

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 223
ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

ZONAL CULTURAL CENTRES

*223. Shri MANI A:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives and mandate of the seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) set up by the Government for the protection, promotion and preservation of folk, tribal and local art and culture in the country including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the details of activities, programmes and initiatives undertaken by each ZCC during the last three years, centre-wise;
- (c) the total funds allocated, released and utilized by each ZCC during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to digitally archive, document or promote endangered tribal and folk art forms through ZCCs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether there are any proposals to expand the scope of ZCCs establish new cultural centres or collaborate with private institutions and international organizations for the better preservation of India's diverse cultural heritage and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 223 FOR REPLY ON 17.03.2025 REGARDING ZONAL CULTURAL CENTRES ASKED BY Shri MANI A

(a) The Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) in the country with headquarters at Patiala (Punjab), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Udaipur (Rajasthan), Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh), Kolkata (West Bengal), Dimapur (Nagaland) and Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu) to protect, promote and preserve various forms of folk, tribal & local art and culture in the country including Tamil Nadu. The mandate behind setting up of these ZCCs was to bind the nation culturally while retaining the individuality of the regions that comprise them. The aims and objectives of establishing these ZCCs are:

- to preserve and promote the projection and dissemination of arts in the concerned zone;
- to develop and promote their rich cultural diversity;
- to encourage folk & tribal arts and preservation of vanishing arts;
- to involve artists in creative cultural communication and lay special emphasis on the linkages between different areas and their contribution to Indian culture.

These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes on regular basis throughout the year for which annual grant-in-aid is provided to them. Besides, Ministry of Culture also organizes Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs (RSMs) through these ZCCs where a large number of folk/ tribal artists from all over India are engaged who showcase their talents during these programmes. From November, 2015 onwards, fourteen (14) RSMs and four (04) Zonal Level RSMs have been organized by Ministry of Culture across the country.

(b) The major cultural activities/ programmes conducted by ZCCs during the last three years (2021-22 to 2023-24) are at **Annexure**.

(c) The funds allocated/ released to ZCCs and utilized by them during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in lakh)							
Sl. No.	Name of ZCC	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Funds allocated/ released	Funds utilized	Funds allocated/ released	Funds utilized	Funds allocated/ released	Funds utilized
1.	NZCC, Patiala	434.00	434.00	1170.00	1170.00	1702.00	1702.00
2.	NCZCC, Prayagraj	2267.30	1181.65	2751.41	2910.60*	5406.84	4494.70
3.	WZCC, Udaipur	560.70	560.70	1718.30	1718.30	1597.71	1739.63*
4.	SCZCC, Nagpur	775.20	938.63*	916.20	1214.49*	1244.24	1208.05
5.	EZCC, Kolkata	1058.94	1138.20*	943.57	1051.73*	2899.36	2226.95
6.	SZCC, Thanjavur	724.00	724.00	623.00	623.00	889.00	889.00
7.	NEZCC, Dimapur	1149.74	1149.74	931.50	931.50	827.14	827.14

*Either they have utilized unspent balance from previous year or utilized their own earnings.

(d) To document or promote endangered tribal and folk art forms, all the ZCCs are consistently working towards the revival of vanishing art forms of the country. Recently, the Ministry has also organized Vilupt Lok Evam Janjatiya Kala Utthan Mahotsav (festival of vanishing art forms) by all the ZCCs at Divisional level across all 7 Zones in collaboration with Ministry of Textiles, Cultural Departments of State Govts, Folklore and Cultural Studies Departments of various State/ Central Universities.

The ZCCs also play a pivotal role to preserve, document and disseminate our folk and tribal art forms amongst the new generation of enthusiasts and practitioners and undertakedocumentation work which includes Audio, Video, Publication, Monographs viz. Lac Doll, Natua, Chadar Badar Puppetry, Gotipua Dance, Saura Painting, Mural Paintings, Lama Dance, Mayurbhanj Chhau, Giddha Folk Dance, Jhoomer Dance, Monastries of Ladakh, Bhand Pather, Phummaniyam, Burrakatha, Song of Kalamkari, Dhola Maru, Sarguja Ke Pahadi Korba, Khadi Gammat, Liangmai Naga Folk Songs, Miteri Sainu, Angami Folk Songs, Documentary Films (Horn House, Rikhiya Bhawan &Dhangari Gaza), Lambadi, Bommalattam, Pulikali, Shadow Puppetry, Deva Koothu etc.

(e) All the ZCCs cater to the cultural needs of each and every State/UT of the country satisfactorily. The programmes/ activities are organized by ZCCs in all the districts of the country ensuring that the cultural awareness/ diversity reach masses at grassroot level. Thus, the need for establishing new cultural centres/ expanding the scope of ZCCs does not arise at present.

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 223 for
17.03.2025**

Major cultural activities/ programmes conducted by ZCCs during the last three years (2021-22 to 2023-24)

➤ **North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala:**

2021-22

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Turtuk Festival	22 to 25 Sept, 2021	UT of Ladakh
ii.	International Gita Mahotsav	2 to 19 Dec, 2021	Haryana
iii.	International Surajkund Crafts Mela	19 to 31 March, 2021	Haryana

2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Sindhu Darshan Festival and Sanskritik Yatra	18 to 30 June, 2022	Punjab, UT of Jammu & Kashmir, UT of Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh
ii.	12 th Chandigarh National Crafts Mela	7 to 16 Oct, 2022	UT of Chandigarh
iii.	International Gita Mahotsav	19 Nov to 6 Dec, 2022	Haryana
iv.	Aadi Shaurya-Parv Parakarm Ka	23 & 24 Jan, 2023	New Delhi
v.	Bharat Parv	26 to 31 Jan, 2023	New Delhi

2023-24

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Qila Aur Kahaniyan	17 to 21 May, 2023	Himachal Pradesh
ii.	Qila Aur Kahaniyan	31 May to 4 June, 2023	UT of Jammu & Kashmir
iii.	Ganga Sanskriti Yatra	12 to 15 June, 2023	Uttarakhand
iv.	Sindhu Darshan Festival and Sanskriti Yatra	15 to 30 June, 2023	Punjab, UT of Jammu & Kashmir, UT of Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh
v.	Vitasta Festival	23 to 25 June, 2023	UT of Jammu & Kashmir
vi.	Zonal Sanskriti Mahotsav	5 Sept, 2023	Rajasthan
vii.	13 th Chandigarh National Crafts Mela	1 to 10 Dec, 2023	UT of Chandigarh
viii.	International Gita Mahotsav	7 to 24 Dec, 2023	Haryana

ix.	Bharat Parv-2024	23 to 31 Jan, 2024	New Delhi
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➤ **South Zone Cultural Centre (SZCC), Thanjavur:**

2021-22

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav	6 Aug, 2021	Karnataka
ii.	MahakaviSubramaniya Bharathi's Memorial Day Centenary	18 Sept, 2021	New Delhi
iii.	Octave – North East Festival 2022	12 to 15 March, 2022	Tamil Nadu
iv.	Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2022	26 March to 3 April 2022	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana

2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Fete de Puducherry	14 to 16 Aug, 2022	Puducherry
ii.	Hyderabad Liberation Day	15 to 17 Sept, 2022	Telangana
iii.	Dasara Festival	26 Sept to 5 Oct, 2022	Karnataka
iv.	Kashi Tamil Sangamam	17 Nov to 16 Dec, 2022	Uttar Pradesh

2023-24

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam	19-29 April, 2023	Gujarat
ii.	Quila Aur KahaniyaProgramme	18 July, 2023	Tamil Nadu
iii.	Fete-de-Puducherry	14-16 Aug, 2023	Puducherry
iv.	Hyderabad Liberation Day	15-17 Sept, 2023	Telangana
v.	Meri Maati Mera Desh	9-14 Aug, 2023, 28 Sept, 2023 & 28-31 Oct, 2023	Telangana Puducherry Rajasthan
vi.	Kashi Tamil Sangamam	15-30 Dec, 2023	Uttar Pradesh
vii.	7 th International folklore film festival	8-12 Sept, 2023	Kerala
viii.	Summer Festival	21-25 May, 2023	Tamil Nadu
ix.	Pongal festival	27-28 Jan, 2024	Tamil Nadu
x.	Hyderabad Liberation Day	15-17 Sept, 2023	Telangana
xi.	All India Crafts Mela	16-18 Dec, 2023	Telangana
xii.	Kashi Telugu Sangamam	13-15 Jan, 2024	New Delhi

➤ **North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj:**

2021-22

Sl.	Name of	Date	Venue
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No.	Activities/Programmes		
i.	Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav	2 April, 2021	Uttar Pradesh
ii.	Lokrang	22-24 Dec, 2021	Uttar Pradesh
iii.	Rashtriya Shilp Mela	1-12 Dec, 2021	Uttar Pradesh
iv.	Shankh Vadan	1 Jan, 2022	Uttar Pradesh
v.	Chalo Man Ganga Yamuna Teer	21-30 Jan, 2022	Uttar Pradesh
vi.	Vande Bharatam Nritya Utsav	26 Jan, 2022	New Delhi
vii.	Maru Natya Utsav	22-25 March, 2022	Rajasthan

2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Swar Sandhya	12 March, 2022	New Delhi
ii.	Maru NatyaMahotsava	22-25 March, 2022	Bikaner
iii.	Chaturya Natyotsav	26-28 March, 2022	Bihar
iv.	Kabir Mahotsav	14-16 June, 2022	Uttar Pradesh
v.	Rashtriya Shilp Mela	1-12 Dec, 2022	Uttar Pradesh
vi.	Chalo Man Ganga Yamuna Teer	18-27 Jan, 2023	Uttar Pradesh
vii.	Vande Bharatam Nritya Utsav	26 Jan, 2023	New Delhi
viii.	Aadi Mahotsava	16-27 Feb, 2023	New Delhi
ix.	Octave	24-26 Feb, 2023	Bihar

2023-24

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Ganga Sanskritik Yatra	10-11 June, 2023	Uttarakhand
ii.	Qila Aur Kahaniya	18-19 June, 2023 & 4-7 Aug, 2023	Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh
iii.	Rashtriya NatyaMahotsava	08-12 Aug, 2023	Uttar Pradesh
iv.	Meri Mati Mera Desh	12, 14 & 15 Aug, 2023	Uttar Pradesh
v.	Janjatiya Utsava	29 Sep-01 Oct, 2023	Madhya Pradesh
vi.	Zonal Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav	29 Sep-02 Oct, 2023	New Delhi
vii.	Rashtriya Shilp Mela	01-12 Dec, 2023	Uttar Pradesh
viii.	Kashi Tamil Sangamam	17-30 Dec, 2023	Uttar Pradesh
ix.	Vande Bharatam Nritya Utsav	26 January, 2024	New Delhi
x.	Ramotsava	14 Jan-29 Feb, 2024	Uttar Pradesh
xi.	Chalo Man Ganga Yamuna Teer	05-14 Feb, 2024	Uttar Pradesh
xii.	Markandey Mahadev Mahotsav	10-12 Feb, 2024	Uttar Pradesh
xiii.	Aadi Mahotsava	10-18 Feb, 2024	New Delhi

➤ West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur:

2021-22

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav India @ 75	6 April, 2021	Gujarat

2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Ganeshotsav	5-12 Sept, 2022	Goa
ii.	Malhar-Classical Dance Music Festival	6-8 Sept, 2022	Rajasthan
iii.	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Program	27-30 Oct, 2022	Gujarat
iv.	Shilpgram Utsav	21-30 Dec, 2022	Rajasthan
v.	Lokotsav	29 Jan to 8 Feb, 2023	Goa
vi.	Vasantotsav	11 to 20 March, 2023	Gujarat
vii.	Ritu Basant	20 to 22 March, 2023	Rajasthan
viii.	Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahosav	25 Feb to 5 March, 2023	Rajasthan
ix.	Octave	25 to 28 March, 2023	Goa

2023-24

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Sourashtra Tamil Sangamam	17- 29 April, 2023	Gujarat
ii.	Qila Aur Khaniya	28-30 April, 2023	Rajasthan
iii.	Har Ghar Tiranga& Meri Mati Mera Desh Campaign	9 to 15 Aug, 2023 & 16-22 Sept, 2023	Rajasthan & Gujarat
iv.	Malhar	25 -27 Aug, 2023	Rajasthan
v.	Zonal Sanskriti Mahotsav	21-24 Sept, 2023	Maharashtra
vi.	Ganeshotsav	24-30 Sept, 2023	Goa
vii.	Meri Matti Mera Desh	2 to 13 Oct, 2023 & 28-31 Oct 23	Rajasthan & Delhi
viii.	Shilpgram Utsav	21-30 Dec, 2023	Rajasthan
ix.	Ramotsav	14 Jan to 24 March, 2024	Uttar Pradesh
x.	Lokotsav	26 Jan to 4 Feb, 2024	Goa
xi.	Vasantosav	14-23 Feb, 2024	Gujarat
xii.	Ritu Vasant	23-25 Feb, 2024	Rajasthan

➤ South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur:**2021-22**

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	30 th Dr. Vasantrao Deshpande Smruti Sangeet Samaroh	30 July to 1 Aug, 2021	Maharashtra
ii.	Khasdar Mahotsav	17-26 Dec, 2021	Maharashtra
iii.	Malava Utsav	25-31 Dec, 2021	Madhya Pradesh
iv.	National Traditional & Tribal Painting Workshop	18-24 Feb, 2022	Andhra Pradesh
v.	Octave-North East Festival	5-8 March, 2022	Chhattisgarh
vi.	28 th Orange City Craft Mela & Folk Dance Festival	11-20 March, 2022	Maharashtra
vii.	Karakala Festival	14-20 March, 2022	Karnataka

2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
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i.	Malwa Festival	25-31 May, 2022	Madhya Pradesh
	Birsa Munda Jayanti (Drama & Nukkad Natak)	10-11 June, 2022	Chhattisgarh
ii.	29th Orange City Craft Mela & Folk Dance Festival	13-22 Jan, 2023	Maharashtra
iii.	Rashtriya Sanskruti Mahotsav - 2023	11-19 Feb, 2023	Maharashtra
iv.	Vitasta (Kashmir) Festival	29 March to 2 April, 2023	Maharashtra

2023-24

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	32 nd Dr. Vasantao Deshpande Smruti Sangeet Samaroh	28-30 July, 2023	Maharashtra
ii.	Meri Maati Mera Desh and Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan - Skit, Nukkad Natak "Cultural Programmes"	10-15 Aug, 2023 3-9 Oct, 2023	46 Blocks/ Tehsils in Maharashtra, 21 Blocks/ Tehsils in Karnataka and 57 Blocks/ Tehsils in Chhattisgarh 61 Blocks/ Tehsils in Maharashtra and 51 Blocks/ Tehsils in Karnataka and 62 Blocks/ Tehsils in Chhattisgarh
iii.	30 th Orange City Craft Mela & Folk Dance Festival	9-18 Feb, 2024	Maharashtra

➤ North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC), Dimapur:

2021-22

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Umang Programme (Workshop on Door Mat Making)	22 & 23 Sept, 2021	Nagaland
ii.	125 th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose	21 Oct, 2021	Assam & Nagaland
iii.	Hozagiri Festival	22 & 23 Oct, 2021	Tripura
iv.	Border Area Programme	6-7 Dec, 2021	Sikkim
v.	Hornbill Festival	7 Dec, 2021	Nagaland
vi.	Shilp Mahotsav	17-20 Jan, 2021	Assam

2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Shiru Lily Festival	25-28 May, 2022	Manipur
	Dree Festival	5 July, 2022	Arunachal Pradesh
ii.	Lokmanthan	21-23 Sept, 2022	Assam
iii.	Panchakala Festival	12-13 Nov, 2022	Assam
iv.	Sangai Festival	22-24 Nov, 2022	Manipur
v.	Maghe Sankranti Festival	13-15 Jan, 2023	Sikkim

2023-24

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	International Tourism Mart - NER	22 Nov, 2023	Meghalaya
ii.	Junbeel Mela	18-19 Jan, 2024	Assam
iii.	Festival of North East	23-24 Jan, 2024	Assam

➤ **Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata:**

2021-22

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	India @75 Special Cultural Programme	21 Oct, 2021	West Bengal
ii.	Swami Vivekananda Birth Anniversary	12 Jan, 2022	West Bengal
iii.	125 th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose	23 Jan, 2022	West Bengal

2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Rath Yatra	2-8 July, 2022	Odisha
	Bali Yatra	8-16 Nov, 2022	Odisha
ii.	Jana Jati Gaurav Divas	15 Nov, 2022	West Bengal
iii.	Veer Gatha	8Jan, 2023	West Bengal
iv.	Dol Basanta - Poetry, Song and Dance	7 March, 2023	West Bengal

2023-24

Sl. No.	Name of Activities/Programmes	Date	Venue
i.	Kobi Pranam	9 – 11 May, 2023	West Bengal
ii.	Meri Maati Mera Desh & Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign	9-15 August, 2023	Bihar, Odisha & West Bengal
iii.	Ganga Sanskriti Yatra	26 & 28 Aug, 2023	Bihar
		19 & 21 Sept, 2023, 12 & 17 Oct, 2023 and 3 Dec, 2023	West Bengal
iv.	KalakrantiPurbanchaliya Lok Mahotsav	14-17 Dec, 2023	West Bengal
v.	Island Tourism Festival	26-30 Dec, 2023	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
vi.	Tribeni Kumbh Mela	11-13 Feb, 2024	West Bengal
vii.	Dol Basanta - Poetry, Song and Dance Festival	24 - 26 March 2024	West Bengal
