

RETRIEVAL OF STOLEN ANTIQUITIES

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The country-wise list of retrieved antiquities is given at Annexure I.

The Government takes up the issue of retrieving objects taken abroad during the colonial period at various forums. The process of retrieval is initiated on a case-by-case basis, keeping in view the applicable national and international laws and conventions. The retrieval of such objects is facilitated through mutual understanding and cooperation between the countries/Governments concerned.

Several museums and art galleries around the world house Indian antiquities, and in addition, such collections are also held by private individuals. However, no comprehensive list of such collections is available. Whenever any illegally exported antiquity of Indian origin is reported on foreign soil, the necessary action is initiated through the concerned Indian Embassy/Mission for its retrieval.

Annexure I

Detail of the antiquities retrieved from USA, Australia, UK and Netherlands

Sl. No.	Country	Number of Antiquities (Till June 2026)
1.	Australia	51
2.	Netherlands	01
3.	UK	21
4.	USA	589
		662

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

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