

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2776
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012
SOUTH INDIAN ART FORMS
Sugumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is considering to preserve South Indian art forms to boost growth and give impetus to economic activities that have been hit by the global slowdown;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to grant funds to the States to preserve the South Indian art forms; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

- (a): Yes, Sir. Ministry of Culture, as a part of its objectives, does work for preserving all art forms including South Indian art forms.
- (b): South Indian Tribal and Folk Art forms are being continuously preserved and promoted through the South Zone Cultural Centre (SZCC) based at Thanjavur, through their mandated schemes. The artists are given various cross-zonal platforms as well. SZCC has also documented South Indian Art forms by producing 18 documentary films on pottery, martial arts, puppetry, naatakam, tribal dances, folk songs, dances, theatre etc. which not only highlight lesser known art forms but also generate revenue for the artists. Further, Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai has also endeavoured to preserve some South Indian art forms.
- (c) and (d): As mentioned above, the Ministry of Culture works towards the preservation and promotion through its autonomous organizations. The Ministry does not directly deal with or through the State Governments.