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Ahmedabad: IIT-Gandhinagar has discovered some rich remains of the Harappan civilization and medieval period in Bhagatrav, an archaeological site in Hansot taluka of Bharuch district in Gujarat.

The team has found a respectable number of lead pieces, many geological samples having rich iron contents, stone beads, evidences of production of glazed ware (pottery) in Bhagatrav. The discoverer of the site, late S R Rao, had hypothesized the site to be a port site, contemporary to Lothal.



IIT-Gn team and archaeological experts at Bhagatrav site

The excavation, carried out from April 7 to May 24, was in association with Gujarat state archaeology and partially funded by Archaeological Survey of India. "We have excavated numbers of leads which were proba-

bly used to make surma during the Indus Valley Civilization and as alloy in metal production," said Dr Alok Kumar Kanungo, excavation director of the site and assistant research professor (archaeology), IIT-Gn.

He said: "The team also discovered stone beads and glazed ware crafts that were probably traded to parts of coastal regions." Dr Kanungo said it will be interesting to work on the relationship of present day Khambat and this site of Bhagatrav on the basis of the finds, cultural sequence and contacts of Harappan people with the rest of the world.