

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1692  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014  
CONTRIBUTION OF GREAT PERSONALITIES  
Karadi Shri Sanganna Amarappa

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the contribution made by a number of great souls/reformers/personalities in building/shaping our society from ancient times;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has identified all these great personalities of the country including Karnataka;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to prepare documentation of all the social and religious reformers of the country including Sri Basaveshwara from Karnataka; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Government is aware of the contribution made by a number of great souls/ reformers/ personalities in building/ shaping our society from ancient times. Under the scheme of Centenaries and Anniversaries administered by the Ministry, salient aspects of the life and times of important personalities and events in the history of India are highlighted in order to infuse in the public, particularly the young, the spirit of these great leaders and others. Important celebrations organized by the Ministry are given in Annexure-1.

In addition, Ministry of Social Justice commemorated the birth centenary of Baba B. R. Ambedkar during 1991-92 and Ministry of Minority Affairs celebrated 125th birth anniversary of MaulanaAbulKalam Azad during 2013-14.

The Government has also taken a decision to celebrate the following commemorations:

- (i) Centenary of KomagataMaru (29-Sep-2014 to 29-Sep-2015).
- (ii) Centenary of Begum Akhtar (07-Oct-2014 to 07-Oct-2015).
- (iii) 125th Birth Anniversary of Sh. Jawaharlal Nehru (14-Nov-2014 to 14-Nov-2015).

So far no complete and specific identification of such great personalities of India has been done by this Ministry.

(e) & (f) No, Madam. There is, at present, no proposal to do the documentation of all the social and religious reformers of the country. However, documentation of the life and works of some of the leaders/ reformers such as Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, MaulanaAbulKalam Azad, Rabindranath Tagore, MahamanaMadan Mohan Malaviya and Swami Vivekananda has been done.