

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1555
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.07.2019**

CREATION OF CULTURAL HUBS TO PROMOTE CLASSICAL MUSIC

+1555. SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made or is likely to make provision for any project to promote industries engaged in manufacturing classical musical instruments as those in Miraj in Sangli district of Maharashtra which is famous for every type of string instrument;
- (b) if so, the complete details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any provision to create cultural hubs in cities like Miraj which are promoting classical music related to Indian culture; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE &
TOURISM
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA), an autonomous organization of this Ministry maintains a Museum and Gallery of Musical Instruments. It showcases the rich heritage and legacy of performing arts as well as musical instruments from different regions of the country. The collection comprises over 2000 objects relating to the performing arts. These include musical instruments, masks, puppets and head gears.

Gallery of Musical Instruments: "*Asavar*": The Gallery of Musical Instruments was inaugurated by the distinguished violinist, Yehudi Menuhin on 13 February 1964. Methodical collection began in 1968 with the Akademi organizing an exhibition of about 400 folk and tribal musical instruments in Delhi. Acquisitions have been made regularly since then, and the holdings supplemented by musicians and visiting troupes. There are about 600 musical instruments, out of which 250 are on permanent display representing instruments from different streams of music.

Workshop/Seminar by Miraj Instrument Maker: An interactive session on Tanpura making was organized by the SNA under the guidance of eminent Tanpuramaker of Miraj, District Sangli- Ustad Farukh Satarmaker with scholars and performers held on 4th August 2016 at the Meghdoot Theatre Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi in which many students, scholars and performers attended and appreciated the session.

National recognition to the Instrument Maker of Miraj: One of the important activities of the SNA has been to give recognition and honours to artists as it would help in setting standards in these arts, and restore the art and artists to their rightful place in Independent India. The Akademi conferred the prestigious award to Shri Sharafat Abdul Majid Satarmaker, an eminent Musical Instruments Maker of Miraj, district Sangli, Maharashtra in the year 2007.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. Kalakshetra Foundation (KF), an autonomous organization of this Ministry is an institution for national importance for the preservation of classical arts. KF itself is a cultural hub in Chennai which conducts various art festivals, seminars, workshops to preserve and promote Indian classical arts. It conducts four-year Diploma courses and two-year Post Diploma courses in Carnatic Music under the Rukmini Devi College of Fine Arts.
