

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7487  
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012  
PROMOTION OF CHHAU DANCE  
Tudu Shri Laxman

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

- (a) whether the Government has not provided any financial assistance to the dancers/performers of Chhau dance belonging to Mayurbhanj region of Odisha;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage and promote Chhau dance in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) No, Sir. Odisha State falls under the jurisdiction of Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata, which gives financial assistance for preservation, promotion and dissemination of traditional folk art and culture of the country including Chhau dance belonging to Mayurbhanj region of Odisha.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To encourage and promote Chhau dance of Odisha, the dance was included in the Republic Day Folk Dance Festival, 2002 held at New Delhi. Chhau Dance was also performed at Kosal Tihar-2010 Festival, Balangir, Odisha and at Lok Utsav, Santiniketan, West Bengal.

In addition, EZCC selected one Guru of Mayurbhanj Chhau Dance, four Shishyas along with one accompanist under Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme of the Centre.