

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.363  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2017**

**PROGRAMME ON NIRWAN DIWAS OF SAINT KABIR**

**+ 363. SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI**

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

**(a)** whether there is any plan to organize a grand programme on the occasion of 500th Nirwan Diwas of great saint Kabir in January next year and if so, the details thereof;

**(b)** whether the Government is publicising /proposes to publicise the ideology of Indian Sufi culture as it has been a main stream of Indian culture; and

**(c)** if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE  
FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
DR. MAHESH SHARMA**

**(a) :** Government of India commemorates only the birth centenary and special birth anniversaries like 125<sup>th</sup>/150<sup>th</sup>/175<sup>th</sup> , etc. of eminent personalities and of events of historical importance of the country. Events such as Death Anniversary, Nirwan Diwas etc are not commemorated. Hence there is no proposal to organise a grand programme on the occasion of 500<sup>th</sup> Nirwan Diwas of Saint Kabir.

**(b) & (c):** Ministry of Culture includes strands of Sufi performing traditions in all its Sanskriti Mahotsavs. Singers whose repertoire is built around the works of Sufi poets like Rumi, Kabir, Goraknath, Bulleh Shah, Khusrow and others are promoted through these festivals, as was done in the recently concluded Sanskriti Mahotsav in Gujarat. Theatre traditions around Sufism including Dastangoi, the traditional art of storytelling are also used to disseminate the story and philosophy of Kabir.

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