

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 352
ANSWERED ON 28.11.2024

WORLD HETITAGE SITES IN KARNATAKA

352. SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken to preserve and maintain Karnataka's historical monuments and UNESCO World Heritage Sites, such as Hampi and Pattadakal;
- (b) the manner in which Government is assisting the preservation and promotion of Karnataka's traditional art forms, such as Yakshagana, Dollu Kunitha and Bharatanatyam, to ensure that these cultural practices continuous for future generations; and
- (c) the initiatives taken to provide support to artisans from Karnataka and promote local handicrafts such as Mysore silk, Channapatna toys and Bidriwara domestically and internationally?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has 3697 monuments/sites under its jurisdiction in the country including in the state of Karnataka and UNESCO World Heritage Sites, such as Hampi and Pattadakal. The conservation and preservation of these monuments/sites are taken up as per the requirement and availability of resources.
- (b) Ministry of Culture, through its autonomous body, Sangeet Natak Akademi is preserving & and promoting India's divers performing arts heritage. This includes festivals across the
- (c) country, providing grants-in-aid for research, documentation, and publishing in the performing arts; and supporting seminars and conferences for subject specialists. The Akademi's efforts also extend to the documentation and archiving of performing arts for its audio-visual collections.

The Akademi's "festivals, workshops & exhibitions" serve as a vital platform for showcasing India's rich classical, traditional, tribal, and other forms of handicrafts and Indian performing arts at both regional and national levels. These initiatives aim to preserve art tradition in live practice and developing technique and creative process through performance and workshop, by holding and supporting music festivals, Seminars & Workshops & Exhibitions etc.

Over the years, several significant initiatives have been taken to preserve and promote the performing art forms of Karnataka.

Folk & Tribal Arts :

Since 2013 the Akademi has been organizing 'Desaj' a series of festivals aimed at promoting and encouraging folk and tribal music, dance and theatre from across India. Besides Desaj festival, the Akademi organizes the following festivals for preservation of tribal culture:

- ✓ Lok Jan Pratha Utsav-celebrating the tribal performing arts of India.
- ✓ Lok Sangam- festival of senior folk and tribal artists of India.
- ✓ Lok Pratibha- a festival of young folk and tribal artists focused on narrative and traditional arts form of India

These festivals invite artists from all over the country, including Karnataka to perform in various such events of the Akademi.

Kala Deeksha:

Sangeet Natak Akademi has started training programmes of the following rare performing art form of Karnataka under the Kala Deeksha (Guru Shishya Parampara) Scheme:

1. Soorya Vadya under Guru Shri Mahalingappa, Karadi.
2. Yakshagana Puppet Training under Guru Shri Ramesh Kasergaud.
