

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2042**  
ANSWERED ON 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023

**PROMOTION OF BANSIDHAR MAHOTSAVA**

2042. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- whether the Government is aware of the various festivals celebrated in the State of Jharkhand and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government has taken any steps for the promotion of the Bansidhar Mahotsav in Garhwa district of Jharkhand and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Union Government is providing funds to the States to organise fairs and festivals and if so, the details thereof; and
- whether the assistance is extended to the States to promote new festivals/mahotsavs and if so, the details thereof for the State of Jharkhand?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH  
EASTERN REGION  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Culture organizes national level festivals like Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs (RSMs) through its Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) where a large number of artists across India participate to showcase their talents. Besides RSMs, ZCCs also organize regional festivals alongwith other cultural activities/ programmes for promotion of culture every year as per their programme calendar across the member States under their respective jurisdiction. The State of Jharkhand falls under the jurisdiction of the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata which is engaged in promoting and preserving the rural, folk and tribal culture of total 9 member States including Jharkhand. EZCC also provides financial assistance to cultural groups/ artists/ artisans/ NGOs to organize festivals/ mahotsavs recommended by the Department of Culture, Govt. of Jharkhand. However, EZCC has not received any such proposal from Department of Culture, Govt. of Jharkhand to promote Bansidhar Mahotsav.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. State/ UT-wise funds are not released by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India to organize fairs and festivals. However, the grant-in-aid released to the seven ZCCs during the last three years and the current year for organizing their activities including RSMs and regional festivals is as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Year	Amount released for organizing activities including Regional Festivals	Amount released for organizing RSMs
1.	2019-20	5732.95	996.00
2.	2020-21	4009.38	694.68
3.	2021-22	5881.48	916.60
4.	2022-23 (as on date)	4211.86	1999.62

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