

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2606  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2021**

**VANDALISING OF STATUE**

**2606. Dr. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:**

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Gandhiji's statue has been vandalised in California, US recently;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]**

**(a) & (b) On 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021, the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the Central Park in the City of Davis, California was vandalised by unknown persons.**

**(c) The Government of India has strongly condemned this malicious and despicable act against a universally respected icon of peace and justice. The Embassy of India in Washington D.C. has taken up the matter with the U.S. Department of State for a thorough investigation into the incident and appropriate action against those responsible for this despicable act. The Consulate General of India in San Francisco has separately taken up the matter with the City of Davis and local law enforcement authorities, which have initiated an investigation.**

**In a statement issued on 30 January 2021, the City Council of Davis condemned the vandalism and promised a thorough investigation and full accountability for those who committed this crime. Local Indian community organisations have condemned the act of vandalism. The US Department of State has conveyed that this act of vandalism is unacceptable and expressed the hope that the perpetrators would be brought to justice as quickly as possible.**

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