

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2397  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014  
PROTECTION OF FOLK TRADITION  
Adityanath Shri Yogi

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

- (a) whether the Government realises that the different folk traditions of the country are the bedrock of Indian culture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to protect these ancient folk traditions?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c) The Government 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 all States/ Union Territories. 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:-

- i. National Cultural Exchange Programme
- ii. Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme
- iii. Young Talented Artistes Scheme
- iv. Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms
- v. Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme
- vi. Shilpagram Activities
- vii. Loktarang – National Folk Dance Festival and OCTAVE -Festival of the North East.