

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.18
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2018**

150th birth anniversary celebration of Gandhiji

18. Shri A Vijayakumar:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Government's initiatives to celebrate 150th year of Gandhiji's birth anniversary;
- (b) the amount allocated for various activities for celebration of 150th year of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary; and
- (c) whether Government would provide funds to States for celebration of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
DR. MAHESH SHARMA**

- (a) to (c) Government of India has decided to commemorate 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi for a period of two years from 2.10.2018 to 2.10.2020 at national as well as international level. A National Committee (NC) under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble President of India and an Executive Committee (EC) under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister have been constituted to consider policies and decide programmes/activities under the commemoration. Pursuant to discussions held in the meeting of NC on 2.5.2018 and EC on 18.7.2018, a large number of activities have been decided for implementation by different central Ministries/Departments and State Governments.

Hon'ble Finance Minister in his Budget Speech, 2018-19 announced earmarking of Rs.150 crore for the year 2018-19 for activities leading to the commemoration. State Governments were informed through video conferencing on 28.07.2018 that all expenditure on commemorative activities will be met by them from their own resources. Similarly, for Ministries/Departments, it was decided in the meeting of the Committee of Secretaries chaired by Cabinet Secretary on 20.08.2018 that all expenditure on commemorative activities will be met by Ministries/Departments from their own budget. In case additional budget is required, they may seek so from Ministry of Finance.
