

has been the case in regard to the compulsory registration of historical sculptures and painting etc.;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Pupul Jayakar Committee examined jewellery items belonging to both of the Nizam trusts in order to identify them for their declaration as Antiquity and/or Art treasure under the Antiquity and Art Treasures Act, 1972;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations of the committee in this regard;

(e) whether the famous Jacob diamond and other important jewellery items of both the Trusts have not been declared either as an antiquity or an Art treasure; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) and (b). The jewellery items, which are in existence for more than 100 years, are antiquities in terms of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 but they are not brought under compulsory registration because of practical difficulties. Items of jewellery, which are less than 100 years old, require to be specifically declared as art treasures subject to fulfilment of the provisions laid down in the said Act, 1972 and art treasures are not registerable as they are notified in the Official Gazette as such.

(c) and (d). Pupul Jayakar Committee examined 37 items of jewellery of the HEH the Nizam's Jewellery Trust and 84 items of NEH Nizam's Supplemental Jewellery Trust and recommended 7 and 19 items respectively to be declared as art treasures. The said Committee did not examine the above items from the point of view of antiquities

under the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972.

(e) and (f). Decision on Jacob diamond about its being an antiquity or otherwise could not be taken in the absence of full history of the same from the family records of Nizam: 28 items of the Nizam's Jewellery Trust declared as non-antiquities remain to be examined from the point of view of art treasures as these were not presented before the export committee for examination by the Trustees.

Tree Plantation on National Highway No. 17

7787. SHRI A.R. ANTULAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to plant trees on both sides of the National Highway No. 17 in the Konkan region of Maharashtra in order to improve and maintain ecological balance in the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROURAY): (a) to (c). Tree planting of around 3.1 lakh seedlings has been carried out on both sides of National Highway No. 17 in Konkan region of Maharashtra. Future work would depend on availability of funds and land.

Improvement of Service Conditions of KVS Employees

7788. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under