

**Theft of Art Objects**

8784. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any study with regard to the rise/decline in the theft of art objects from various museums and art galleries in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of rise/decline in the theft of art objects and the estimated value of the art objects stolen from the various museums and art galleries in the country during the last three years (year wise);

(c) the details of the stolen art objects which have since been recovered with value thereof; and

(d) whether Government have critically reviewed the arrangements for the safety and protection of the art objects in the museums/art galleries to plug the loopholes; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) No, Sir; "Museums" and other similar institutions controlled or financed by the State Government are a State subject : hence the responsibility for the safety and security of the art objects therein is that of the respective State Governments. A sample study on the safety and security of certain ancient monuments under Central protection and Central Museums has, however, been made.

(b) and (c). So far as Central and State Museums and Art Galleries are concerned, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The safety and protection of art objects in Museums and Galleries under control of the Department of Culture is under constant review with a view to plug possible loopholes and strengthen arrangements, wherever necessary. The suggestions

of the Central Advisory Board of Museums, at their meeting held in 1987, that Museums should be provided with the latest gadgets and equipment for security have been drawn to the attention of all State Governments.

**Research and Treatment by Indigenous Medicines**

8785. SHRI SALEEM I. SHERVANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that an Ayurveda Physician from Uttar Pradesh has developed an indigenous medicine for the treatment of leukemia, chronic osteomyelitis (Bone TB), benign enlargement of prostate, chronic pancreatitis and treated patients in the country and abroad;

(b) whether the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha had once decided to undertake further research in Delhi but later on dropped the proposal; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) An Ayurvedic Physician of Meerut has claimed that he has treated many cancer cases successfully.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Superfast Train between Bhubaneswar and Howrah**

8786. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for introduction of a Superfast Express train between Bhubaneswar and Howrah has been pending long before Government;

(b) if so, whether the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). Some suggestions have been received for introduction of a new superfast train between Bhubaneswar and Howrah. However, in view of availability of 9 pairs of mail/express trains including 4 superfast services, there is no proposal to introduce an additional train at present.

#### **Merit-cum-means Scholarships**

8787. SHRI PRITHVI CHAND KISKU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of National Merit-cum-Means Scholarships granted on the basis of Central Board of Senior Secondary Examination, 1987;

(b) the eligibility criteria adopted for such scholarships;

(c) whether all the students selected have been paid the scholarships;

(d) if not, the details of the students who are yet to be paid; and

(e) the time by which they will be paid the scholarship ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) (a) The Ministry of Human Resource Development has allotted 191 Merit-cum-Means Scholarships (86 for All India Senior School Certificate Examination and 105 for Delhi Senior School Certificate Examination) to the Delhi Administration for the academic session 1987. The Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi has recommended 50 scholarships (14 for All India Scheme and 36 for Delhi Scheme) so far to Delhi Administration and the remaining 141 scholarships will be recommended soon after determining their eligibility under means test.

(b) The candidates who secure first 191 positions in order of merit in these examinations but not less than 60 per cent marks in aggregate are considered for these awards provided the annual income of their parents remains within the ceiling limit of Rs. 6000 per annum (pre-revised) after allowing the admissible rebates under the means test. This income ceiling has now been increased from Rs. 6000 to Rs. 25,000 per annum after allowing a standard deduction of 30 per cent of the gross income to the extent of Rs. 10,000 as maximum w.e.f. 1-4-1988.

(c) to (e). The scholarship money to the awardees in Delhi is paid by the Delhi Administration. According to the information received from the Delhi Administration, the applications are still awaited from the selected candidates. On receipt of these applications, the cases for award of scholarships will be finalised by Delhi Administration for the payment of scholarships amount.

#### **Requests from Scheduled Castes Organisations of Kerala for Allotment of Forest Land for Housing**

8788. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received requests from Scheduled Castes Organisations engaged in housing activities in Kerala for allotment of forest land for the construction of houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A petition for assignment of 200 acres of land in Survey No. 872/1 of Piravanthoor village of Pathanapuram Taluk of Quilon district, Kerala, to the "Harijan Avasa Karshaka Sangham", was received in May, 1987.

(c) The policy of the Government of India is not to allow diversion of forest