

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 172
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2022**

DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL CENTRES IN RAJASTHAN

†172. **SHRI BALAK NATH:**
SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has chalked out any scheme for the development of cultural centres across the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including the State of Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Union Government has set up Cultural Centres in various districts of Rajasthan including Alwar district to spread awareness among the people about the cultural heritage of the country and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to take any steps for promotion of cultural development programmes in Rajasthan and to promote Indian culture;
- (d) if so, the details of the plans being formulated in this regard and the financial assistance provided for developing cultural centres, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to provide grant-in-aid to the State Governments in order to organize three days programme in memory of Sant Kabir and if so, the details thereof particularly in respect of Rajasthan?

ANSWER

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

(a) To protect, preserve & promote various forms of folk art and culture throughout the country, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. All States of the country are members of one or more ZCC. Annual grant-in-aid is released to these seven ZCCs for organizing various cultural activities and programmes all over India including Rajasthan.

Further, Ministry of Culture also administers a financial grant scheme by the name of 'Financial Assistance for Creation of Cultural Infrastructure' which is a Central Sector Scheme under which no State/UT-wise allocation of funds is made. The scheme provides for facilitating the setting up of new cultural spaces as well as upgradation of existing spaces like Auditoriums, Studio Theatres etc. The scheme has the following three components:

- i. Financial Assistance for Building Grants including Studio Theatres.
- ii. Financial Assistance for Tagore Cultural Complexes (TCCs).
- iii. Financial Assistance for Allied Cultural Activities.

These cultural spaces work as centres of excellence in all forms of art and culture with facilities and infrastructure for stage performances (dance, drama and music), exhibitions, seminars, literary activities, film shows etc.

Details of the budget allocated to ZCCs and under the scheme of financial assistance for Creation of Cultural Infrastructure during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Budget allocated to ZCCs	Budget allocated under the scheme of financial Assistance for Creation of Cultural Infrastructure
1	2019-20	57.33	31.90
2	2020-21	40.09	9.81
3	2021-22	58.81	17.28

(b) The West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), headquartered at Udaipur of which Rajasthan is one of the member State caters to the cultural needs of various Districts of the State including Alwar District.

(c) & (d) For promotion of cultural development programmes and Indian culture in Rajasthan, WZCC organizes number of cultural activities / programmes on a regular basis including workshops, exhibitions, seminars etc. Under the National Exchange Program Scheme, WZCC organizes various events for which artists from other States are invited to participate in these programs. The Program Committee of WZCC which consists of representatives of all member States decides the calendar of events to be organized during the year.

(e) Regular annual grant-in-aid is provided by the Government to the ZCCs for organizing various programmes/ activities in their member States. However, no State/ UT-wise funds are released for the purpose. West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur and North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj organize programmes in the memory of Sant Kabir on a regular basis. This year the following programmes have been organized by these ZCCs under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, in the memory of Sant Kabir:

- i. Bhakti Utsav organized by WZCC from 14th to 16th June, 2022 at Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- ii. Sant Kabir Mahotsav organized by NCZCC from 14th to 16th June, 2022 at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- iii. Sant Kabir Mahotsav organized by NCZCC from 15th to 16th June, 2022 at Maghar, Uttar Pradesh.