

# REPATRIATION OF ANTIQUITIES AND CULTURAL OBJECTS

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 20 JUL 2026 4:17PM by PIB Delhi

The details of theft cases from the Centrally Protected Monuments are given at Annexure-I.

Details of the retrieval of antiquities during the last five years are given at Annexure 'II'.

The government takes necessary steps towards prevention of the theft of antiquities. Besides regular watch and ward staff, private security guards and Central Industrial Security Force have been deployed as per requirement at Monuments of National Importance, Sites and Museums. Whenever any theft of antiquity is reported; FIR is lodged and 'Look out Notice' is issued to the law-enforcement agencies including Custom Exit Channels to keep vigil to trace stolen antiquity and prevent export.

The repatriation of antiquities is a continuous process. The process of repatriation takes place with the help of Ministry of External Affairs, (MEA) and Indian Embassies/Missions, as and when any antiquity is traced or surfaced abroad.

This information was given by Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in a written reply in Lok Sabha today

## **ANNEXURE-I**

### DETAILS OF STOLEN ANTIQUITIES DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS

| S.No. | State          | Name of Monuments/Sites (from where the antiquities were stolen and location) | Name of object stolen | Year of theft | Status    |
|-------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|
|       | Andhra Pradesh | Golingeswara group of Temples, Biccavolu, District East Godawari.             | Nandi sculpture       | 2021          | Recovered |
|       | Uttarakhand    | Bhairav Temple, Mrityunjay Temple Complex, Dwarahat, District Almora.         | Shiva Linga           | 2021          | Recovered |

|  |            |                                                                                      |                                                |      |               |
|--|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------|---------------|
|  | Jharkhand  | Sitagarha Archaeological Excavation Site, District Hazaribagh.                       | Two sculptures of Buddha in bhumisparsha mudra | 2021 | Recovered     |
|  | Karnataka  | Ganpati Amma Shrine of Lakshminarasimha Temple, Marehalli, District Mandya.          | Stone idol of Ganpati                          | 2022 | Not Recovered |
|  | Bihar      | Village Dattina, P.S Vikram, District Patna.                                         | Image of Vishnu                                | 2022 | Not Recovered |
|  | Tamil Nadu | Parthasarathi and Krishna Temples, Parthivapuram, Vilavancode, District Kanyakumari. | Idol of Vishnu                                 | 2024 | Recovered     |

## **Annexure II**

### DETAILS OF THE RETRIEVAL OF ANTIQUITIES DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS (UPTO 30 JUNE, 2026)

| Year | Name of the Country | Number of Antiquities |
|------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 2021 | UK                  | 01                    |
|      | Canada              | 01                    |
|      | USA                 | 157                   |
| 2022 | Australia           | 29                    |
|      | UK                  | 01                    |
| 2023 | Australia           | 02                    |
|      | UK                  | 07                    |
|      | USA                 | 105                   |
|      | Italy               | 01                    |
| 2024 | Thailand            | 01                    |

|       |           |     |
|-------|-----------|-----|
|       | USA       | 297 |
| 2026  | Australia | 11  |
|       | USA       | 02  |
| Total |           | 615 |

\*\*\*

**M Annadurai**

(रिलीज़ आईडी: 2286586) आगंतुक पटल : 1106  
इस विज्ञप्ति को इन भाषाओं में पढ़ें: Urdu , हिन्दी , Tamil