

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 842
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 12/12/2022

TRIBAL CULTURE

842. SHRI B.B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any centres for tribal culture in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the Government schemes, programmes and initiatives to support the building and development of such centres;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to conserve and promote tribal culture, archives and artefacts; and
- (d) the details of the Government initiatives in Telangana, especially in Kamareddy district?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) to (c): The tribal culture is community based and intricately linked to nature which is also reflected in their traditions, art, dances and beliefs. Unlike modern dance and Indian classical dance which are basically theatre dances and the dancers usually being highly trained professionals performing for audiences in particular venues and on special occasions, the Tribal performances on the other hand, are natural, participatory, rhythmic and are often intimately related to the everyday life of the community.

The Ministry of Culture is the nodal Ministry for promotion of culture including tribal culture. As informed by Ministry of Culture, To protect, promote and preserve various forms of folk/ tribal art and culture including tribal culture in the country, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. These ZCCs conduct number of activities viz. cultural programmes, seminars, workshops, exhibitions and craft fairs in tribal areas for the development of Tribals/STs. For these activities, tribal artists are engaged by these ZCCs for which they are paid honorarium, TA/DA, boarding & lodging and local transportation to support them and to earn their livelihood. Further, OCTAVE - a festival of the North East is organized by all the seven Zonal Cultural Centres to promote folk/ tribal culture of the North Eastern States and to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the North East.

2. Ministry of Culture operates a scheme namely, Museum Grant Scheme under which financial assistance is provided to Central/State Governments, Autonomous bodies, Local bodies, Public Sector undertaking, Academic Institute and Trust registered as a society under the

Indian Societies Act of 1860 (XXI) or a similar legislation of the state governments, for establishment and development of museums.

3. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS), Bhopal, an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture, has taken the following steps to conserve and promote tribal culture, archives and artifacts:

- i) It has developed an open air exhibition titled 'Tribal Habitat' which promotes the tribal architecture and traditional knowledge patterns through 46 house types and other exhibits.
- ii) It has a number of tribal artifacts in its collection which are displayed in various galleries and preserved in reserve collection.
- iii) IGRMS conducts the Tribal Literature Festival (TLF) annually by inviting resource persons from different places of India. The traditional knowledge systems are also being documented through fieldworks, demonstrative workshops and cultural performances.

4. Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the schemes of "Support to Tribal Research Institute" and "Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication and Events" under which various activities are undertaken to conserve and promote tribal culture, archives, artifacts, customs and traditions of the tribal communities. There are 27 Tribal Research Institutes in states and National Tribal Research Institute in Delhi. Some of the initiatives worth mentioning are as under:

- (i). To acknowledge the heroic and patriotic deeds of tribal people and to exhibit rich tribal cultural heritage of the region, Ministry has sanctioned 10 Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum.
- (ii). Ministry has developed searchable digital repository where all research papers, books, reports and documents, folks songs, photos/videos are uploaded. The repository currently has more than 10,000 photographs, videos and publications which are mostly done by Tribal Research Institutes. The repositories can be visited at <https://repository.tribal.gov.in/> (Tribal Digital Document Repository) and <https://tribal.nic.in/repository/> (Tribal Repository).

(iii). Ministry gives funding to TRIFED for organizing Adi Mahotsav festival at National level and State level. State level festivals like Hornbill festival of Nagaland, Medaram Jatra of Telangana are funded through TRI scheme.

(iv). TRIFED organizes Tribal Artisan Melas (TAMs) to identify new artisans and new products at the sourcing level in States/Districts/Villages for expanding the tribal producers base.

(v). The Ethnographic Museum of the states preserve and showcase rare artifacts related to life and culture of various tribes.

(d): Ministry of Tribal Affairs is releasing funds to States under centrally sponsored scheme Support to TRI based on their proposal. The Ministry has sanctioned a Tribal freedom Fighter Museum in the State of Telangana.

2. Ministry of Culture has recently organized a National Festival namely Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM) in Telangana at two places (Warangal and Hyderabad) from 29th March to 3rd April, 2022.

3. As per Government of Telangana, the following steps have been taken by the Government of Telangana to conserve the tribal culture:

- a. Medaram biennial Tribal Jatara is being organized by the Telangana Government on grand level
 - b. 66 tribal temples and tribal priests are covered under “Dhoopa Deepa Naivedyam” scheme of State Endowments Department
 - c. Promoting to organize the tribal fairs & festivals
 - Gond – Jangubai Jatara and Nagoba Jatara,
 - Naikpod – Gandhari Jathara,
 - Lambadi – Sevelal Jayanti,
 - Chenchu – Bourapur Jathara,
 - Yerukula – Nancharamma Jathara, Andh –Phulaji Baba Jayanti, Siral festival
 - Kolams – Bheemanna Jatara
 - Yerukulas – Nancharamma Jathara
 - d. Steps have been taken to protect and promote indigenous artefacts.
 - Needle Craft and Embroidery by Lambadis/Banjaras
 - Ojha Craft by Gonds
 - Wooden Miniature mask making by Naikpod
 - Bamboo craft by Kondareddis
 - Wood craft by Kolams and Koyas
 - e. Predominantly Lambadis tribe inhabit Kamareddy district. Sevalal Jayanti is celebrated every year in the district to conserve their culture.
4. Government of Telangana has further informed the establishment of following tribal museums / cultural hubs:
- Nehru Centenary Tribal Museum at Hyderabad.
 - Kumram Bheem Memorial Museum at Jodenghat, KB Asifabad District.
 - Sri Sammakka Saralamma Museum at Medaram, Mulugu District.
 - Koya Tribal Museum at Bhadrachalam, Bhadradi Kothagudem District.
 - Chenchu Laxmi Museum at Mannanur, Nagarkurnool District.
 - Adivasi Bhawan and Banjara Bhawan at prime locality of Banjara Hills, Hyderabad with 1000 capacity auditoriums, Audio and Video facility, Photo Gallery, Art studios, Exhibition of Tribal Artefacts etc.
