

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3053
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018.**

REPATRIATION OF ARTEFACTS

3053. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL :
SHRI D. K. SURESH :

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

- (a) whether it is true that there is a long history of Indian antique objects finding their way into international museums and private collections, but only a few have made it back and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any data about the number of antiquities which are being currently exhibited in museums across the world;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any measures to bring the said artefacts of Indian origin to our country; and
- (e) if so, the details of the artefacts identified and actually brought back during the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE AND MINISTER
OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) The antiquities taken away from India during the British Period and displayed in the International Museums does not come under the purview of illegal export. The Archaeological Survey of India is constantly making its best efforts to retrieve the antiquities which have been taken away from the country in violation of the Antiquates and Art Treasure Act, 1972. Efforts are made to retrieve such antiquities as and when surfaced in foreign countries.
- (b) No data of antiquities currently exhibited in the Museums across the world is available with the ASI.
- (c)
- (d) The Archaeological Survey of India constantly making its best efforts through Indian Missions abroad for retrieval of illegally exported antiquities. The details of the antiquities retrieved from foreign countries from 2015-2017 and current year up to December, 2018 is annexed at Annexure I.
- (e)

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) & (e) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3053 FOR 31. 12. 2018**

Retrieved Indian Antiquities from Abroad from 2015 to 2018

S.No.	Name	State	From	Year	Mode of retrieval	Under the custody
1.	Parrot Lady	Madhya Pradesh	Canada	2015	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
2.	Durga (Mahishmardini)	J&K	Germany	2015	Voluntarily returned	SPS Museum Sri Nagar, J&K
3.	Uma Parameshwari	Tamil Nadu	Singapore	2015	Voluntarily returned	Under the custody of Idol Wing Tamil Nadu
4.	Bronze image of Saint Manikkavachaka	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	Under the custody of Idol Wing Tamil Nadu
5.	Metal image of Ganesha	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	Under the custody of Idol Wing Tamil Nadu
6.	Terracotta Female Figure (Honolulu Museum)	Mauryan period Central India	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
7.	Male Deity (Honolulu Museum)	Madhya Pradesh	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
8.	Floral Tile, Harvan	Kashmir	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
9.	Sri Devi, Chola Period	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
10.	Metal image of Bahubali	Andhra Pradesh	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	PMO
11.	Metal image of Parvati	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
12.	Terracotta Plaque	West Bengal	USA	2016	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
13.	Metal image of Bhoodevi	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	Idol Wing Tamil Nadu
14.	Metal image of Chakkarathalwar	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A	2016	Voluntarily returned	Idol Wing Tamil Nadu

15.	Seated Buddha	Mathura region, Uttar Pradesh	Australia	2016	Voluntarily returned	National Muséum New Delhi
16.	Panel of Devotees of Buddha	Andhra Pradesh	Australia	2016	Voluntarily returned	National Museum New Delhi
17.	Stone image of Pratyangira	Tamil Nadu	Australia	2016	Voluntarily returned	Under the custody of Idol Wing Tamil Nadu
18.	Sand Stone Male Figure in Tribhanga Posture	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
19.	Sand Stone Bust of a Female	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
20.	Sand Stone broken Figure	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
21.	Stone image of Durga	Tamil Nadu	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
22.	Damaged Sand Stone image of Nataraja in dancing posture.	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
23.	Mutilated Sand Stone Panel depicting two male Figures (<i>vidhyadharas</i>).	Central India	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
24.	Stone image of a couple (<i>mithuna</i>) figure carved under a niche from Atru, Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
25.	Stone image of a couple (<i>mithuna</i>) Figure from Atru, Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	U.S.A.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
26.	Stone sculpture of Brahma and Brahamani	Gujarat	U.K.	2017	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
27.	Durga Mahishasurmardini	Uttarakhand	USA MET Museum	2018	Voluntarily returned	CAC Section, Purana Qila, N. Delhi
28.	Bodhisattva Head	Andhra Pradesh	USA MET Museum	2018	Voluntarily returned	Nagarjunakonda Museum, Andhra Pradesh