

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1186
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
PRESERVATION OF JHOOMAR DANCE
Tudu Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Jhoomer folk dance is a very popular dance form of Odisha;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to promote the said folk dance of Odisha;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to preserve and popularise the said dance form as well as provide impetus to the performers of the Jhoomer folk dance to show case their talent in various cultural events?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c) Yes, Madam. The Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres to promote, preserve and disseminate the traditional folk arts and culture of various States/UTs. The State of Odisha falls under the jurisdiction of Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata.

The EZCC identified and introduced the Jhoomar Folk Dance under Guru- Shishya Parampara Scheme of the Centre for its promotion and revival during the year 2012-13. For this purpose, EZCC selected a Guru and four Shishyas of Jhoomar folk dance of Odisha, who were awarded monthly honorarium.

The Prativa group from Odisha performed, inter-alia, Jhoomar Dance in 'Desaj-2013', which was organized by Sangeet Natak Akademi (an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture) in collaboration with National Book Trust.

(d) Seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) set up by the Government having their headquarters at Patiala, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur, Nagpur and Thanjavur preserve, promote and disseminate the traditional folk arts and culture of the various States/UTs. The ZCCs endeavor to develop and promote the rich diversity and uniqueness of various arts of the Zone and to upgrade and enrich consciousness of the people about their cultural heritage. The ZCCs have been carrying out various activities and organizing programmes at the national, zonal and local levels in accordance with their aims and objectives implemented through following schemes:-

i. National Cultural Exchange Programme

ii. Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme

iii. Young Talented Artistes Scheme

iv. Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms

v. Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme

vi. Shilpagram Activities

vii. Loktarang – National Folk Dance Festival and OCTAVE - Festival of the North East.

Besides above, Sangeet Natak Akademi have a Scheme of "Inter-State Cultural Exchange Programme" which facilitates opportunities by which people from different parts of India get to know more about each other's performing arts and culture, catalyzing the emotional and cultural integration of the country.