

**Policy/Guideline for Lending of Antiquities/Art Treasures to
Institutions/Museums Abroad and Within the Country**

Ministry of Culture vide its office memorandum F.No.25-5/98-M.I. dated 18/06/1999 and subsequently revised by office memorandum F.No.12-3/2013-M.I. dated 13/02/2014 has issued guidelines for organizing international exhibitions. In addition, Policy/Guideline for Lending of Antiquities/Art Treasures to Institutions/Museums Abroad and Within the Country, approved by HCM on 29/02/2016 is being issued.

There will be three categories of loan/exhibition.

1. Category (I) - Incoming and outgoing exhibitions of Antiquities/Art treasures abroad.
2. Category (II) - Temporary loan of Antiquities/Art treasures for foreign institutions/ museums.
3. Category (III) - Loan of Antiquities/Art treasures to the institution/museums within the country.

Following categories of antiquities will not be loaned either foreign countries or within the country.

1. Antiquities and Art Treasures classified under 'AA' Category.
2. Works of art under worship in any form, irrespective of their location and placement.
3. Embedded antiquities and art objects.
4. Antiquities/ Art Treasures which have not been documented by the concerned museum.
5. Antiquities/ Art Treasures displayed in specific context of the site /monument.
6. Antiquities/ Art Treasures which are not in good state of preservation and not fit for movement.
7. Antiquities and Art Treasures proposed to be taken abroad for exhibition should have had minimum cooling for a period for three years i.e. three clear years shall have to be passed after their return from any previous exhibition. However, in very exceptional cases this provision may be relaxed with specific written permission of the IMEC, headed by Secretary (Culture), Government of India.

3. The borrowing institution will have to bear the transportation/insurance/packing cost of the Antiquities/ Art Treasures from its present location of the artifacts to the venue of exhibition and back to its original location.
4. The institutions/museums will have the right to terminate the loan agreement at any time, if it feels that the Antiquities/Art Treasures are not being displayed in the Museum at appropriate location and also unsafe.
5. The borrowing institution will have to acknowledge the institutions/museums while displaying the Antiquities/Art Treasures in their Museum.
6. The Antiquities/Art Treasures will be displayed in presence of an official of the institutions/museums deputed for such purpose.
7. The lending institution will prepare condition report of all the Antiquities/Art Treasures before sending them from its present location and same at the time of return.
8. In case of any damage of the Antiquities/Art Treasures the borrowing organization will be responsible to bear the cost of the damage.
9. The cost of the damage of the Antiquities/Art Treasures if any during loaning period will be assessed by the Committed constituted under the Chairmanship of respective heads of the institutions/museums.
10. The Antiquities/ Art Treasures will not be loaned to any institution at least for three years after the date of their return to ASI. However, in exceptional cases the permission may be relaxed by the IMEC.
11. The institutions/museums will have right to verify the Antiquities/Art Treasures at any time during the period of loan, if desires to do so.
12. The borrowing institution will not lend or shift any Antiquities/Art Treasures further to any other institution/location.
13. Any publication to be brought by borrowing institution, an acknowledgement of institutions/museums will be recorded.
14. The borrowing institutions will also loan the Antiquities/Art Treasures of their institution in reciprocal manner, if institutions/museums proposes any exhibition.

