

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2514
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2006
LORD BUDDHA IDOL STOLEN FROM SARNATH .
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether a gold image of Lord Buddha was stolen from Sarnath in the past;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether any investigation has been made in the matter; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) Yes Sir, a gold image of Lord Buddha was stolen from Mulgandhakuti Vihar of Sarnath on the night of 8th January, 2006. The Mulgandhakuti Vihar is managed by the Mahabodhi society of India.

(d) The Sarnath Police Station has registered a case and taken up investigation in the case.