigarhi in Haryana has unearthed the remains of what could have been the 'provincial capital' of the harappan civilisation in Hissar District of Haryana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken to preserve the area as unique history and continue the excavation ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Rakhigarhi in Hissar district, Haryana was probably a major urban centre at the eastern edge of the Harappan empire and, could in that sense, be considered a Provincial Capital. The three consecutive excavations conducted at the site since 1997 - 98 onwards have yielded remains / evidence of public building and drainage, in addition to the evidence of activities of specialized crafts and long distance trade in material which were not available locally. A good number of diagnostic artifacts recovered from the site include terracotta figurines; pieces of ornaments of gold, silver, copper, shell, semi - precious stones, steatite, faience, clay, bone, etc., stone weights, seals and sealings. In addition lithic and ceramic assemblages have also been found. A Harappan cemetery has also been identified. The site has also yielded evidence of a pre - Harappan settlements.
- (c) The considerable findings unearthed so far need careful analysis before further excavations can be considered.