

recommendations have been obtained; and

(c) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) and (b). The University Grants Commission had appointed in March, 1965 a Committee under my Chairmanship on Students Welfare and Allied Matters. The Committee submitted its report in October, 1966. The report was forwarded to the State Governments and Universities suggesting that the recommendations contained in the report could be useful in the formulation of programmes for the promotion of students' welfare.

(c) As no specific request was made to ascertain their reactions as to how to implement the report, the question does not arise.

Theft of Idols from Temples

95. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of idols, of stone and metal, and other antique pieces stolen from different temples of India so far with their value and the names of the temples from where they were stolen;

(b) the steps taken to recover these stolen pieces and the number of those recovered so far and their value;

(c) the particulars of the culprits who stole them, their modus operandi and the punishment given to them; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such thefts in future?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidaya Charan Shukla): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

348 (A) LSD-3.

Export of Antique Pieces

96. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the regulations governing the export or shipment overseas of antique pieces and other works of art;

(b) whether the person who exported the two-thousand-year-old Budha head found in the Swiss Museum in 1963 was prosecuted and punished;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the rare pieces at Sanganer Temple near Jaipur have been classified and listed and if so, their value?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Shri Sher Singh):

(a) The Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947, and The Antiquities (Export Control) Rules, 1947 prohibit export of antiquities except under a licence from Central Government, and prescribe the procedure for applying for licences.

(b) and (c). Government have no information about any Budha head found in a Swiss Museum. The State Police were however investigating into the theft of such a head from the State Museum at Mathura in 1961 which was later found with a Swiss art dealer. The piece was repatriated to India in 1966. It is not known whether the Uttar Pradesh Government have been able to catch the culprit and punish him and a reference to that Government for information has been made.

(d) The temple is not a centrally protected Monument and the pieces have not been classified or listed and their evaluation made.