

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 19.11.2009
ANSWERED ON
STEALING OF ANTIQUES FROM MUSEUMS .

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Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda

Will the Minister of COALCOALEXTERNAL AFFAIRSCULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) the number of cases of thefts that were detected where `Antiques` were stolen from the museums or sites maintained by ASI, during 2007 and 2008;
- (b) whether FIRs are lodged in all cases or selectivity is exercised keeping in view the value and nature of `antique pieces` stolen; and
- (c) the conviction percentage and the number of cases where stolen antiques were recovered or returned by the convicted persons?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SH. V. NARAYANASAMY)

- (a) No theft of antiquity has taken place at any of the site museums of Archaeological Survey of India during the years 2007 and 2008. However, seven cases of theft involving twelve antiquities have been reported during these two years in respect of Monuments/Sites maintained by ASI. Details are at the Annexure.
- (b) Yes, Sir. FIRs have been lodged in all cases.
- (c) Only one object is recovered. Details are at the Annexure.