

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:259

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005

CUSTODY OF SEIZED ANTIQUE IDOLS /STATUES.

Prasad Shri Hari Kewal;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that valuable antique idols/statues seized during the raids conducted by CBI are not kept properly; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to hand over these idols/statues to the Archaeological Survey of India for their proper conservation and protection?

Answer

MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) The valuable antique idols/statues seized during raids carried out by CBI are properly kept and preserved in the CBI Malkhana.

(b) As explained earlier the antiquities are maintained with due care. The matter of their preservation and care was also discussed with agencies like National Museum, National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) and the ASI. For want of adequate space these could not be taken over by the National Museum or the NGMA and this matter will be reviewed after the expansion of the Museum.