

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO-221**  
ANSWERED ON- 17/03/2025

CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC ARTEFACTS

\*221. SHRI MANISH TEWARI

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware that historically significant artefacts including belongings of freedom fighters Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt along with other valuable items are languishing in the maalkhana of the Parliament Street Police Station;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these priceless artefacts are at risk of damage due to poor storage conditions, lack of climate control and prolonged neglect;
- (c) whether the Government has failed to initiate steps for the proper conservation, documentation and public display of these artefacts;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any survey of such artefacts lying in police stations and Government storage rooms across the country, if so, the State/UT-wise details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for which such an important exercise has been ignored along with the details of the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that these objects of immense historical and cultural value are not permanently lost?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) in respect of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 221 for reply on 17.03.2025 regarding Conservation of Historic Artefacts asked by Shri Manish Tewari**

(a) to (c): As per records of Delhi Police, no such historically significant artefacts, including belongings of freedom fighters Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt, along with other valuable items, are lying in the Maalkhana of the Parliament Street Police Station.

(d & e): No such Survey has been conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India as objects from the case properties are handed over as per court-order or disposal manuals of the law-enforcement agencies. Such object received by the ASI, are kept in safe custody at Central Antiquity Collection, ASI, New Delhi. Some of the objects are displayed in the museums and Confiscated and Retrieved Antiquities Gallery for public.

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