

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3056
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015
CONSTRUCTION OF SAMADHI OF BHUPEN HAZARIKA
Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide any financial assistance regarding construction of 'Late Bhupen Hazarika Samadhi' at Jalukbarin Guwahati and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of the schemes including welfare schemes under implementation for theatre and drama artists in the country; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for revival of traditional drama theatres in the country including North East Region?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) No. However, the State Government of Assam have accorded an administrative approval for construction of Late Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Memorial at Jalukbari amounting to Rs.13.95 crore and limiting the financial sanction to Rs.9.00 crore during 2014-15. The construction work is in progress.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Culture administers various Welfare Schemes which inter alia includes welfare of theatre and drama artists also in the country viz., Performing Arts Grant Scheme, Cultural Function Grant Scheme, Scheme for the Award of Fellowship to outstanding persons in the field of culture, Scheme for Scholarship to Young Artistes in different cultural fields, Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme, Scheme of Tagore National Fellowship for Cultural Research, Artistes Pension Scheme & Welfare Fund and Scheme for Building Grant and Studio Theatre.

The Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with 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 including the North east Region. 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 through the following schemes/ programmes:

1. National Cultural Exchange Programme
2. Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme
3. Award to Young Talented artistes
4. Research & Documentation Scheme
5. Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme
6. Shilpgram Scheme
7. Octave and J&K Festivals.