

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3423
ANSWERED ON- 16/12/2024

RECOVERY OF ANTIQUITIES

3423. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the recent recovery of 297 antiquities from the US;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any measures to safeguard India's cultural heritage and prevent illicit trafficking; and
- (c) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) The objects have already been handed over to the office of Indian Consulate General of India, New York. The sanction order has been issued for the transportation of 297 antiquities from the US to India.
- (b) & (c) Archaeological Survey of India is committed to the protection of monuments, sites and antiquities under its jurisdiction. Besides regular watch and ward staff of Archaeological Survey of India, Private Security Guards and Central Industrial Security Force have been deployed as per requirement. Whenever any theft of antiquity is reported, FIR is lodged in concerned police station and 'Look Out Notice' is issued to law enforcement agencies including Custom Exit Channels to keep vigil to trace stolen antiquity and prevent its illegal export
