

Year	No. of idols stolen
1984	20
1985	9

(upto 31.10.1985)

(d) Several measures have been taken to prevent thefts in the centrally protected monuments as indicated in the statement given below.

Statement

1. Armed Guards have been posted in fifteen centrally protected monuments and museums administered by the Archaeological Survey of India, in addition to strengthening of watch and ward arrangements in other monuments/sites.

2. Construction of twenty five sculptured sheds at important sites to house loose and uncared for sculptures, their documentation and establishment of archaeological site museums.

3. Promulgation of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 to regulate the export trade in antiquities and art treasures, to provide for the prevention of smuggling and fraudulent dealing in antiquities, to provide for the compulsory acquisition of antiquities and art treasures for preservation at public places.

4. Creation in 1974 of a Central Investigating Unit (Antiques) in the Central Bureau of Investigation located at Delhi to investigate cases concerning theft of antiquities.

5. Maintenance of a computerised data bank of cases of theft and recoveries of certain important cultural properties (sculptures, idols and paintings) containing information about crimes, criminals and cultural property in the C.B.I.

6. Coordination between the Central Bureau of Investigation, the Archaeological Survey of India, State Police, Customs and Checkposts for prompt reporting of crimes, criminals, thefts concerning cultural property and smuggling of objects.

7. Assistance of Interpol is also sought where necessary for investigation of such cases.

Railway over-bridge of Nahar-Katia in Assam

*254. SHRI C.P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great need for construction of a railway over-bridge in Nahar-Katia in Assam ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take up this work during the first year of the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) The Railways undertake construction of road over/under bridges in replacement of busy level crossings, jointly with the State Governments on cost sharing basis. Proposals in this regard are required to be sponsored by the State Government with an undertaking to bear their share of the cost. No such proposal for the construction of railway over-bridge at Nahar Katia has yet been received from the State Government.

Development of Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh

*255. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the plans for improving and developing various Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh in the Seventh Plan;

(b) the names of stations and the planned financial allocation for the improvement in the Seventh Plan; and

(c) the additional facilities being planned for Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh ?