

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:983

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015

PROMOTIONAL SCHEMES FOR FOLK ARTISTS OF KARNATAKA

Sreeramulu Shri B.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Burrakatha, Veeragase and leather puppeting etc. folk arts of the State of Karnataka are on the verge of extinction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any scheme to preserve and promote the said folk arts by encouraging performers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c)& (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 with the objectives to preserve, promote and disseminate the traditional folk and tribal arts and culture of all the States/ Union Territories. The State of Karnataka is the member State of South Zone Cultural Centre (SZCC), Thanjavur and South Central Zone Cultural Centre(SCZCC), Nagpur. The ZCCs endeavour 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:-

- a. National Cultural Exchange Programme.
- b. Guru ShishyaParampara Scheme.
- c. Award to Young Talented Artists.
- d. Research & Documentation Scheme.
- e. Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme.
- f. Shilpgram Scheme.
- g. Octave and J&K Festivals.

Under the "Research & Documentation Scheme", the ZCCs have been documenting various Art Forms in the form of Audio/ Video and Literature.

SZCC, Thanjavur organizes Festivals of Folk and Tribal Art Forms in which art forms such as Burrakatha, Veeragase, leather puppeting and other traditional forms find regular presence. The Centre also imparts training to younger generation in rare art forms under its scheme "Guru ShishyaParampara Scheme" where the disciples are trained in the traditional Gurukul system.

SCZCC, Nagpur also invites the said art forms to perform in various festivals under "National Cultural Exchange Programme" and has documented Burrakatha in Umatic as well as in print media and Leather Puppets in DVD form.