

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *273
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.08.2026

PROMOTION OF KASHMIRI MUSIC

***273. SHRI SAT PAUL SHARMA:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific steps taken by the Sangeet Natak Akademi to preserve and catalog Kashmiri musical traditions such as Sufiana Mousiqi, Chakri, Wanvun and Rouf under the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage;
- (b) the financial assistance and monthly stipend disbursed to veteran masters and youth disciples in Jammu & Kashmir during the last three years under the Zonal Cultural Centres' Guru-Shishya Parampara Scheme; and
- (c) the measures taken to integrate Kashmir's folk and classical music into national cultural circuits, including major events like the Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav, to boost heritage-based tourism?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): The statement is laid on the table of the house.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NUMBER *273 FOR 13.08.2026**

- (a) Ministry of Culture, through its autonomous body, Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA), has taken various measures to preserve and promote the rich musical and performing traditions of Jammu & Kashmir, including Sufiana Mausiqi, Chakri, Wanwun and Rouf.

The SNA, the nodal agency for the Scheme for Safeguarding the Intangible Heritage and Diverse Cultural Traditions of India, maintains the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) and undertakes documentation and promotion of traditional art forms. Jammu & Kashmir-related traditions are included in this national framework.

Further, SNA promotes the preservation and transmission of folk music and dance traditions through cultural events, festivals, fellowships, awards and other programmes, thereby supporting traditional practitioners and ensuring the continuity of these cultural traditions.

SNA has also commenced 2 Training Programme (Rouf dance & Kud Folk dance) under **Kala Deeksha** (Guru-Shishya Parampara) from the year 2024-25, under which a monthly fee of ₹8,000 is provided to the Guru, ₹6,000 as honorarium to the Sahayak Guru and ₹2,500 as stipend to the Shishya.

- (b) The financial assistance disbursed to veteran masters and youth disciples in Jammu & Kashmir during the last three years under the Zonal Cultural Centres' Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme is as under:

Financial Year	Financial Assistance
2023-24	₹3,37,500
2024-25	₹3,87,000
2025-26	₹2,74,500

- (c) The Ministry of Culture, through its autonomous bodies, namely the Zonal Cultural Centre (ZCC) and the Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA), has taken measures to integrate the folk and classical music and traditional performing arts of Jammu & Kashmir into national cultural circuits.

The Sangeet Natak Akademi organizes festivals such as Desaj, Lok Jan Pratha Utsav, Lok Sangam and Lok Pratibha to promote folk and tribal performing arts. Artists from Jammu & Kashmir have participated in these and other national events organized by the SNA, including Jayati Jai Mamah Bharatam, programmes organized during the 20th Session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2025), and the closing ceremony of Birsa Munda Birth Anniversary. The Akademi has also organized Amrit Yuva Kalotsav and Chhau Parva in Jammu & Kashmir, featuring Kashmiri folk music and dance.

Further, the Zonal Cultural Centre provides performance opportunities to Kashmiri folk and tribal dance, folk theatre, Sufiana music and other traditional art forms through national cultural events, including the Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav, Chandigarh National Crafts Mela and International Gita Mahotsav.
