

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1353
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
PROTECTION OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to protect/preserve the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the number of Indian cultural practices to be listed as Intangible Cultural Heritage by the UNESCO; and
- (d) the details of intangible elements included in the World Heritage list of UNESCO?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

a) and (b) Yes, Madam. With a view to establishing a synergy between and amongst different disciplines and administrative structures, to create a national awareness on the need for a holistic approach to human development and integrating its various dimensions, the Government has set up a Coordination Committee on the Living and Diverse Cultural Traditions of India.

In addition, Ministry of Culture has been administering various Schemes for protecting and promoting the intangible cultural heritage of the country.

(c) For increasing the number of Indian cultural heritage on the Representative list of UNESCO, the Sangeet Natak Akademi, an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture, has been nominated as the nodal organization for preparing nomination dossiers for submission to UNESCO. Action is taken on regular basis for sending nomination dossiers of new elements to UNESCO as well as to modify the pending nomination dossiers for inscription thereof.

(d) At present, UNESCO has listed 9 elements from India in its Representative List, as per Annexure.