

Theft and Sale of Art Pieces Abroad

1202. SHRI PREM CHAND

VERMA:

SHRI HEM RAJ:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problem of fast increasing theft in the country and clandestine sale abroad of invaluable art pieces and antiquities has been examined by Government;

(b) if so, the nature thereof and extent of the problem and how much art treasure has so far been sold abroad; and

(c) the measures which are being adopted to stop such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) to (c). Government have taken note of the increasing incidence of thefts of sculptures and other antiquities from monuments in the country. A few cases of illegal exports have also come to notice which are under investigation, but no official information has been received about large scale exports. Cases of theft from centrally protected monuments are promptly reported to the police authorities concerned for necessary investigations and apprehension of the culprits. The Export Advisory Committees and the Customs Authorities at major ports are also alerted at the same time to prevent the export of the stolen objects out of the country. The following preventive measures have also been taken to check the incidence of thefts from Centrally protected monuments:—

- (i) Documentation and shifting of loose sculptures from monuments/sites to places of safety.
- (ii) Watch and ward staff at the monuments/sites have been warned to be more vigilant. Such staff has also been strengthened wherever necessary and possible.

The Ministry of Home Affairs have also addressed the Heads of State Governments and Chief Ministers to take measures to gear up the police machinery in their States to exercise greater vigilance and strictness at points of export and places where purchases and sales of art pieces and antiquities take place. Suitable amendment of the Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947, is also under consideration with a view to tightening the licensing regulations and preventing unauthorised export of antiquities from the country.

All Weather Services to Laccadive Islands

1203. SHRI YASH PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for having an all weather service to the Laccadive Islands; and

(b) if not, when the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) Yes sir. The Government of India have decided to have an all weather service to the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands and an all weather passenger-cum-cargo vessel has been ordered by the Shipping Corporation of India from YUGOSLAVIA:

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Correspondent in Nagaland

1204. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a foreign correspondent has been residing in Nagaland for the last many years;

(b) if so, whether he has been residing there with the prior permission of Government; and

(c) if not, the action taken by Government against the person concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Maharashtra-Mysore Border Dispute

1205. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH
BHADORIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made towards the settlement of Maharashtra-Mysore dispute; and

(b) when the dispute is likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Efforts are being made to settle this dispute as early as possible. The matter is under active consideration of Government but the time when the dispute is likely to be settled cannot be indicated.

Law and Order Situation in Delhi

1206. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:
SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether law and order situation in Delhi has worsened since the termination of the last Session of Parliament;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to find out the causes; and

(c) what measures are being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). As against 4578 cases during the period 15th February, 1968 to 30th April, 1968, 4432 cases were reported during the period 1st May, 1968 to 15th July, 1968. While no special study has been made of the law, and order situation as such during the inter-sessional recess the crime situation in Delhi, is however, reviewed from time to time and necessary preventive and other measures are taken by the Administration in accordance with law.

Distribution of Pamphlet amongst Mizo Rebels

1207. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mizo National Front has published and circulated a pamphlet among the Mizo tribals;

(b) if so, what are the contents of this pamphlet; and

(c) the steps that have been taken to counter such propaganda and stop Chinese interference in the Mizo Affairs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY): (a) No pamphlet published and circulated by the Mizo National Front among the Mizos has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have taken measures to counter hostile propaganda and Security Forces are continuing their operations and maintain constant vigilance.

दिल्ली परिवहन की बस दुर्घटना

1208 श्री रामसेवक दासब : क्या परिवहन तथा मौबहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 13 जून, 1968 को शाम को दिल्ली छावनी के पास