

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- †1958**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 14/03/2022

**CONSERVE THE CUSTOMS OF TRIBAL**

†1958. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of Tribal Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether North-Eastern States, Jharkhand, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Bengal and Maharashtra have large number of tribal population due to which customs and traditions of these States are different; and

(b) the details of the efforts being made by the Government to conserve the customs and traditions of the tribals of the said States?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

**(a) & (b):** The tribal populace of North-Eastern States, Jharkhand, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Bengal and Maharashtra express their different cultural identity and distinctiveness in their customs, festivals, languages, social organisations, dress, ornaments, art and crafts. Each possesses its own unique costumes and status which differentiates one from others. Ministry of Tribal Affairs is administrating the schemes of “Support of Tribal Research Institute” and “Tribal Festival, Research, Information and Mass Education” under which various activities are undertaken to conserve the customs and traditions of the tribals as enumerated below:

(i) Research studies/publication of books/documentation including audio visual documentaries on promotion of rich tribal cultural heritage which includes preservation of tribal languages.

(ii) Tribal cultural exchange programmes

(iii) Research and documentation of Indigenous practices by tribal healers and medicinal plants, Adivasi Languages, agriculture system, dances and paintings etc.

(iv). To acknowledge the heroic and patriotic deeds of tribal people, Ministry has sanctioned setting up 10 Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum. These museum will also exhibit rich tribal cultural heritage of the region.

(v). To preserve and promote rich tribal cultural heritage and also to create awareness among others, searchable digital repositories has been developed where all research papers, books, reports and documents, folks songs, photos/videos are uploaded The repository currently has more than 10,000 photographs, videos and publications which are mostly done by TRIs. The repositories can be visited at <https://repository.tribal.gov.in/> (Tribal Digital Document Repository) and <https://tribal.nic.in/repository/> (Tribal Repository).

(vi). Ministry gives funding to TRIFED for organizing Adi Mahotsav festival at National level and State level. State level festivals like Hornbill festival of Nagaland, Medaram Jatra of Telangana are funded through TRI scheme.

(vii) TRIFED organizes Tribal Artisan Melas (TAMs) to identify new artisans and new products at the sourcing level in States/Districts/Villages for expanding the tribal producers base.

\*\*\*\*\*