

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6465
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
CHHAU DANCE
Tudu Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up National Chhau Dance Academy, Chhau Nritya Pratisthan and Research Centre at Baripada in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha, the origin and founding place for Chau Dance;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a) No, Madam.

(b)&(c) The Sangeet Natak Akademi, an autonomous body under Ministry of Culture, launched its project of support to Chhau Dances in 1994. Important centres of this project exist at Baripada and Rairangpur for the Mayurbhanj style, where a number of Gurus, Musicians and Dancers have been involved and are receiving regular support and sustenance. Similarly, regular support is being extended to the Seraikella style of Chhau Dance in Jharkhand.