

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †4222  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2023

**SET UP OF SPECIAL CULTURAL FUND TO ORGANIZE CULTURAL PROGRAMMES**

†4222. **SHRIMATIRAMA DEV:**  
**SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:**  
**MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:**  
**SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:**

Will the **MINISTER OF CULTURE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any mechanism to set up special cultural fund for organizing cultural programmes at the district level to promote our precious culture, particularly culture/tourist places in Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the formal process to be followed with the concerned authorities and nodal agencies regarding the above-mentioned objective including the amount of funds allocated to Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar in this regard and the formal process followed for organizing such an event to promote tourism and business in the States?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The Ministry of Culture administers various schemes such as Repertory Grant, Cultural Function Production Grant and Financial Assistance to Cultural Organisation with National Presence etc. under which grants are being given as financial assistance to the organisations to organise cultural events throughout the country including the States of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar. Besides, Seven Zonal Cultural Centres across the country play a key role in promotion of culture through the programmes decided in consultation with their member States.
- (b) The details of the Zonal Cultural Centres organizing various cultural programmes in the States of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar are given as under:-

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State</b>	<b>Concerned Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs)</b>
1.	Maharashtra	West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC) and South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC)
2.	West Bengal	Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre(EZCC)
3.	Bihar	Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre(EZCC)and North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC)

The part of the grants provided to the said Zonal Cultural Centres are being utilized to organise cultural programmes in Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar. However, the execution process is not administered at district level in the above said states.

- (c) All the financial grant Schemes administered by the Ministry of Culture are Central Sector Schemes and no State-wise / UT-wise allocation of fund is made. Similarly, in respect of Zonal Cultural Centres, regular grant-in-aid is provided by the Government for organising cultural programmes / activities throughout the country including the State of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar. However, no State / UT-wise funds are provided by the Government.

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