

**Theft of Art Objects**

8784. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any study with regard to the rise/decline in the theft of art objects from various museums and art galleries in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of rise/decline in the theft of art objects and the estimated value of the art objects stolen from the various museums and art galleries in the country during the last three years (year wise);

(c) the details of the stolen art objects which have since been recovered with value thereof; and

(d) whether Government have critically reviewed the arrangements for the safety and protection of the art objects in the museums/art galleries to plug the loopholes; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) No, Sir; "Museums" and other similar institutions controlled or financed by the State Government are a State subject : hence the responsibility for the safety and security of the art objects therein is that of the respective State Governments. A sample study on the safety and security of certain ancient monuments under Central protection and Central Museums has, however, been made.

(b) and (c). So far as Central and State Museums and Art Galleries are concerned, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The safety and protection of art objects in Museums and Galleries under control of the Department of Culture is under constant review with a view to plug possible loopholes and strengthen arrangements, wherever necessary. The suggestions

of the Central Advisory Board of Museums, at their meeting held in 1987, that Museums should be provided with the latest gadgets and equipment for security have been drawn to the attention of all State Governments.

**Research and Treatment by Indigenous Medicines**

8785. SHRI SALEEM I. SHERVANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that an Ayurveda Physician from Uttar Pradesh has developed an indigenous medicine for the treatment of leukemia, chronic osteomyelitis (Bone TB), benign enlargement of prostate, chronic pancreatitis and treated patients in the country and abroad;

(b) whether the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha had once decided to undertake further research in Delhi but later on dropped the proposal; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) An Ayurvedic Physician of Meerut has claimed that he has treated many cancer cases successfully.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Superfast Train between Bhubaneswar and Howrah**

8786. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for introduction of a Superfast Express train between Bhubaneswar and Howrah has been pending long before Government;

(b) if so, whether the proposal is likely to be implemented; and