

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:208  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011  
ZONAL CULTURAL CENTRES  
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.;Natrajan Meenakshi

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any assessment report regarding the performance of the various Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) in the country including Karnataka region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether these centres have lost their focus on rejuvenating and retaining the rich cultures and traditions in the tribal and remote areas of the country;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor, alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon;
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to restructure and upgrade the said ZCCs, centre-wise; and
- (f) the details of funds allocated and utilised for the proper upkeep of the said centres during each of the last three years and the current year, centre-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 208 FOR 16th AUGUST, 2011

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. In August, 2010, Ministry of Culture set up a Committee on Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) which was chaired by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra and Shri Amol Palekar were the other members of this Committee. The Committee was required to look into the functioning and performance of the seven ZCCs. Its terms of reference included an examination of action taken on the recommendations of an earlier Committee on the subject that was constituted in the year 1994 under the chairmanship of Prof. U. R. Ananthamurthy. The Committee has submitted its Report on 11th April, 2011, wherein it has made various recommendations for structural and functional changes in the existing set u of the ZCCs. These include restructuring of the Governing Body and Executive Board of the ZCCs; setting up of an Indian Council of Zonal Cultural Centres and a Folk & Tribal Akademi; enhancing of the existing Corpus Fund of the ZCCs; enhancing the remuneration of folk and tribal artistes; revamping the Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme; undertaking cultural propagation primarily in villages, mofussil areas and city slums; and organizing Apna Utsav and Yatras to mark the Silver Jubilee of the ZCCs.

Before taking a view on the recommendations of the Committee, Ministry of Culture has forwarded the Report to all State Governments, ZCCs, concerned Ministries and organizations and also placed it on the website of the Ministry ([www.indiaculture.nic.in](http://www.indiaculture.nic.in)) to seek views and comments of all the stakeholders.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): The Government had provided an initial contribution of Rs. 5 crores to the corpus of each ZCC which was enhanced to Rs. 10 crores in the year 2005-06. This strengthened the resource base of the ZCCs. In addition, several new schemes, such as Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme, Young Talented Artistes' Scheme and Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme, have been introduced in all the ZCCs over the last 10 years, which are funded from the Plan budget of the Ministry of Culture. 'OCTAVE', a major festival representing the art and culture of the 8 North Eastern States has been introduced and has been organized by the ZCCs at several places across the country.

(f): The position of funds allocated to the ZCCs and spent by them over the preceding 3 years and the current year is as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No. Name of ZCC 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12

Relea- Spent Relea- Spent Relea- Spent Relea- Spent  
sed sed sed so far

1	NZCC, Patiala	292.00	304.89	234.14	282.90	320.00	300.00	277.40	30.00
2	WZCC, Udaipur	452.94	427.68	274.93	277.21	326.00	345.36	288.00	32.40
3	SZCC, Thanjavur	239.16	244.25	331.76	273.56	198.57	273.56	176.03	10.62
4	EZCC, Kolkata	557.69	607.04	342.19	179.36	243.73	421.52	319.97	55.85
5	SCZCC, Nagpur	322.00	310.94	174.80	129.33	307.95	346.95	265.54	31.04
6	NCZCC, Allahabad	316.49	178.90	240.58	172.71	416.15	315.02	255.00	71.28
7	NEZCC, Dimapur	435.91	435.91	518.00	393.00	532.76	614.88	324.62	123.82
	Total	2616.19	2509.61	2116.40	1708.07	2345.16	2617.29	1906.56	355.01