

(a) whether Government have introduced any scheme for the welfare of the tribal artists;

(b) whether measures have been taken for the promotion of tribal arts by providing the them with Central assistance;

(c) what steps have been taken for the development of tribal art of Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) the details of the measures taken in the above matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) :

(a) to (d) The Sangeet Natak Akademi under its programme of conservation and promotion of folk and traditional arts has initiated the following schemes:—

- (i) Documentation, archival collection and research;
- (ii) Promotion and preservation of rare forms of performing arts;
- (iii) Development of tribal culture.
- (iv) Preservation and promotion of puppetry.

Besides these, financial support is given by the Akademi to Cultural organisation engaged in imparting training in various forms of folk and tribal arts.

The above schemes cover the entire Indian Territory including Madhya Pradesh.

The Department of Culture under its schemes of Scholarship to young workers in the different cultural fields and Cultural Talent Search Scholarship awards scholarships in the field of traditional arts

which are practised in the rural/tribal areas.

There is no scheme meant exclusively for the welfare of the tribal artists.

#### Extent of Loss to Railways due to Oil Tankers Explosion at Dhulabari Station

2638. SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the loss to Railways and extent of damage to Railway track as a result of the fire and explosion at Dhulabari Railway Station when two tank wagons of a stationary petroleum special exploded after catching fire on 3 November, 1983 ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI) : As a result of fire at Dhulabari Railway Station on 3.11.83 approximate cost of damage caused to the two tank wagons is Rs. 2000/- and to Permanent Way Rs. 5000/-. Two rails got bent and about 40 sleepers were damaged in the fire. There was no explosion.

#### Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped Through Construction of 'Kiosks'

2639. SHRI GHULAM MOHAMMAD KHAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to start a country wide project for the rehabilitation of physically handicapped persons through construction of 'kiosks' for the handicapped;

(b) if so, what are the details of the project; and

(c) whether the nationalised banks would be involved in the project and if so, details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b)