LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 246
ANSWERED ON 07.08.2023

Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

†*246. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

SHRIMATI DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the Government has taken any initiative to increase cultural connectivity between different States under 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' campaign;

(b)   if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c)   the steps being taken by the Government under the said campaign along with the future plans for Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu; and

(d)   the areas in which the Government plans to lay emphasis under the said campaign?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (d):   A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 246 FOR 07.08.2023 ASKED BY SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR AND SHRIMATI DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT

(a) to (d)   Yes, Sir. The Government has taken a number of initiatives under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) programme to foster cultural connectivity between people belonging to different States. Under the programme, various activities are carried out in the areas of language learning, culture, traditions and music, tourism and cuisine, sports and sharing of best practices, student exchange etc. to promote sustained engagement amongst the people throughout the country thus enhancing mutual understanding, appreciation and bonding between people of diverse cultures.

The programme employs the unique concept of pairing culturally diverse States/Union Territories (UTs) to promote national integration. The programme embodies 'Whole of Government' approach with more than 10 Ministries of the Government of India including Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of AYUSH, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Textiles, and Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises participating in its activities.

A special ongoing initiative, focusing on experiential learning and first- hand exposure, called Yuva Sangam (YS) has recently been taken up under the programme with the primary objective of building empathy and strengthening people to people connect between youth of different States/ UTs of India. Under Yuva Sangam, emphasis is laid on providing the youth a multi- dimensional exposure under five broad areas - Paryatan (Tourism), Parampara (Traditions), Pragati (Development), Paraspar Sampark (People-to-people connect) and Prodyogiki (Technology).

As of now, multiple phases of Yuva Sangam (YS) have been completed with 73 tours being conducted between paired States/UTs, with the pairing changing in each phase. Details of the tours under YS is placed at Annexure-I. More than 3,200 people across India have participated in various phases of Yuva Sangam with Maharashtra being covered under all phases, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu being covered in the most recent phase.

Besides the above, a one-month long festival called Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS) was celebrated under the aegis of EBSB at Varanasi from 17th November, 2022 to 16th December, 2022to rediscover and strengthen the ancient intellectual, cultural, spiritual and artisanal connect between these two cultures. The focus of KTS was to rediscover ancient knowledge and integrate it with modern thoughts in the field of philosophy, technology entrepreneurship, craftsmanship etc, which can help us create a valuable body of knowledge culminating in new innovations. 2,550 delegates arrived in Varanasi from Tamil Nadu to attend the KTS.

Similarly, Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam (STS) was conducted during 17th-26th April, 2023. The 10-day confluence saw more than 3000 Saurashtrian Tamils come to Gujarat to rediscover the glorious heritage shared by the two states Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

The key focus area of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme is celebrating cultural diversity through mutual interaction and reciprocity between people of different States/UTs so that a common spirit of understanding resonates throughout the country. Going forth, exposure tours under Yuva Sangam will be instrumental in realizing the spirit of EBSB.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 246 FOR 07.08.2023 ASKED BY SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR AND SHRIMATI DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT

I) Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav-EBSB Students Exchange (Pilot phase of Yuva Sangam)

S.No.	Participants from State	Start Date	End Date	Visit to State
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	23-Jan	27-Jan	Tamil Nadu
2.	Goa	5-Dec	9-Dec	Jharkhand
3.	Bihar	25-Nov	30-Nov	Tripura/ Mizoram
4.	Delhi	15-Nov	19-Nov	Sikkim
5.	Rajasthan	14-Nov	18-Nov	Assam
6.	Tamil Nadu	14-Oct	20-Oct	Jammu & Kashmir
7.	Uttarakhand	12-Oct	16-Oct	Karnataka
8.	Maharashtra	19-Sept	23-Sept	Odisha
9.	Mizoram	12-Sept	16-Sept	Bihar
10.	Assam	03-Sept	07-Sept	Rajasthan
11.	Uttar Pradesh	16- Aug	20- Aug	Arunachal Pradesh
12.	Gujarat	14- Aug	18- Aug	Chhattisgarh
13.	Karnataka	06-Aug	10-Aug	Uttarakhand
14.	Andhra Pradesh	04-Aug	08-Aug	Punjab
15.	Chhattisgarh	25-Jul	29-Jul	Gujarat
16.	Kerala	25-Jul	29-Jul	Himachal Pradesh
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	18-Jul	22-Jul	Uttar Pradesh
18.	Telangana	18-Jul	22-Jul	Haryana
19.	Madhya Pradesh	16-Jul	20-Jul	Nagaland
20.	Punjab	05-Jul	09-Jul	Andhra Pradesh
21.	Haryana	28-Jun	02-Jul	Telangana
22.	Odisha	29-Jun	03-Jul	Maharashtra
23.	Himachal Pradesh	28-Jun	02-Jul	Kerala
24.	Manipur	27-Jun	01-Jul	Madhya Pradesh

II) Yuva Sangam- Phase I (20th Feb 2023-7th April 2023)

S.No.	Participants from State/UT	Nodal Higher Education Institution	Paired State	Nodal Higher Education Institution
1.	Manipur	IIIT Manipur	Maharashtra	IIIT Nagpur
2.	Assam	IIT Guwahati	Gujarat	IIT Gandhinagar
3.	Chandigarh	NITTTR Chandigarh	Assam	NIT Silchar
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	NERIST Arunachal Pradesh	Rajasthan	CU Rajasthan
5.	Rajasthan	CU Rajasthan	Arunachal Pradesh	NERIST Arunachal Pradesh
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	NIT Arunachal Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	IIT Tirupati
7.	Sikkim	NIT Sikkim	Odisha	NIT Rourkela
8.	Karnataka	IIM Bangalore	Assam	IIT Guwahati
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	IIT Jammu	Assam	IIT Guwahati
10.	Gujarat	IIT Gandhinagar	Assam	IIT Guwahati
11.	Assam	NIT Silchar	Chandigarh	NITTTR Chandigarh
12.	Maharashtra	IIIT Nagpur	Manipur	IIIT Manipur
13.	Mizoram	NIT Mizoram	Haryana	IIM Rohtak
14.	Andhra Pradesh	IIT Tirupati	Arunachal Pradesh	NIT Arunachal Pradesh
15.	Uttar Pradesh	BBAU Lucknow	Meghalaya	NEHU Shillong
16.	Assam	NIT Silchar	Delhi	JNU Delhi
17.	Assam	IIT Guwahati	Karnataka	IIM Bangalore
18.	Assam	IIT Guwahati	Jammu & Kashmir	IIT Jammu
19.	Odisha	NIT Rourkela	Sikkim	NIT Sikkim
20.	Tripura	NIT Agartala	Tamil Nadu	IIT Madras
21.	Haryana	IIM Rohtak	Mizoram	NIT Mizoram
22.	Manipur	CU Manipur	Punjab	CU Panjab
23.	Mehgalaya	NEHU Shillong	Uttar Pradesh	BBAU Lucknow
24.	Tamil Nadu	IIT Madras	Tripura	NIT Agartala
25.	Manipur	NIT Manipur	Madhya Pradesh	IIT Indore
26.	Punjab	CU Punjab	Manipur	CU Manipur
27.	Madhya Pradesh	IIT Indore	Manipur	NIT Manipur

28.	Assam	IIT Guwahati	Gujarat	IIT Gandhinagar
29.	Delhi	JNU Delhi	Assam	NIT Silchar

III) Yuva Sangam- Phase II (15th April 2023- 25th June 2023)

S.No.	Participants from State/UT	Nodal Higher Education Institution	Paired State	Nodal Higher Education Institution
1	Andaman Nicobar	Dr B.R. Ambedkar Institute, Port Blair	Jharkhand	NIT Jamshedpur
2	Telangana	NIT Warangal	Uttarakhand	IIT Roorkee
3	Puducherry	NIT Puducherry	West Bengal	NIT Durgapur
4	Bihar	IIT Patna	Tamil Nadu	NIT Tiruchirappalli
5	Punjab	NIT Jalandhar	Maharashtra & UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman-Diu	IIT Bombay
6	Tamil Nadu	NIT Tiruchirappalli	Bihar	IIT Patna
7	Madhya Pradesh	NIT Bhopal	Karnataka	NIT Surathkal
8	Odisha	IIT Bhubaneswar	Rajasthan	MNIT Jaipur
9	Maharashtra & UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman-Diu	IIT Bombay	Punjab	NIT Jalandhar
10	Karnataka	NIT Surathkal	Madhya Pradesh	NIT Bhopal
11	Himachal Pradesh & Ladakh	IIT Mandi	Goa	IIT Goa
12	Goa	IIT Goa	Himachal Pradesh & Ladakh	IIT Mandi
13	Rajasthan	MNIT Jaipur	Odisha	IIT Bhubaneswar
14	Uttarakhand	IIT Roorkee	Telangana	NIT Warangal
15	West Bengal	NIT Durgapur	Puducherry	NIT Puducherry
16	Jharkhand	NIT Jamshedpur	Andaman Nicobar	Dr B.R. Ambedkar Institute, Port Blair
17	Kerala & Lakshadweep	IIT Palakkad	Uttar Pradesh	MNNIT Allahabad
18	Uttar Pradesh	MNNIT Allahabad	Kerala & Lakshadweep	IIT Palakkad
19	Nagaland	NIT Nagaland	Chhattisgarh	NIT Raipur
20	Chhattisgarh	NIT Raipur	Nagaland	NIT Nagaland