

**Setting up of Industrial Estate at
Bhalukpong, Arunachal Pradesh**

169. SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh to set up an industrial estate at Bhalukpong in Arunachal Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the central assistance therefor ; and

(c) the present position of the proposed scheme and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Theft of Old Statues and Other
Historical Articles**

170. SHRI D.L. BAITHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether thefts of old statues and other articles depicting Indian culture and history have become rampant recently ; and

(b) if so, the details of articles etc., disappeared/lost by theft or otherwise during the last five years, giving reasons thereof and measures adopted to stop such loss in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Thefts of antiquities have been occurring from time to time.

(b) A Statewise list of number of thefts of antiquities which occurred in the past five years as per the information available is attached and the steps taken by the Government to check thefts of antiquities are listed below :

- (i) compulsory registration of certain categories of antiquities and intimation of their movement to Registering Officers ;
- (ii) dealing in antiquities restricted only to licensed dealers ;
- (iii) restriction on export of antiquities ;
- (iv) posting of officers at important international sea-ports and airports to assist the Customs authorities in preventing illegal export of antiquities ;
- (v) constituting Advisory Committees of Experts to examine objects meant for export and issue of non-antiquity certificates ;
- (vi) construction of sculpture sheds and new site museums for safe keeping of the antiquities ;
- (vii) documentation of loose sculptures by the Archaeological Survey of India ;
- (viii) posting of armed guards at important Centrally protected monuments and museums ;
- (ix) tightening of watch and ward arrangements and appointment of Security Officers in Circles/important museums; and
- (x) opening of antique cell in the Central Bureau of Investigation.