

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Request to consider Thrissur as the southern centre of the cultural capital of Kerala.

SHRI BENNY BEHANAN (CHALAKUDY): Sir, everyone knows about the cultural diversity of India, and as Indians, we are all very proud of India's unity in diversity. These facts also underscore the strong cultural heritage of our country, which is blessed with innumerable ethnic and cultural practices, and arts and traditions. However, these are not adequately preserved. Those cultural ambassadors are grassroots, and need much professional support to sustain such rich traditions. Unfortunately, it is also very late to know that the rich cultural heritage is part of our education. In our country, we have a few deemed universities here and there, whereas the actual need of the hour is to establish a national-level cultural university. It will be possible only through a cultural university as a parental umbrella, with one in South and one in North, considering the vastness of the topic and the individualistic technique of multitude forms.

Considering the presence of Kerala Kalamandalam, which is already a deemed university for Kerala's arts and traditions, located in Thrissur district, and the fact that Thrissur is the cultural capital of Kerala, perhaps, Thrissur may be considered as its Southern centre.

Thank you.