

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2727  
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012  
CHHAU DANCE  
Tudu Shri Laxman

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

- (a) the details of the financial assistance provided by the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata for preservation, promotion and dissemination of traditional folk art and culture of Chhau dance of Mayurbhanj region of Odisha during each of the last three years;
- (b) the details of the works carried out for preservation and development of this dance during the above period;
- (c) whether these efforts have benefitted the real dancers/tribal people practising Chhau dance; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefore along with the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a): No financial assistance has been directly provided by Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC) to any organisation for preservation, promotion & dissemination of Chhau dance of Mayurbhanj region of Odisha during each of the last 3 years. However, Chhau dance has been promoted by way of conducting various programmes.
- (b): The following steps have been taken/being taken to encourage and promote Chhau dance of Odisha:
  - i. The dance was included in the Republic Day Folk Dance Festival, 2002 held at New Delhi.
  - ii. One Guru of Mayurbhanj Chhau Dance and four Shishyas along with one accompanist under Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme were selected in the year 2003-04.
  - iii. Chhau Dance was also performed at Kosal Tihar – 2010 Festival, Balangir, Odisha and at Lok Utsav, Santiniketan, West Bengal.
  - iv. Chhau Dance has been included in the yearlong programmes being organized by EZCC during the current year to mark Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Zonal Cultural Centres.
- (c): Yes, Sir.
- (d): Does not arise.