

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4702
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014
CENTRE OF TRADITIONAL FOLK ARTS
Choudhary Col. (Retd) Sona Ram

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that no centre of higher learning on Traditional Folk Arts and Crafts has been established in the country despite the growing interest and craving need for their preservation and development thereof;
- (b) whether the centuries old Arts and Crafts like stone carving, idol making, puppeteering, etc. are in neglected condition because of the indifferent attitude of all concerned;
- (c) whether the Ministry of Culture is considering to establish such institutions particularly in desert areas of Western Rajasthan; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) No, Madam.
- (c) No Madam.

(d) The Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) having their headquarters at Patiala, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur, Nagpur and Thanjavur. The State of Rajasthan is a Member State of West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala and North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Allahabad. 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 have been carrying out various activities and programmes at the national, zonal and local levels in accordance with their aims and objectives implemented through various schemes including Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme, Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms, Shilpgram Activities etc. The ZCCs have documented 547 art forms in audio, video and print forms till 31.03.2014.