

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4725

ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014

PRESERVATION OF INDIAN FOLK DANCES

Chauhan Shri Devusinh Jesingbhai;Pal Shri Jagdambika;Sreeramulu Shri B.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to preserve the traditional Indian dance forms and Indian folklore songs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to promote the traditional Indian dance and folklore at an International stage;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to use modern technology like internet and media to preserve the folklore to inspire future generations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has any data bank of the Indian folk dance of all the communities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) 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 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 various schemes including documentation of vanishing art forms. The ZCCs have documented 547 art forms in audio, video and print forms till 31.03.2014. Under Festivals of India, artistes of different fields show case their talent at international level.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Besides documenting various art forms in audio & video form, the ZCCs have been promoting various folk art forms by using modern technologies like internet, social media and electronic media.

(e) Yes, Madam.

(f) During 2013, on the occasion of Silver Jubilee Celebrations of ZCCs, the Ministry of Culture has brought out a National Compendium on the Folk & Tribal Dances of India in which a total number of 421 dances of all States/ Union Territories have been documented.