

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5018  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**RASHTRIYA SANSKRITI MAHOTSAV**

**5018. SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA:  
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:  
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:  
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:  
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:  
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:  
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its aims and objectives thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has organised Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM), 2018 in Indore under the theme of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the names of the States who participated in the said Mahotsav; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to organise such events in other parts of the country at regular intervals?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' programme, aims to actively enhance interaction between people of diverse cultures living in different States and UTs in India, with the objective of promoting greater mutual understanding amongst them. As per the programme, each year, every State/UT would be paired with another State/UT in India for reciprocal interaction between the people. It is envisaged through this exchange, that the knowledge of the language, culture, traditions and practices of different states will lead to an enhanced understanding and bonding between one another, thereby strengthening the unity and integrity of India. The States and UTs are to embark on a mission to enhance

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their cultural, academic and economic ties by entering into a wide range of mutual engagements with the paired States/UTs covering the spheres of music, drama, cuisine, language, history, tourism and other forms of exchange between the people. An indicative list of activities has been drawn up and circulated to the State Governments / UT Administrations and to the key Central Ministries. The States/ UTs may choose, evolve and develop their interaction pattern based on the suggested list as per operational suitability in the course of their interactions.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. A Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav was organized under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) matrix on 28th February, 2018 at Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The paired States were Manipur & Nagaland. The folk & cultural art forms from the States of Manipur & Nagaland were presented in the said event.

(e) Ministry of Culture has also organized Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs in Gujarat, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh during the financial year 2017-18 using the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) matrix. The Ministry of Culture will conduct similar programmes in other States during 2018-19.