

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 535**  
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FOLK ARTISTS OF ODISHA**

†535. SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any provision to provide financial support to folk artists and tribal artists in Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details of expenditure incurred by the Government under the said items during the last three years;
- (c) the number of the beneficiaries in Odisha, district-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to promote the art of the said artists and the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) To protect, promote and preserve various forms of folk art and tribal culture 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. Odisha is the member State of Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata, an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture. EZCC organizes various cultural activities and programmes in Odisha throughout the year on regular basis for which annual grant-in-aid is provided to them. Folk and tribal artists are engaged by EZCC to showcase their talents in these cultural programmes/activities for which they are paid honorarium, DA/TA, boarding & lodging etc. Besides, all the seven ZCCs also implement a number of schemes viz. Award to Young Talented Artistes, Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme, Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme, Research & Documentation Scheme, Shilpgram Scheme, OCTAVE, J&K Festivals and National Cultural Exchange Programme (NCEP) to help folk and tribal artists.

(b) & (c) Details of expenditure incurred and number of beneficiaries in Odisha during the last three years are as under:

**(Rs. in lakh)**

<b>2019-20</b>		<b>2020-21</b>		<b>2021-22</b>	
<b>Amount</b>	<b>No. of beneficiaries</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>No. of beneficiaries</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>No. of beneficiaries</b>
327.36	1069	410.06	7538	726.51	2072

(d) The following steps have been taken to promote the art of the said artists:

- i. Under Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme, training is imparted to the younger generation in Indian Tribal art forms in which a senior Guru is engaged to train 15-20 Shishyas for a period of 1-2 years. Shishyas are also paid a stipend during the training period.

- ii. Workshops are conducted to promote and keep alive the dying and vanishing art forms of tribal communities to enable them to earn their livelihood.
- iii. EZCC organizes programmes relating to tribal & folk dances, tribal & folk paintings, tribal & folk music, tribal & folk arts & crafts, tribal festivals, tribal & folk theatre etc. Besides, documentation of different tribal art forms is taken up regularly. Documented art forms are being utilized for promotion and dissemination of tribal art and culture among the younger generation.
- iv. Tribal costumes/musical instruments/daily use utensils/ deities of tribal communities of Odisha and other member States of EZCC have been displayed at the Srijani Shilpgram, Santiniketan, West Bengal. Tourists and visitors who visit the Shilpgram get an idea of the tribal culture of Odisha.
- v. Sending troupes from Odisha to all folk and tribal festivals across the country also helps in the promotion of tribal communities.
- vi. In all the craft fairs and festivals organized by EZCC, folk and tribal communities of Odisha sell products made by them during these programmes.

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