

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 514**  
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

**CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC PRESERVATION OF  
ANCIENT CULTURE**

514. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government for preservation of folk art, folk dance, folk music and folk literature in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to constitute a Committee in this regard for scientific preservation and popularising country's ancient culture, literature, folk music, folk literature and folk art for coming generations; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) For preservation of folk art, folk dance and folk music in the country, the Government of India has set up seven (7) Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes in their member States throughout the year on regular basis for which annual grant-in-aid is provided to them. Folk artists are engaged by these ZCCs to showcase their talents in these cultural programmes/activities for which they are paid honorarium, DA/TA, boarding & lodging etc. Besides, number of schemes are being implemented by these ZCCs for preservation of various art forms which may be seen at **Annexure**.

For preservation of folk literature, Sahitya Akademi, an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture has been organizing a programme called "Loka: The Many Voices", consisting of lectures as well as demonstrations etc., seminars, symposia on folk and tribal literature across the country. Number of significant publications in this regard have also been brought out. Besides, the Akademi has constituted a series of programmes titled Gramalok which celebrates literature. The series of programmes such as Literary Forum are also conducted in rural areas.

(b) & (c) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

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**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 514  
for 06.02.2023**

**Schemes being implemented by Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs)**

- i. Award to Young Talented Artistes:** The Scheme “Young Talented Artists” is carried out to encourage and recognize the young talents especially in the field of rare art forms. Talented youngsters of the age group of 18-30 years are selected and given a onetime cash award of Rs. 10,000/-.
- ii. Guru Shishya Parampara:** This scheme envisages transmitting our valued traditions to the coming generations. Disciples are trained under veterans in art forms which are rare and vanishing. Rare and vanishing art forms of the region are identified and eminent exponents are selected to carry out the training programmes in ‘Gurukula’ tradition. The monthly remuneration for Guru – Rs. 7,500/-, Accompanist – Rs. 3,750/- and Pupils - Rs. 1,500/- each for the period of six month to maximum 1 year for one scheme. The names of the Gurus are recommended by the State Cultural Affairs Departments.
- iii. Theatre Rejuvenation:** To promote theatre activities including stage shows and Production oriented workshops, etc. Honorarium Up to Rs. 30,000/- per show excluding TA & DA is paid. The groups finalized on the basis their credentials as well as the merit of project submitted by them.
- iv. Research & Documentation:** To preserve promote and propagate vanishing visual and performing art forms including folk, tribal and classical in the field of music, dance, theatre, literature, fine arts etc. in print/ audio – visual media. The art form is finalized in consultation with state Cultural Department.
- v. Shilpgram:** To promote folk and tribal art and crafts of the zone by organizing seminar, workshops, exhibitions, craft fairs, design development and marketing support to the artisans living in the rural areas.
- vi. Octave:** To promote and propagate the rich cultural heritage of North East region comprising of eight States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur and Tripura to the rest of India.
- vii. National Cultural Exchange Programme:** It can be termed as the lifeline of the Zonal Cultural Centers. Under this scheme, various festivals of performing arts, exhibitions, yatras etc are organized in member States. Artists from other zones/states are invited to participate in these programmes. Participation of artists from the Zone in festivals held in other parts of the country are also facilitated. Zonal centres also participate in Major festivals happening in member States by arranging performances during these festivals where large number of audience get chance to enjoy and understand art forms of other regions. These festivals provide opportunity to taste and understand various cultures of our country.