

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 is under review to identify provisions which need to be revised or strengthened. However, it will not be possible to indicate a timeframe for the completion of this exercise.

**Quality of sports equipments**

1706. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that sports equipments available to our sportmen are either inferior in quality or are outdated; and
- (b) if so, what are Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The Government of India has been providing adequate assistance to the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for making quality sports equipments available to sports persons included in the National Teams.

- (b) Does not arise.

**Change in venue of National Youth Festival**

1707. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken any decision to change the venue of the National Youth Festival from Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what are the steps taken by Government for organising the National Youth Festival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) to (c) In pursuance of a request received from the Government of Gujarat, the VI National Youth Festival is being organised in that State during January, 2000.