

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2382
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011
THEFTS AT SEVAGRAM ASHRAM
Choudhary Shri Bhudeo

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any item belonging to Mahatma Gandhi has gone missing from the Sevagram Ashram in Wardha region of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any investigation has been initiated in this matter;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken / proposed to be taken to safeguard memorabilia belonging to Mahatma Gandhi and other great freedom fighters?

Answer

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

- (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A spectacle was handed over by Mrs. Nirmla Behn Gandhi, daughter-in-law of Mahatma Gandhi in 1985 to keep it in Ashram, which has gone missing.
- (c) and (d) The State Government has initiated investigations through C.I.D. and the investigation is still continuing.
- (e) Necessary security arrangements to safeguard memorabilia belonging to Mahatma Gandhi have been made by Sevagram Ashram, Wardha.