

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 597
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH FEBRUARY, 2017**

NEW POLICY TO PROMOTE TRIBAL CULTURE

†597. **SHRI VINOD LAKHAMASHI CHAVDA:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new policy to keep tribal culture alive;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with reference to Gujarat;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to start new project to promote tribal culture in Gujarat;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has earmarked funds for this purpose and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) No, Madam. However, under Central Sector Scheme “Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)”, Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends financial assistance to TRIs set up by the State Governments/Union Territories with the aim to preserve & promote tribal culture, heritage, arts & crafts through research and documentation, maintenance and preservation of artifacts for existing tribal museum, exchange visits for tribals to other parts of the State/Country including Gujarat and organize Tribal Festivals.

(c) to (e) No, Madam. However, to protect, preserve & promote various forms of folk art and tribal culture throughout the country including Gujarat, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes all over India on regular basis for which annual grant-in-aid is provided to them.