

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3594  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010  
PROMOTION OF CULTURE  
Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Tirkey Shri Manohar

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

- (a) the details of Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCC), functioning in various parts of the country, State and UT- wise;
- (b) the details of initiatives taken to protect safeguard and promote the culture of various States including West Bengal through such Centres;
- (c) the details and the achievements made in this regard including the funds allocated and spent for the purpose during the last two years and the current year;
- (d) whether any review of ZCC undertaken; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) The Government has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) having their headquarters at Patiala, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur, Nagpur and Thanjavur. The details of these seven ZCCs are enclosed as Annexure.

(b) & (c) The main objective of the ZCCs is the preservation, promotion and dissemination of the traditional folk arts and culture of the various States, including West Bengal. The ZCCs endeavour to develop and promote the rich diversity and uniqueness of various arts of the Zone and to upgrade and enrich consciousness of the people about their cultural heritage. The ZCCs have been carrying out various activities and organizing programmes at the national, zonal and local levels in accordance with their aims and objectives implemented through following schemes:-

1. National Cultural Exchange Programme
2. Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme
3. Young Talented Artistes Scheme
4. Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms
5. Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme
6. Shilpagram Activities
7. Loktarang – National Folk Dance Festival and OCTAVE -Festival of the North East

Details of the funds allocated and spent for the purpose by the ZCCs during the last two years and the current year are as under:

(Rupees in Lakhs)  
Financial Year Amount allocated Amount Spent

2008-09	2616.19	2348.59
2009-10	2116.40	2101.68
2010-11	2275.00	1628.00

(upto November, 2010)

(d) & (e) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. U.R. Ananthamurthy was set up in 1994 to review the functioning of the ZCCs. In August, 2010, the Central Government has set up another Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) to review the functioning and performance of the seven ZCCs. Presently, the Committee is engaged in the task assigned to it.