

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3855

ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014

PRESERVATION PROMOTION OF FOLK CULTURE

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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to revive/preserve/promote the native folk culture and rich cultural heritage of the various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the achievement made so far, in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to prepare documentation of the folk culture and art forms of all the States and to make the younger generation understand the significance of our cultural heritage;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government for conservation/ preservation of the creative and performing art and culture of the people of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a) & (b) The Government has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) having their headquarters at Patiala, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur, Nagpur and Thanjavur. The main objectives of the ZCCs are the preservation, promotion and dissemination of the traditional folk arts and culture of the various States/ Union Territories.

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 ShishyaParampara 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.

(c) & (d) Under the scheme "Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms", the ZCCs have been documenting various art forms in the form of Audio/Video and Literature.

(e) For preserving, promoting and reviving varied Indian arts, including the folk arts, the Ministry of Culture is implementing the following schemes:

- i. Scheme of Financial Assistance to Professional Groups and Individuals Engaged for Specified Performing Arts Projects.
- ii. Cultural Functions Grant Scheme.
- iii. Scheme for Scholarships to Young Artistes in Different Cultural Fields.
- iv. Scheme for the Award of Fellowships to Outstanding Persons in the Field of Culture.