

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3704
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03/04/2025

REPUBLIC DAY TABLEAU

3704 # SHRI BRIJ LAL:

SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:

SMT. REKHA SHARMA:

SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:

SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:

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

- (a) the key objectives behind the Republic Day tableau and the manner in which it aligns with the Prime Minister's mantra of 'Virasat Bhi, Vikas Bhi';
- (b) the key inspiration behind the Ministry's tableau for this year's Republic Day celebrations;
- (c) the significance of the Yaadh on the potter's wheel and the manner in which it represents the continuity of India's musical traditions;
- (d) the symbolic representation of the kinetic kalpavriksha and its transformation into the golden bird in the tableau; and
- (e) the details of the ten digital screens used in the tableau?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) The Republic Day Parade on 26th January, 2025, showcased tableaux of 16 States/Union Territories and 10 Ministries/Departments of the Union Government, with the broad theme of "Swarnim Bharat: Virasat Aur Vikas". This theme was meticulously chosen to highlight India's rich cultural heritage (Virasat) alongside its strides in modern development (Vikas). The key objectives of the Republic Day tableau 2025 were:
 - (i) Celebrating Cultural Heritage: The tableaux aimed to depict the diverse and timeless traditions, arts, and cultural practices from various regions of India, emphasizing the nation's deep-rooted heritage.
 - (ii) Showcasing Developmental Achievements: Alongside cultural representations, the tableaux highlighted contemporary advancements and initiatives, reflecting India's progress in various sectors.
 - (iii) Promoting National Unity: By bringing together representations from multiple states and Ministries, the parade fostered a sense of unity and collective pride among citizens.

(iv) Educating and Inspiring Citizens: The visual narratives served to inform the public about India's journey, inspiring a sense of responsibility towards preserving heritage while embracing development.

(b) The Ministry of Culture's tableau for the 2025 Republic Day Parade drew inspiration from India's rich cultural heritage and its evolving creative economy, aligning with Prime Minister's vision of 'Virasat Bhi, Vikas Bhi' (Heritage with Development). Key inspirations behind the tableau are:

- (i) Ancient Tamil Musical Instrument: The tableau prominently featured the 'Yazh,' an ancient Tamil stringed instrument, symbolizing India's deep-rooted musical traditions and the enduring legacy of its classical arts.
- (ii) Golden Bird Symbolism: Incorporating the motif of the 'Golden Bird,' the tableau represented India's historical reputation as a land of prosperity and cultural wealth, emphasizing the nation's opulent past and its contributions to global culture.
- (iii) Creative Economy: Highlighting the transformation of traditional arts, crafts, cinema, and performing arts into significant economic drivers, the tableau showcased how India's cultural industries are evolving to contribute meaningfully to the nation's economy.

By intertwining these elements, the tableau effectively showcased the seamless blend of India's rich heritage and its progressive development, embodying the essence of 'Virasat Bhi, Vikas Bhi.'

(c) The Yaadh on the potter's wheel is a powerful metaphor that beautifully captures the continuity of India's musical traditions. The spinning wheel symbolizes the cyclical and unending flow of tradition, where the old and the new are constantly intertwined, while retaining its original essence. It reflects that tradition is not static. But it is shaped, refined, and reimaged by each generation, yet it retains its original essence, ensuring that the legacy of Indian music endures like the ever-spinning wheel.

(d) The Kinetic Kalpavriksha transforming into the Golden Bird in a tableau is a powerful artistic representation of India's cultural, spiritual, and economic evolution. This imagery is rich with layered symbolism, combining elements of mythology, prosperity, freedom, and aspiration. In Indian mythology, the Kalpavriksha is the divine, wish-fulfilling tree, symbolizing abundance, prosperity, and eternal nourishment. The tableau's dynamic visual of the tree transforming into the bird signifies the harmonious blend of tradition and progress. The tree's roots symbolize India's ancient traditions and spiritual heritage, while the bird in flight represents the freedom of creativity, innovation, and modernization.

(e) The ten digital screens in the tableau serve as powerful storytelling tools, offering a panoramic and dynamic portrayal of India's journey. These screens serve as dynamic canvases, creating an immersive and multi-dimensional experience. They symbolize the fusion of heritage and progress, using cutting-edge technology to depict the timeless and evolving spirit of the nation.
