

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2925
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2023

EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTENCE OF ART, LITERATURE AND CRAFT

2925 Sh. Bholanath (B.P.SAROJ):

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any efforts to maintain the existence of art, literature and craft in the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to set up a Centre of Excellence for Arts and Handicrafts, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Government is taking any steps to create awareness among the people of the country to adopt traditional culture; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM & DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Culture through its autonomous bodies has made efforts to promote art, literature and craft in the country.

Sahitya Akademi under Ministry of Culture has published over 7000 books in 24 languages. Every year Akademi holds a number of seminars at regional, national and international levels, Akademi has a series of programs called Cultural Exchange and also given travel grants to young writers, also conducts International Literary Festival-UNMESH.

Lalit Kala Akademi under Ministry of Culture organizes art camps, workshops, exhibitions, art festivals like National Painting workshops, Mega Exhibition "Rise in Uttar Pradesh 2022"etc.

Sangeet Natak Akademi organizes festivals all over the country, provides grants-in-aid for research, documentation, and publishing in the performing arts; organizes and subsidizes seminars and conferences of subject specialists.

Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) has designed various training programmes which include various thematic workshops focusing on creating awareness regarding promotion and preservation of Indian Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage, Literary Heritage, Folk/Tribal Art & Culture and Craft traditions.

Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai under Ministry of Culture, conducts workshops in Wood Block-printing, Kalamkari Painting and Natural dyeing. Craft Education and Research Centre the CERC , Kalakshetra Foundation under Ministry of Culture has trained women from low-income groups in the art of Kalamkari.

Ministry through its akademies present awards and scholarships to the artists and also invites artists from different genres of performing arts, folk art, tribal art for performance. Different schemes for encouraging Guru Shishya Parampara, training, festivals are also run by the ministry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Culture through its autonomous bodies conducts festivals, fairs and events at regional, national and international levels. These events showcase traditional art forms, music, dance, crafts and other cultural expressions, drawing attention to the richness and diversity of traditional culture. The Akademies under Ministry of Culture also maintain a repository of archives and regularly engaged in documenting our cultural heritage. Ministry also conducts training and workshops, cultural outreach programs and social media platforms to create awareness among the people of the country to adopt traditional culture.
