

**Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region**

LOK SABHA

Unstarred Question No. 3304

To be answered on
Wednesday, March 22, 2017/Chaitra 1, 1939 (Saka)

**Question
Cultural Exchange**

3304. SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of programmes of cultural exchange which have been officially held between North Eastern States and the rest of the country;
- (b) the efforts being made to integrate North Eastern States with the national mainstream; and
- (c) the success achieved as a result thereof?

ANSWER

**The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of
North Eastern Region
[Dr. Jitendra Singh]**

- (a) The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region along with North Eastern Council *inter alia* sponsors programmes in which artists from North Eastern States showcased the art and culture in different parts of the country. The Cultural exchange officially organized by Ministry of Culture 2017 are as follows:-

(i) Participation of North Eastern Artistes in programme held in other parts of the country			
Sl. No.	Name of Programme	Venue	Date
1.	Simhastha Kumbh Kala Utsav	Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh	12 - 21 May, 2016
2.	Folk Fair -2016	Jagannath Dam, Puri	4-8 June, 2016
3.	Chitrangan Contemporary Painting Workshops	Rajiv Gandhi Kala Mandir, Ponda, Goa	17-26 June, 2016
4.	Swatantryaveer Savarkar Rashtriya Smarak	Mumbai	6 July, 2016
5.	10 th Abhinaya National Theatre Festival	Rabindrabharati Auditorium, Hyderabad	11 August, 2016
6.	Fete-de-Puducherry	Puducherry	14-16 August, 2016
7.	-do-	Karaikal	17 & 18 August, 2016
8.	8 Edition of Annual Theatre Festival of Purba Pashim	Kolkata	29 August 2016
9.	Octave-2016	Ajmer, Rajasthan	21–25 September, 2016
10.	Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-2016	IGNCA, Delhi	15-23 October, 2016
11.	Kithur Utsav-2016	Belagavi, Karnataka	23-25 October, 2016
12.	Rajyotsav	Raipur, Chhattisgarh	1-5 November, 2016
13.	Sambhav – 2016	India International Centre, New Delhi	11 -13 November, 2016
14.	National Folk Craft & Folk Painting	Kannur, Kerala	20-24 November, 2016
15.	Utkal-Banga Utsav 2016	Sahabajipur (Digba Border), Balasore Dist., Odisha	21-25 November, 2016
16.	27 th Industrial Trade Fair – 2016	Jajpur Road, Jajpur, Odisha	2-4 December, 2016
17.	Octave-2016	Ranchi, Jharkhand	4-8 December, 2016

18.	Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	17-24 December, 2016
19.	Salangai Nadam	Thanjavur	23-31 December, 2016
20.	Lokotsav	Panaji, Goa	6-10 January, 2017
21.	National Folk Arts Festival and Bahuroopi National Theatre Fests	Mysore	13-15 January, 2017
		Thiruvananthapuram	17-19 January, 2017
22.	Nagas Night - 2017	Bangalore	21 January, 2017
23.	Republic Day Parade-2017	Marina, Chennai	23-26 January, 2017

(ii) Participation of Artistes from other ZCCs in programmes held North Eastern Artistes

1.	Border Area Programme –“Bridging the Borders”	Lachen, Sikkim	7 & 8 November, 2016
2.	Discover North East –Mizoram	Kolasib, Kawnpui & Vairengte	16-18 November, 2016
3.	Manipur Sangai Festival	Imphal, Manipur	21-30 November, 2016
4.	Discover North East –Tripura	Kailasahar, Kumarghat & Manu	25-27 November, 2016
5.	Border Area Programme –“Bridging the Borders”	Champai, Mizoram	29 & 30 November, 2016
6.	Discover North East-Sikkim	Rongpur, Rongli & Rhenok & Pakyong	2-5 December, 2016
7.	Border Area Programme	Mimi Village & Pungro	8 & 9 December, 2016
8.	Discovery North East-Manipur	Tamei Noney & Tamenglong	8-10 December, 2016
9.	Discovery North East-Meghalaya	Nongpoh, Byrnihat & Umsning	15 -17 December, 2016
10.	Shipgram Mahotsav	NEZCC Shilpgram, Guwahati	17-21 January, 2017

(b) In order to integrate North Eastern states with the national mainstream, the recommendations of the MP Bezbaruah Committee setup by the Ministry of Home Affairs are also being implemented. One of the key recommendations of the Committee was to educate people about North East, so as to inculcate understanding and appreciation of the culture of North East. It also talked about integration *inter alia* through cultural exchange and films. It had also talked about calendar of cultural events.

Ministry of DoNER and NEC have organised several programmes aimed at highlighting national integrity. Bharat Utsav was organised at IIC, New Delhi in December 2016 showcasing various dance forms of North East and other parts of India and the fusion of cultures in them. A North East cultural festival was also sponsored in Daulat Ram college of Delhi University. Similarly, the NEC in collaboration with International Centre, Goa sponsored North East Pavilion in Goa Arts and Literary Festival held during 08th -11th December, 2016 to showcase the talents of writers and artists from NER and help them interact with writers from other parts of India. Ministry of DoNER in collaboration with NEC has also sponsored North East troops with North East Zone Cultural Centre for holding events in the 14th Folk-Fair, 2016, National Tribal/ Folk Song & Dance Festival with the National Level Exhibition, Jagannath Dham Puri which was held from 4th to 8th June, 2016 in which the integration of all forms of tribal folk dance from across India including NER were showcased. The Ministry of Culture through its schemes namely National Cultural Exchange Programme and Octave Festival of the North East has made fruitful efforts to integrate North Eastern States with the National mainstream.

(c) All the above programmes have been very successful in emphasising the unity in diversity of Indian culture while highlighting the beauty and cultural richness of NER. The Ministry of Culture through North East Zonal Culture Centre has provided a common platform to the artists from the North Eastern States and from other zones for a meaningful interaction. Such close interaction is the success to integrate North Eastern States with the National mainstream.
