

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 29**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026

**CULTURAL MAPPING OF RURAL INDIA**

29. SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of villages covered so far under the “Meri Gaon Meri Dharohar” programme, State/UT-wise and those targeted for the next phase;
- (b) the specific categories of tangible and intangible cultural heritage being documented, such as folk arts, dialects, festivals, crafts, oral traditions, historic sites and community practices, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the budget allocated, released and utilised for this programme since inception, including support extended to local institutions and artisans, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the measures taken to integrate this cultural mapping with rural tourism, livelihood generation and school curricula, State/UT-wise?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar (MGMD) portal under National Mission on Cultural Mapping (NMCM), culturally maps villages across India. Currently, 6.23 lakh villages have been covered. The State/UT-wise division of covered villages is placed at Annexure-I. There is no such specific plan for second phase of mapping as of now.
- (b) As part of its documentation activities, MGMD covers a wide range of cultural elements, both tangible and intangible, including oral traditions, beliefs, customs, historical significance, art forms, local languages, heritage sites, traditional food, prominent artists, fairs and festivals, traditional dress, ornaments and local landmarks. Data on MGMD Portal is organised village-wise and not as per cultural categories of State/UT-wise.

- (c) Total Budget Allocation for the Programme: FY 2021-2026 is Rs. 89.99 Crore  
Total Budget Released – Rs. 54.4351 Crore  
Total Budget Utilised – Rs. 53.4351 Crore (approx.)

MGMD programme doesn't have any provision for leveraging the mapped heritage data for direct benefit to local artisans and institutions.

- (d) The MGMD Programme leads to strengthening of rural identity by creating authentic, village-level cultural profiles that recognise local traditions, practices and heritage assets. The availability of structured cultural data on a single national portal supports planning for rural tourism and school, thereby contributing to sustainable livelihood generation and rural economic development

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**ANNEXURE-I**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 29 asked on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 regarding 'Cultural mapping of rural India'**

<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Number of Uploaded Villages</b>
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	176
Andhra Pradesh	17142
Arunachal Pradesh	4613
Assam	26074
Bihar	39563
Chandigarh	12
Chhattisgarh	19571
Delhi	252
Goa	431
Gujarat	19271
Haryana	7579
Himachal Pradesh	18735
Jammu & Kashmir	6926
Jharkhand	29908
Karnataka	29569
Kerala	1275
Ladakh	238
Lakshadweep Islands	13
Madhya Pradesh	56429
Maharashtra	40042
Manipur	306
Meghalaya	7012
Mizoram	1026
Nagaland	1498
Odisha	47209
Puducherry	127
Punjab	12084
Rajasthan	46696
Sikkim	464
Tamil Nadu	19219
Telangana	9824
The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	107
Tripura	899
Uttar Pradesh	103003
Uttarakhand	15727
West Bengal	40429