

Jain idols stolen and smuggled abroad

1319. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many precious idols of Bhagwan Mahavir and other deities belonging to Jain religion have been stolen and smuggled abroad during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware of many instances reported during last year from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan where precious idols were removed and stolen; and

(d) if so, how many idols have been recovered and how many could not be recovered during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) There is one case of theft of Jain Thirthenkar (Mahavir) from Jain Shrine Temple, Rajgir, Bihar, a Centrally Protected Monument in the year 2014. There is no information about the smuggling of the above object out of the country.

(c) There are six cases of theft of antiquities from Centrally Protected Monuments during the last year *i.e.* 2015 as per the Statement (*See below*).

(d) Only one antiquity has been recovered.

Statement

Details of theft of antiquities from Centrally Protected Monuments/Sites/Museums maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India during last year i.e. 2015

YEAR 2015

Sl. No.	States	Name of Monument/Sites/District	Description of object	Date of theft	Action Taken	Status
1.	Shimla-Himachal Pradesh	Shimla, Himachal Pradesh	Theft of Antique Bell	In the intervening night 22.04.2015	FIR Lodged	Not recovered
2.	Karnataka	Theft of one schist stone Yaksha sculpture from Bhimesheshwara Temple at Neelgunda, Harappanahalli Taluk, Davangere district, Karnataka a Centrally protected monument.	Schist stone Yaksha sculpture	26 April, 2015	F.I.R. Lodged	Not recovered
3.	Odisha	Theft of one sculpture of Trivikrama (Locally called Bali Vamana) from the premises of Varahanatha Temple, Jajpur, Odisha, a Centrally protected monument.	Sculpture of Trivikrama (Locally called Bali	18 May, 2015	F.I.R. Lodged	Not recovered
4.	Karnataka	Bhoganandiswara Temple at Nand, Chikkaballapur Talkuk Chikkaballapur District, Karanatak	Black stone Kalsa	16 Sep., 2015	F.I.R. Lodged	Not recovered
5.	Aurangabad	Sculpture shed near Aam Khas Gate, Daulatabad Fort. District-Aurangabad.	Sculpture shed	16 Sep., 2015	F.I.R. Lodged	Not Recovered
6.	Bhubneshwar	Chandrasekhar Temple, Kapilas a Centrally protected monument.	Theft of three sculpture. (1) Bhairava, (2) Ganesha (3) Kaumari	25.11.2015, and 26.11.2015	F.I.R. Lodged	Not recovered