

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3812  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018**

**THEATRE REJUVENATION PROGRAMME**

3812. KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH: SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:  
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA: SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR: SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to focus on theatre rejuvenation programme particularly in the rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the present cultural policy of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has made budgetary provisions for theatres;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/utilized during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (e) the names of the countries with which India has signed agreement to boost theatre activities; and
- (f) the criteria adopted for the nomenclature of different cultural committees and different cultural institutions constituted from time-to time by the Government?

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE &  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

**ANSWER**

(a)&(b): Yes madam. The National School of Drama (NSD), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture is taking various steps to preserve, develop, protect and rejuvenate the culture of India from the onslaught of other outside cultures including the western culture. For this purpose, NSD, is taking various steps through the medium of theatre in this direction. Some of the steps taken/ being taken are mentioned below:-

- Under the Out-reach/Extension Programme, production oriented theatre workshops across the country for preservation and promotion and to rejuvenate of rural folk and tribal culture of India are conducted in collaboration with the local theatre groups and plays are also performed, as part of these workshops.
- Further, NSD has also opened centres in North -East at Sikkim, Tripura and Bengaluru to introduce, encourage, promote and preserve and rejuvenate the culture and traditions of the local people in this area, through the medium of theatre.

- As part of the curriculum, the students of the NSD also visit various regions of the country to perform, research and develop theatre forms prevalent in the regions, which are quite diverse in nature. This helps to make the people aware of various dramatic arts prevalent in these areas through the medium of Theatre.
- Apart from the above, NSD also organizes theatre festivals like Bharat Rang Mahotsav (annually) at Delhi and in few selected cities of the country, in which Theatre groups from foreign countries also participate.
- NSD's Sanskaar Rang Toli (TIE Company) has a biennial event called "Bal Sangam". This is a festival with a focus on Indian performing folk and traditional arts presented by children practicing these arts, from different regions of the country including rural areas.
- Similarly, a Poorvottar Theatre Festival is also organized in the North-East region from time to time with a focus to preserve and promote traditional theatre practices of the North-East region, among other practices. Plays from other parts of the country are also showcased in this festival. This helps in introducing the Indian cultural traditions etc. to the people as well as in promotion/rejuvenation of the country's old age practices and traditions through the medium of theatre.
- In addition with the approval of the Government, NSD is organizing the 8<sup>th</sup> Theatre Olympics from 17<sup>th</sup> February to 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 in which 25 countries are participating with above 25000 artists with the theme of "Flag of Friendship".
- Repertory company of the NSD also visit various places of the country to stage perform the plays which are seen/viewed by large no. of audience.
- The plays produced by the students as well as the participants in various workshops across the country are performed and documented by the NSD. These plays are often based on folk and traditional forms.

(c)&(d): The Budget grants and expenditure for the last five years 2012-17 are as under:

Year	Budget		Actual Expenditure	
	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan
2014-15	4633.00	1202.49	4079.00	1202.49
2015-16	5150.00	1345.00	5150.00	1345.00
2016-17	6675.00	1536.00	6675.00	1536.00
2017-18	8572.00			
(Revenue)				

- (e): A list of the countries with which India has signed agreement to boost theatre activities is annexed.
- (f): There is no criteria for nomenclature of different cultural committees. NSD is the only autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture promoting theatre.

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**Annexure****ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO part-e of the LOK SABHA  
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List of countries with which India has signed agreement to boost theatre activities

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Country</b>
1	AFGANISTHAN	36	IRELAND	71	SINGAPORE
2	ALGERIA	37	ISRAEL	72	SLOVAK
3	ARGENTINA	38	ITALY	73	SLOVENIA
4	ARMENIA	39	JAPAN	74	SOUTH AFRICA
5	AUSTRALIA	40	JORDAN	75	SPANISH
6	AUSTRIA	41	KABUL	76	SRILANKA
7	BAHARIN	42	KHASAKISTHAN	77	SUDAN
8	BANGLADESH	43	KOREA	78	SURINAME
9	BELGIUM	44	KRYGYSTHAN	79	SYRIA
10	BENIN	45	KUWAIT	80	MONTENEGRO
11	BOSNIA	46	LAOS	81	TAJIKISTHAN
12	BRAZIL	47	LATVIA	82	THAILAND
13	BULGARIA	48	LITHUANIA	83	TRINIDAD
14	CAMBODIA	49	MALAYSIA	84	TUNISIA
15	CHINA	50	MALDIVES	85	TURKEY
16	COLUMBIA	51	MAURITIUS	86	TURKMENISTAN
17	CONGO	52	MEXICO	87	UK
18	CROATIA	53	MONGOLIA	88	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
19	CUBA	54	MOZAMBIQUE	89	UZBEKISTAN
20	CYPRUS	55	MYANMAR	90	VENEZUALA
21	CZECH	56	NAMIBIA	91	VIETNAM
22	DENMARK	57	NETHERLAND	92	YEMEN
23	DJIBOUTI	58	NIGERIA	93	YUGOSLAVIA
24	DOMINICAN	59	NORWAY	94	ZAIRE
25	ECUADOR	60	OMAN	95	ZAMBIA
26	EGYPT	61	PAKISTHAN		ZIMBAVE
27	FINLAND	62	PARAGUAY		
28	FRANCE	63	PERU		
29	GERMANY	64	PHILLIPINES		
30	GHANA	65	POLAND		
31	GREECE	66	ROMANIA		
32	HUNGARY	67	RUSSIA		
33	ICELAND	68	SAUDI ARABIA		
34	INDONESIA	69	SENEGAL		
35	IRAN	70	SEYCHELLES		