

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1327
ANSWERED ON 28/07/2025

RETRIEVAL OF INDIAN ANTIQUES AND ARTIFACTS

1327. SHRI BASAVARAJ BOMMAI:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the estimated number and value of Indian antiques and artifacts still available in the foreign soil, country-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to retrieve them; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a)to(c) Several Museums and Art Galleries around the world houses Indian antiquities and artifacts, besides such collections with individuals. However, no such estimated number is available, but as and when, any illegally exported antiquity of Indian origin is reported on foreign soil, necessary action are initiated through Indian Missions for their retrieval. Archaeological Survey of India has retrieved 655 number antiquities since 1976.
