

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4013
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.04.2022

RETRIEVAL OF ANTIQUITIES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

4013. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data on the historical artefacts, paintings or antiquities belonging to India which has been taken out from the country;
- (b) if so, the country-wise details thereof;
- (c) the details of such possessions retrieved in the last five years;
- (d) whether Government is willing to demand India's former colonisers, especially England to return antiquities belonging to India; and
- (e) if so, the details of actions that Government would take in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH
EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Details of the historical artefacts for which temporary export permits to have been issued and the status of their retrieval, during last five years, are attached at Annexure.
- (c)
- (d) All the Missions abroad have been directed to be in active touch with the & Government there so as to look out for any artifact of Indian origin that can be brought back to India.
- (e)

Annexure

Annexure referred in reply for part (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 4013 for 07/04//2022:
 “Retrieval of antiquities from foreign countries”: by Shri Abdul Wahab

STATUS OF TEMPORARY EXPORT PERMITS ISSUED AND RETRIEVED IN LAST FIVE YEARS

S. No.	Country	Date	No. of Objects	Status
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2017

1.	Germany	Issued on 2 nd March, 2017	Ten	Returned
2.	London	Issued on 8 th September, 2017	Six	Returned
3.	Brazil	Issued on 13 th October, 2017	The collection comprises 141 pages containing 264 stamps, 262 covers/letters	Returned
4.	Australia	Issued on 21 st March 2017	The collection comprises 51 pages containing 48 stamps, 20 covers/letters and 88 other items.	Returned
5.	Georgia	Issued on 18 th September, 2017	One	Returned

2018

1.	USA and Canada	Issued on 24.1.2018	246 art objects	Returned
2.	Sri Lanka	Issued on 26.4.2018	Buddha relics	Returned
3.	USA	Issued on 15 th May, 2018	The collection comprises 156 pages containing 14 stamps, 261 covers/letters	Returned
4.	Israel	Issued on 15 th May, 2018		Returned
5.	Czech Republic	Issued on 10 th August, 2018	The collection comprises 176 pages containing 700 stamps, 172 covers/letters and 7 other items.	Returned
6.	China	Issued on 18 th September, 2018	The collection comprises 76 pages containing 119 stamps, 171 covers/letters and 30 other items.	Returned
7.	Thailand	Issued on 22 nd Nov, 2018	The collection comprises 93 pages containing 188 stamps, 77 covers/letters and 123 other items.	Returned

2019

1.	Florida	Issued on 24 th January 2019	The collection comprises 161 pages containing 119 stamps, 335 covers/letters and 47 other items.	Returned
2.	China	Issued on 6 th May, 2019	Twenty Eight	Returned
3.	Sweden	Issued on 23 rd May 2019	The collection comprises 100 pages containing 394 stamps and 9 covers/letters and 11 other objects	Returned
4.	Sweden	Issued on 23 rd May 2019	The collection comprises 120 pages containing 79 stamps and 700 covers/letters and 7 other objects	Returned
5.	Australia	Issued on 7 th June, 2019	The collection comprises 119 pages containing 430 stamps, 299 covers/letters and 41 other items.	Returned
6.	China	Issued on 7 th June, 2019	The collection comprises 127 pages containing 8 stamps, 327 covers/letters and 9 other items.	Returned
7.	Singapore	Issued on 29 th July, 2019	The collection comprises 299 pages containing 465 stamps, 451 covers/letters and 109 other items.	Returned
8.	USA	Issued on 20 November, 2019	The collection comprises 145 pages containing 548 stamps, 309 covers/letters	Returned
9.	Switzerland	Issued on 12 October, 2019	Six	Returned
10.	Singapore	Issued on 11 th November, 2019	Seven	Returned

TEP issued in the year 2020 and 2021 – NIL

2022

1.	Oman	Issued on 11 th Jan, 2022	Two	Yet to return
2.	London	Issued on 17 th Feb, 2022	106 Pages containing 343 Stamps & 38 Cover/Letters & 173 other objects	Returned
3.	London	Issued on 17 th Feb, 2022	171 page containing 1390 Stamps and 109 covers/ Letters & 19 other objects	Returned
4.	Hungary	Issued on 25 th March, 2022	312 Pages containing 842 Stamps & 613 Cover/ Letters and 76 Philatelic items	Yet to return