

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 499
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH FEBRUARY, 2017**

SCHEMES FOR PROMOTION OF FOLK ARTISTS

†499. **SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of centrally sponsored schemes being run at present to promote folk artists and music of Bihar; and
- (b) the amount of funds spent under this scheme and number of persons benefitted therefrom during the last three years?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) & (b) The mandate of the Ministry of Culture is to protect, preserve & promote various forms of folk art and culture throughout the country and to meet this objective, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur to promote folk artists and music in all the States/UTs of India including Bihar. These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes during the year and the folk artists from all over India are engaged to perform in these activities and programmes. Annual grant-in-aid is provided to all these 7 ZCCs by the Government of India for carrying out these activities. The grant-in-aid released to these ZCCs during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. In lakh)		
Sl. No.	Year	Amount
1.	2013-14	4246.22
2.	2014-15	3974.88
3.	2015-16	6834.33