

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1298
ANSWERED ON 11/12/2025

DELAY IN REPATRIATION OF PLATES

1298. SHRI N.R. ELANGO:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of measures taken to repatriate the Leiden plates from Leiden University;
- (b) the details of steps undertaken to secure return of Velvikudi plates from London; and
- (c) the reasons for delay in repatriating these archaeological treasures to the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) The documents required to process the repatriation of object which was transported to the foreign country during the colonial period have been provided to the concerned foreign authorities through diplomatic channel. Further the issue was also placed for discussion in the 24th Session of Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property ICPRCP of UNESCO for informative purpose.
- (b) No such proposal is under consideration.
- (C) Government has taken necessary initiatives including diplomatic negotiations to resolve the matter as per established international norms.
