

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3856
ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023

CONSERVATION OF FOLK CULTURE IN MAHARASHTRA

3856 DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the ancient folk cultures being conserved in the State of Maharashtra and the schemes being implemented for this purpose, the details thereof;
- (b) the places to which these folk cultures are associated with, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount sanctioned/allocated for this purpose during the last three years; and
- (d) the details of the measures taken/being taken to conserve the said folk cultures?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) To protect, preserve, promote and conserve various forms of folk art and culture throughout the country including Maharashtra, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. Each State of India is a member of one or more ZCCs. Maharashtra is the member State of South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur and West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur. These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes on a regular basis throughout the year in their member States for which they are provided annual grant-in-aid by the Ministry. To encourage folk artists of Maharashtra, SCZCC and WZCC engage them who showcase their talents during these programmes for which they are paid honorarium, DA/TA etc. to enable them to earn their livelihood. These ZCCs also implement a number of schemes viz. Award to Young Talented Artists, Guru Shishya Parampara, Theatre Rejuvenation, Research and Documentation, Shilpgram, OCTAVE and National Cultural Exchange Programme for the purpose.

Besides, Ministry of Culture also organizes Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs (RSMs) all over India through ZCCs for promotion of rich cultural heritage of the country including Maharashtra. Since 2015, the Ministry has organized 14 RSMs in the country. Recently, Ministry of Culture has organized RSM at Mumbai, Maharashtra from 11th to 19th February, 2023 where folk artists of Maharashtra were also invited to perform during the program. To promote and conserve the local folk songs, dances and culture of Maharashtra across the country, these two ZCCs invite local artists for programmes which are organized as per their calendar of events. Further, regional festivals are also organized by SCZCC and WZCC throughout the year to keep the culture and traditions of the regions alive. Folk and tribal artists are engaged by these ZCCs for stage performances during the RSMs and regional festivals.

SCZCC also organizes workshops and implement Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme to promote folk art & culture, music, dance and literature of Maharashtra. For preservation of folk art, SCZCC also undertakes documentation in print as well as audio and visual media.

WZCC invites folk artists for Lavani, Powada, Shongi Mukhote etc. during the programmes organized by them.

(b) Details of ancient folk cultures being conserved in Maharashtra and the places to which these folk cultures belong to are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of folk culture	Place	Sl. No.	Name of folk culture	Place
1.	Lavni	West Maharashtra	18.	Korku	Vidharbha
2.	Koli	West Maharashtra	19.	Khadi Gammat	Vidharbha
3.	Dhanagari Gaja	West Maharashtra	20.	Dandhar	Vidharbha
4.	Tamasha	West Maharashtra	21.	Dahaka	Vidharbha
5.	Waghya Murali	West Maharashtra	22.	Banjara Geet	Vidharbha
6.	Potraj	West Maharashtra	23.	Tumdi Geet	Vidharbha
7.	Wasudev	West Maharashtra	24.	Bamboo Craft	Vidharbha
8.	Martial Art	West Maharashtra	25.	Dashavtar	Konkan Region
9.	Gan Gaulan	West Maharashtra	26.	Naman Khele	Konkan Region
10.	Kirtan	All over Maharashtra	27.	Kalasutri Bahulya	Konkan Region
11.	Abhang	All over Maharashtra	28.	Savantwadi	Konkan Region
12.	Bhajan	All over Maharashtra	29.	Toys	Konkan Region
13.	Powada	All over Maharashtra	30.	Pingoli Painting	Konkan Region
14.	Mangala Gouri Geet	All over Maharashtra	31.	Songi Mukhawate	Nashik Region
15.	Gondhal	All over Maharashtra	32.	Tarpa Nritya	Nashik/ Thane Region
16.	Lezim	All over Maharashtra	33.	Dindi	Marathwada
17.	Dhol	All over Maharashtra	34.	Bharud	West Maharashtra/ Marathwada

(c) No State/UT-wise funds are released by this Ministry. Details of grant-in-aid (including the funds for holding RSMs) released to SCZCC and WZCC for the purpose during the last three (3) years are as under:-

(Rs. in lakh)				
Sl. No.	Name of the ZCC	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
i.	WZCC	706.60	653.92	1452.49
ii.	SCZCC	887.80	778.52	1949.97

(d) Apart from regular activities/ programmes, the ZCCs are also involved in identifying rare/ extinct art forms for proper and better conservation of the said folk cultures. In addition, Ministry of Culture also organizes Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs through these ZCCs all over India wherein various art forms of the country are showcased.
