

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6541
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
AMENDMENT IN ANTIQUITIES AND ART TREASURES ACT
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

:

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any draft for carrying out amendments in the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said draft and the time by which the said Act is likely to be amended; and
- (c) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to put a ban on the sale and purchase of items of archaeological importance in the private sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE SRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. The Government has constituted a committee under Justice (Retd.) Mukul Mudgal. The committee has submitted a draft for carrying out amendments in the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 in Dec. 2011 to Ministry of Culture, which is under consideration.

(c) While there is no ban on the sale and purchase of items of archaeological importance in the private sector, necessary licence has to be obtained for the purpose.