

[10 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

Missing of Guru Gobind Singh's Kalgi from London's Victoria and Albert Museum

994. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Guru Gobind Singh's Kalgi is missing from London's Victoria and Albert Museum, as reported in the Indian Express dated 3rd August, 1999;

(b) if so, why Government have not claimed this looted historic wealth of India; and

(c) why government have not pressed with the demand for return of India House Library, with all its treasures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) to (c) According to the information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs, there is no accurate information about the whereabouts of the Kalgi and that in the absence of any clear evidence, it would be difficult to pursue the matter through diplomatic channels.

Further, it was also informed by the Ministry of External Affairs that the India House Library is part of the India House and therefore, of the Indian High Commission.

Schemes to make youths self-Reliant and Employment Oriented

†995. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any schemes to make youths self-reliant and employment oriented, as soon as they complete their college education; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated to cultivate the spirit of immense patriotism as well as to protect them from the effect of westernisation and drugs; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) and (b) A Scheme entitled "National Reconstruction Corps" (NRC) has been

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.