

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM AND CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:906  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2000  
BRINGING BACK HISTORICAL RELICS  
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

**Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any request has been made to the British Government to return the relics of historical and cultural importance like Kohinoor diamond to India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Victoria Museum in London has got gems and other relics relating to Chhatrapati Shivaji and Maharaja Ranjit Singh; and
- (d) if so, the efforts made so far to bring back these and other items pertaining to princely States of British Raj?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE ( SHRI ANANTH KUMAR )

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) & (d) : As per the information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London does not have any gems or relics of Shivaji Maharaja Ranjit Singh's Throne is on permanent display in the India Section of the Museum. Government of India is in touch with the relevant authorities in the United Kingdom, through the Indian High Commission in London, and are exploring ways and means for obtaining a satisfactory.