

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4729  
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010  
FOLK ART AND CRAFT FORMS  
Shanavas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) whether the south zone cultural centre identified any folk arts or crafts from the State of Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any grant-in-aid or financial assistance for preserving of the art forms is provided by the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of schemes to promote various folk arts and craft forms in the country including that of Kerala; and
- (f) the details of autonomous body of Culture Ministry established in Kerala State?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The folk art forms identified by the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur include Theyyam, Thiruvuzhical, Kolkali, Kanyarkali, Ottanthullal, Velakali, Singarimelam, Thiruvathirakali, Kalaripayattu from the state of Kerala. The troupes are invited to perform in the programmes organized by South Zone Cultural Centre both in India and abroad. A Theyyam troupe from Kerala was sent to Singapore during the year 2007.

(c) to (e): The Government has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres with their headquarters located at Dimapur, Kolkata, Allahabad, Patiala, Udaipur, Nagpur and Thanjavur. The details of schemes to promote various folk arts and craft forms of the country, including those of Kerala, being implemented through the Zonal Cultural Centres are at Annexure. The amount of grant-in-aid provided to the Zonal Cultural Centres, during the last three years is as given below:

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Financial Year	Amount Released
2007-08	1674.13
2008-09	2616.19
2009-10	2116.40

In addition, Ministry of Culture directly operates the following schemes to promote the varied arts and crafts of the country, including those of Kerala:-

- i. Scheme of Financial Assistance to Professional Groups and Individuals Engaged for Specified Performing Arts Projects
- ii. Cultural Functions Grant Scheme
- iii. Scheme for Scholarships to Young Artistes in Different Cultural Fields
- iv. Scheme for the Award of Fellowships to Outstanding Persons in the Field of Culture

(f): No autonomous body of Ministry of Culture have been established in the State of Kerala, but its art forms are covered by the South Zone Cultural Centre at Thanjavur. The National Akademies and other organizations under the Ministry of Culture also have their activities and programmes in the State and work for preserving and promoting its varied art forms, through different units.