

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:202  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010  
CONSERVATION OF TRIBAL CULTURE  
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any action plan for the preservation and promotion of languages, folk dances, art and culture of the tribals in the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of the financial assistance given to various agencies/Non-Governmental Organisations for the said purpose during the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.202 FOR 24-11-2010

(a) & (b): Various steps are being taken by the Government to preserve and promote languages, folk dances, art and culture of various tribal communities across the country.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs supports State Governments that have Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their efforts to preserve and promote tribal culture and languages, by part-funding. The main activities of the TRIs are to provide policy guidelines for tribal welfare and development; conduct research and evaluation studies, seminars, workshops etc. and to set up museums/ libraries; and work towards promotion of culture and languages. Various State Governments have taken steps to promote over 40 tribal languages in schools as a part of the national policy on education including Sarva Siksha Abhiyan.

The plan schemes for protection and preservation of tribal art and culture, etc., are carried out by several attached, subordinate and autonomous organizations under the Ministry of Culture, as part of their larger mandate for protection and preservation of India's diverse culture.

The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya carries out programmes for popularization of cultures of India of which preservation and promotion of languages, folk dances, art and culture of tribes living in different areas of the country are an important and integral part.

The Anthropological Survey of India carries out anthropological research, covering various social, cultural and biological aspects of the people of India. There are 8 zonal museums across the country, which display artefacts belonging to different communities of India, many of which focus on tribal communities and their culture.

Sahitya Akademi has recognized 24 Indian languages, including Bodo and Santhali, which are tribal languages. The Advisory Boards of these languages recommend action plan for the development and promotion of these languages. In addition to recognizing languages, Sahitya Akademi has also established a North East Centre for Oral Literature (NECOL) at Agartala. Bhasha Sammans are awarded exclusively for unrecognized languages including tribal languages. Lalit Kala Akademi organizes exhibitions of folk and tribal art, the action plan of which is finalized by the Executive Board every year.

The seven Zonal Cultural Centres under Ministry of Culture organize programmes for the preservation and promotion of tribal art and culture and also extend support to folk and traditional artistes and artisans in different parts of the country.

(c): The details of the financial assistance given under various schemes by the Ministries of Tribal Affairs and Culture to various agencies/NGOs during the last three years and the current year are enclosed at Annexure.