

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2114  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.01.2018.**

**RECOVERY OF ARTIFACTS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES**

**2114. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of various antiques illegally stolen/exported out of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the period, origin and the historical value of the antiques along with the steps taken/being taken to bring back the invaluable antiques from various countries including United States of America (USA);
- (c) whether some countries including USA recently agreed to return some such antiques; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the list of antiques retrieved from various countries till date?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) So far nineteen cases of theft of antiquities have been reported from the Centrally Protected Monuments of Archaeological Survey of India during last three years (Annexure I).
- (b) The details of the stolen objects, their period/origin and historical value are attached as Annexure I. Whenever any illegally exported objects/antiquities of Indian origin surfaces in foreign countries, efforts are made through Indian Mission abroad for retrieval of such antiquities. Archaeological Survey of India has retrieved twenty seven antiquities from foreign countries including USA during the last three year.
- (c) There are twenty seven antiquities retrieved from foreign country during the last &
- (d) three years. Out of which eighteen antiquities have been returned from USA during the year 2016 and 2017. Details of the antiquities retrieved from foreign countries are attached as Annexure II.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY PART TO (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION  
NO.2114 FOR 01.01.2018

Statement giving details of State/U.T. wise theft of antiquities from Centrally Protected Monuments/Sites maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India for last three years and current year

Sl. No.	State	Name of Monument/Sites/Place of origin	Period, origin and historical value of the antiquities	Date of theft	Action taken/Present status
<b>YEAR 2014</b>					
1.	Karnataka	Panchalingeswara Temple, Govindanahalli, K.R. Pete Taluk, Mandya district, Karnataka.	The stone sculpture of eight armed <i>Mahishamardini</i> ( <i>Durga</i> ). dated 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	07.03.2014	F.I.R. is lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
2.	Karnataka	Shiva temple, Thimmalapur, Hospet taluk, district Bellary, Karnataka	Broken Stone (granite) Shivalinga dated 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> .06.2014	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
3.	Gujarat	Vitthalbhai Haveli at Vso, Dist. Kheda	Two wooden carved Brackets 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	23.6.2014	Recovered
4.	Karnataka	Bharateswara subshrine of Ramalingaeswara temple complex Avani, Mulbanga taluk, Kolar district, Karnataka	One black granite stone Nandi dated 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	18- 19.07.2014	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
5.	Bihar	Rajgir, district Nalanda	Sculpture of Jain Shrine Temple Tirthanker (Mahavira) dated 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	30- 31.07.2014	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
6.	Karnataka	Nageswar temple, Mosale, Hassan taluk, Hassan district Karnataka,	Two Schist Stone Sculptures of Mahisasuramardini and Sarasawati dated 10 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	13- 14.09.2014	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation

YEAR 2015					
7.	Karnataka	Bhimesheshwara temple at Neelgunda, Harappanahalli Taluk, Davangere district, Karnataka	Schist stone Yaksha sculpture dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	26.04.2015	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
8.	Orissa	Trivikrama (Locally called Bali Vamana) from the premises of Varahanatha temple, Jajpur, Orrisa	Sculpture of Trivikrama (Locally called Bali) dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	18.05.2015	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
9.	Karnataka	Bhoganandiswara temple at Nand, Chikkaballapur Talkuk Chikkaballapur District, Karanatak	Black stone kalsha dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	16.09.2015	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
10.	Maharashtra (M.H.)	Sculpture Shed, Aam Khas Gate, Daulatabad Fort, District-Aurangabad	11 antiquities dated 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	16.09.2015	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
11.	Bihar	Jain Temple, Vaibhar, Rajgir, Patna.	Stone Sculpture dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	22 & 23.11.2015	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
12.	Orrisa	Bhairawa Ganesh and Kaumari form Chandrasekhar temple, Kapilas	Sculpture dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	25/26.11.2015	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
YEAR 2016					
13.	Maharashtra	Kasa Fort, district Raigad, Maharashtra	Iron Canon (small size) dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	05.12.2015.	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation

14.	Rajasthan	Ancient Kalyanpur, Udaipur	Ruins Distt.	Three Stone sculpture dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2016.	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
15.	Chhattisgarh	Bhairavbaba Temple, Dantewada & Ruined Temple, Jiyapara, District South Bastar Dantewada, Chhattisgarh		Two stone sculptures of Bhairava	6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
16.	Andhra Pradesh	Sri Kumaraarama Bhimeswara Swamy temple, Samalkot Mandal of East Godavari District		Stone dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2016	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
17.	Karnataka	Ramalingeswara temple complex Avani, Mulbagali taluk, Kolar district, Karnataka		One stone Ganesha fixed on the open mandapa of Vigneswara Shrine dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2016	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation
18.	Andhra Pradesh	Veerabhadra temple, Motupalle Chinaganjam Mandal, Prakasam dist. Andhra Pradesh		Stone Nandi idol	12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016.	Recovered on 18.12.20 16
<b>YEAR 2017</b>						
19.	Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh	Sri Anadavalli Ammavaru Temple, Parasurameshwara Swamy Complex, Gudimallam, district Chittoor		Nandi idol stone sculpture of Nandi dated 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century A.D. approx.	03.11.2017	F.I.R. lodged in respective police station and matter is under investigation

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY PART TO (c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED  
QUESTION NO.2114 FOR 01.01.2018**

**Statement giving details of retrieved Indian Antiquities from Abroad from 2014 to 2017**

S.No.	Name	State	From	Year	Mode of retrieval	Under the custody
1.	Nataraja	Tamil Nadu	Australia	2014	Voluntarily returned	Under the custody of Idol Wing Tamil Nadu
2.	Ardhanareeswar	Tamil Nadu	Australia	2014	Voluntarily returned	-do-
3.	Parrot Lady	Madhya Pradesh	Canada	2015	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
4.	Durga (Mahishmardini)	J&K	Germany	2015	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
5.	Uma Parameshwari	Tamil Nadu	Singapore	2015	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
6.	Bronze image of Saint Manikkavachaka	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
7.	Metal image of Ganesha	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
8.	Terracotta Female Figure (Honolulu Museum)	Mauryan period Central India	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
9.	Male Deity (Honolulu Museum)	Madhya Pradesh	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
10.	Floral Tile, Harvan	Kashmir	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
11.	Sri Devi, Chola Period	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
12.	Metal image of Bahubali	Andhra Pradesh	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
13.	Metal image of Parvati	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
14.	Seated Buddha	Mathura region, Uttar Pradesh	Australia	2016	Voluntarily returned	National Muséum New Delhi

15.	Panel of Devotees of Buddha	Andhra Pradesh	Australia	2016	Voluntarily returned	National Museum New Delhi
16.	Stone image Pratyangira	Tamil Nadu	Australia	2016	Voluntarily returned	National Museum New Delhi
17.	Matel image of Bhoo Devi	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A.	2016	Return as a case property PS Cr. No. 65/2008	Idol Wing CID Police Tamil Nadu
18.	Chakkarathalwar	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A.	2016	Return as a case property PS Cr. No. 65/2008	Idol Wing CID Police Tamil Nadu
19.	Sand Stone Male Figure in Tribhanga Posture	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
20.	Sand Stone Bust of a Female	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
21.	Sand Stone broken Figure	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
22.	Stone image of Durga	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
23.	Damaged Sand Stone image of Nataraja in dancing posture.	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
24.	Mutilated Sand Stone Panel depicting two male Figures ( <i>vidhyadharas</i> ).	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
25.	Stone image of a couple ( <i>mithuna</i> ) figure carved under a niche from Atru, Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
26.	Stone image of a couple ( <i>mithuna</i> ) Figure from Atru, Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
27.	Stone sculpture of Brahma and Brahamani	Gujarat	U.K.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi