

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1771

TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

Preservation and promotion of tribal culture

1771. SHRI ADITYA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of CULTURE संस्कृतिमंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any institute has been established at the national level to preserve and promote rare and extinct tribal dialects, languages and traditions, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the programmes under which the tribes and the tribal values of Jharkhand are given recognition by promoting them at the national and international level, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM & DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
(G.KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) & (b) Government is running various schemes to preserve and promote rare and extinct tribal dialects, languages and traditions which cater to needs of all Indian states including Jharkhand. Some of the worth mentioning initiatives taken by M/o Tribal Affairs under the schemes "Support to Tribal Research Institute" and "Tribal Research, Information, Education Communication and Events" are as under:
- (i) Ministry has sanctioned 10 Tribal Freedom Fighters Museums to acknowledge the heroic and patriotic deeds of tribal people and to exhibit rich tribal cultural heritage of the region.

- (ii) Developed searchable digital repository where all research papers, books, reports and documents, folk songs photos/videos are uploaded. The repository has more than 10,000 photographs, videos and publications which are mostly done by TRIs. The repositories can be visited at <https://repository.tribal.gov.in/> (Tribal Digital Document Repository) and <https://tribal.nic.in/repository> (Tribal Repository).
- (iii) Ministry provides funding to TRIFED for organizing AdiMahotsav festival at National and State level. State level festivals like Hornbill festival of Nagaland, MedaramJatra of Telangana are funded through TRI scheme.
- (iv) TRIFED organizes Tribal Artisan Melas (TAMs) to identify new artisans and new products at the sourcing level in States Districts/Villages for expanding the tribal producers base.
- (v) The Ethnographic Museum of the states preserve and showcase rare artifacts related to life and culture of various tribes.

To preserve the cultural heritage and tradition of folk and tribal artists belonging to forest area and various tribes, Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) set up by M/o Culture encourage promotion of folk arts and make efforts for preservation, documentation and data collection of these vanishing arts. Ministry of Culture organised many rashtriya sanskriti mahotsavas and a minimum of 42 regional festivals through ZCCs in a year.

Government of India provides grants to State Tribal Research Institutes for promotion of tribal languages, development of bilingual primers for preservation of tribal languages and promote tribal literature. Further, under the component "Financial Assistance for support to Centres of Excellence" of the scheme "Tribal Research Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRU-ECE)", financial assistance is provided to reputed Institutions for carrying out research study programmes including documentation of tribal languages with aim to promote tribal culture, achieves, artifacts, customs and traditions of tribal communities including Jharkhand.

Under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, a resolution has been taken to establish nearly 750 Eklayva Model Residential Schools to support the education of tribal students. In Jharkhand, foundations stones for five EMRS has been laid.

Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (autonomous body under M/o Culture) has trained in-service teachers, has given scholarships & fellowships in its various training programmes and workshops in the State of Jharkhand. Also, a number of scholarships and fellowships are also given.

The Sangeet Natak Akademi (autonomous body under M/o Culture) organized 'Desaj'- Celebrating the Diverse Cultural Traditions of India from at Bishtupur, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand in February 2016. In addition, SNA has been running a Chhau Centre in Chandankiyari (Jharkhand) in order to preserve and promote the Chhau dance tradition amongst the youth in the State.

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) under Ministry of culture has undertaken a number of research activities to preserve the cultural heritage and traditions of the tribes of Jharkhand. Some of them are given below:

- Lecture entitled 'The Santhal Oral Tradition and Culture' by Ms. Steffy Teresa Murmu on 13th July, 2017 at Audrey House, Ranchi.
- Lecture on 'Oral tradition and Historiography of Jharkhand: A model study of the folklore and Folk art of Santhal Pargana' delivered by Prof. Rajiva Kumar Sinha, Head, Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, Tilka Manjhi University, Bhagalpur on 18th September, 2017.
- Workshop on 'Kohbar and Sohrai painting' from 19th to 21st November, 2017.
- Lecture on 'Birsa Munda and his Birsayat Cult' by Prof. Giridhari Ram Gaunjhu, Former HOD, Tribal Regional Language, Ranchi University on 25th January 2018.
- Lecture on 'Traditional Art of Jharkhand' delivered by Dr. T.N. Sahu, Head of the Department, Tribal Regional Languages (TRL), Ranchi University on 27 April, 2018.

Similarly, Sahitya Akademi, an autonomous body under Ministry of Culture, has established a North East Centre for Oral Literature (NECOL) in Agartala and Oral & Tribal Literature Centre in Delhi to cater to the needs from various tribal parts of the country, including Jharkhand, by organizing National Conventions, Seminars, Symposia, Tribal Writers' Meet programmes throughout the year.
