

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3706
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03/04/2025

IGNCA REGIONAL CENTRE IN TIRUPATI

3706. SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH:

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

- (a) the objective behind establishing the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) Regional Centre in Tirupati;
- (b) the expected role in preserving India's cultural heritage;
- (c) the manner in which the collaboration between IGNCA and the National Sanskrit University contribute to the promotion of India's cultural and artistic heritage; and
- (d) the manner in which this centre would facilitate research and documentation of Vaishnava Agama and other architectural traditions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) Regional Centre of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) in Tirupati was established with the objective of promoting and preserving India's rich cultural heritage, focusing on the diverse traditions of South India. The states of South India have their own unique cultural identities and languages. Regional centres of the IGNCA have been established in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, but there was no Regional Centre in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The establishment of the Regional Centre in Tirupati gives a big platform to propagate and preserve the Telugu culture, art and literary traditions of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states and the Vedic literature, Vedic Culture, Manuscriptology, especially in the theme of Vaishnava Agamas and temple architectural traditions of India.

(b) The expected role of the Regional Centre Tirupati will be documentation, digitisation and promotion of Vedic literature, Vaishnava Agamas, temple architectural traditions, and manuscript conservation. Additionally, it will work to protect and revitalize the distinctive art forms of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

(c) The collaboration between IGNCA and the National Sanskrit University, Tirupati plays a crucial role in promoting India's cultural and artistic heritage by focusing on Vedic literature, Vaishnava Agamas, temple architecture, and manuscript conservation. This partnership strengthens research and documentation efforts, particularly in the Telugu cultural and literary traditions, and also preserves ancient texts and indigenous knowledge systems. By working together, both institutions contribute to the revitalization of traditional art forms, such as Kuchipudi, Perini dance, Kalamkari painting, and shadow puppetry, and ensure that South India's rich artistic, linguistic, and spiritual legacy is safeguarded for future generations through educational programs, digital archiving and cultural awareness initiatives.

(d) This Centre, in collaboration with National Sanskrit University, will serve as a vital hub for the research and documentation of Vaishnava Agamas and temple architectural traditions of India. By digitizing and preserving ancient manuscripts, inscriptions, and textual sources, the centre will ensure the longevity of sacred knowledge related to temple construction, rituals, and iconography. It will facilitate scholarly research, interdisciplinary studies, and academic discourse on Vaishnava traditions, engaging experts in Sanskrit, archaeology, and traditional temple architecture.
