

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3433  
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2006  
EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY NATIONAL MUSEUM .  
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the National Museum had incurred a huge expenditure in connection with an international exhibition that never took place as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated July 29, 2006;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) If so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) The action taken against the officers found guilty?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR TOURISM & CULTURE ( SMT. AMBIKA SONI )

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. In April, 2003 on the suggestion of Ambassador of India in Brazil, Government of India decided to organise an exhibition entitled "Eternal India" in Brazil in collaboration with the BRAZILCONNECT, a private non-profit organisation of Brazil. National Museum, as a nodal agency spent an approximate amount of Rs.6,02,576/- for inspection of venue, selection of objects, convening of meetings of National Screening and Evaluation Committee. In addition to this, an amount of Rs.18.62 lakhs has also been incurred towards the fabrication of boxes for transportation of objects within India and from India to Brazil. Thus approximately a total amount of Rs.24,64,576/- was incurred by National Museum for this exhibition.

Meanwhile on the advice from Indian Ambassador in Brazil, the proposed exhibition was called off as no agreement was signed.

(c) to (e): A preliminary enquiry has revealed certain irregularities regarding fabrication of boxes/crates without the approval of the competent authority. Officials found responsible, prima facie, have been issued show cause notices.