

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3173
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2021**

SETTING UP OF SEVEN ZONAL CULTURAL CENTRES

3173. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur to promote folk artists and music in all the States/UTs of India;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof of the activities and projects undertaken by ZCCs for the years 2018-19 and 2019-20; and
- (c) the details of the utilization of the central financial assistance of Rs.5952 lakhs received by ZCC during last three years?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. To protect and preserve various forms of folk art & culture and to promote folk artists in all the States/UTs, the Government of India has set up the following seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) in the country:

Sl. No.	Name of ZCC	Year of set up
i.	North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala	1985
ii.	Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata	1985
iii.	West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur	1986
iv.	North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj	1986
v.	North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC), Dimapur	1986
vi.	South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur	1986
vii.	South Zone Cultural Centre (SZCC), Thanjavur	1986

The mandate of these ZCCs is as under:

- To encourage folk and tribal arts and aid the preservation of vanishing arts;
- Documentation & Data collection of vanishing art forms;
- To preserve and promote the projection and dissemination of arts in the concerned zone;
- To develop and promote their rich cultural diversity;
- To involve youth in creative cultural communication and lay special emphasis on the linkages among different areas and their contribution to Indian culture;
- Collection & Dissemination of regional histories & narratives in oral traditions.

...2/-

These ZCCs are implementing a number of schemes viz. Award to Young Talented Artistes, Guru Shishya Parampara, Theatre Rejuvenation, Research & Documentation, Shilpgram, Octave and National Cultural Exchange Programme. The details of these schemes are at **Annexure-I**. No State/UT wise funds are released by the Ministry. However, annual grant-in-aid is provided to all these ZCCs to carry out various cultural activities/ programmes viz. regional festivals, folk dances & songs, workshops, exhibitions etc to disseminate information about Indian culture and traditions to public in their member States including programmes on the vanishing tribal art & culture. The State/UT wise activities/ programmes conducted by these ZCCs during 2018-19 and 2019-20 are at **Annexure-II**.

To increase awareness among people regarding cultural values of India, the Ministry of Culture organizes Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs (RSMs) in the country and up till now, the Ministry has organized 11 RSMs through its seven ZCCs since 2015. These ZCCs also organize minimum 42 Regional Festivals every year as per their programme calendar.

For proper storage of the treasure of knowledge for posterity, several art forms including the vanishing ones are being documented by these ZCCs. Number of art forms have been documented by all the ZCCs. Many dying art forms documented earlier are being converted into digital format for preservation as the older format can no longer be used.

(c) Annual grant-in-aid is provided to all the ZCCs for organizing various cultural activities/ programmes all over the country on regular basis. However, no funds are provided directly to the States/ UTs for the purpose. The grant-in-aid provided to these ZCCs during the three years and the current year is as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
2017-18	4689.71
2018-19	5952.69
2019-20	5732.95
2020-21 (as on date)	3364.48

**Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred
Question No. 3173 for 15.03.2021**

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.

**Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred
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**State/UT wise activities/ programmes conducted by Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs)
during 2018-19 and 2019-20**

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	No. of activities/ Programmes	
	States	2018-19	2019-20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21	20
3.	Assam	43	32
4.	Bihar	15	15
5.	Chhattisgarh	12	12
6.	Goa	44	13
7.	Gujarat	13	16
8.	Haryana	37	33
9.	Himachal Pradesh	42	40
10.	Jharkhand	08	08
11.	Karnataka	31	27
12.	Kerala	16	15
13.	Madhya Pradesh	16	39
14.	Maharashtra	97	84
15.	Manipur	36	32
16.	Meghalaya	15	11
17.	Mizoram	15	08
18.	Nagaland	21	22
19.	Odisha	39	39
20.	Punjab	98	87
21.	Rajasthan	134	135
22.	Sikkim	13	19
23.	Tamil Nadu	77	91
24.	Telangana	11	09
25.	Tripura	24	19
26.	Uttar Pradesh	21	15
27.	Uttarakhand	21	28
28.	West Bengal	289	77
	Union Territories		
29.	Jammu & Kashmir	39	34
30.	Ladakh	--	--
31.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	01	04
32.	Chandigarh	122	87
33.	NCT of Delhi	04	06
34.	Daman and Diu & Dadra and Nagar Haveli	07	12
35.	Lakshadweep	--	--
36.	Puducherry	22	19
	Total	1421	1120