

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2120
ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

PROMOTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRES IN ODISHA

2120 SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY:

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

- (a) whether Government has identified any traditional cultural practices of Odisha for inclusion in the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to promote such cultural heritage at national and international levels?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, the Government, through Sangeet Natak Akademi, has identified traditional cultural practices of Odisha for inclusion in the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage of India.
- (b) The traditional cultural practices of Odisha included in the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage of India are:
 - 1. Chhau Dance (Mayurbhanj style)
 - 2. Odissi
 - 3. Bali Jatra
 - 4. Rath Yatra
- (c) The Government promotes India's intangible cultural heritage through documentation, safeguarding and international recognition under the UNESCO 2003 Convention. Sangeet Natak Akademi maintains the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage and supports the preservation and transmission of traditional performing arts through the Guru-Shishya Parampara, financial assistance to cultural institutions, training, workshops and cultural festivals. Odisha's cultural traditions, including Chhau, Gotipua and Odissi, have been showcased at major national and international events such as the Republic Day Parade, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, UNESCO events, the SCO Cultural Events and Expo 2025, Osaka. Chhau is also inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, further enhancing its global recognition.
