GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1014 ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

KALAGRAM AT MAHAKUMBH

1014. SHRI P C MOHAN:

SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

DR. VINOD KUMAR BIND:

DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which Kalagram aligns with the Government's broader goals of preserving and promoting Indian heritage, particularly in Karnataka, which is known for its cultural traditions and diverse heritage;
- (b) whether Kalagram will serve as a recurring feature in future Mahakumbh events or similar cultural gatherings particularly in Bengaluru or other locations in Karnataka, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government plans to make these experiences accessible through virtual reality to audiences who cannot attend in person particularly in Karnataka including Bengaluru;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of training workshops, theatre festivals, folk art festivals and tribal arts festivals organised or proposed to be organised in future by IGNCA, CCRT, ZCC, NSD and Sangeet Natak Akademi in the Sidhi Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh State?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) Ministry of Culture has set up a cultural village viz. Kalagram in Sector-7 of Maha Kumbh district through North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC) located at Prayagraj, an autonomous organization of the Ministry. The main features of Kalagram are:
 - Main Entrance: 635 ft wide, 54 ft high, depicting 12 Jyotirlingas and the story of Lord Shiva consuming Halahal, a confluence of art and spirituality.
 - A stage 104 feet-wide & 72 feet-depth on the theme of Char-Dham.
 - Artist and Performance: 14,632 artists will perform on various stages including Kalagram.
 - Anubhut Mandapam: 360° immersive experience narrating Ganga descent from heaven to earth.
 - Aviral Shashwat Kumbh: Digital display by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), National Archives of India (NAI) and Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).

- Food Zone: Satvik cuisine from all Zonal Cultural Centres apart from the local cuisine of Prayagraj.
- Sanskriti Angans: Display and sale of traditional Indian handicrafts and handlooms in the courtyards by 98 artisans of the seven Zonal Cultural Centres.

For the performance, 45 artists belonging to 03 art forms and for stalls 06 artisans from Karnataka have been deputed to Kalagram at Maha Kumbh-2025 by South Zone Cultural Centre (SZCC), Thanjavur, an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture.

- (b) The Kalagram has been set up at Maha Kumbh-2025 on the request of Government of Uttar Pradesh. A Kalagram, though on a smaller scale had been set up during 2019 Kumbh Mela too.
- (c) & (d) To make these experiences accessible to audiences who cannot attend in person, Ministry of Culture alongwith NCZCC, Prayagraj is uploading the content on their various social media handles like YouTube, Facebook, Instagram etc.
- (e) North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj and South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur organize a number of cultural programmes at various venues in their member States including Sidhi (Madhya Pradesh) as decided by their Programme Committees.

Sangeet Natak Akademi, an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture, invited two major theatre groups from Sidhi viz. Rangdoot and Indravati Natya Samiti for a performance in Amrit Yuva Kalotsav held at Bhopal and Lucknow.

SCZCC, Nagpur had also invited artists from Indravati Natya Samiti, Sidhi (Madhya Pradesh) during organization of theatre presentation of Eklavya-Bagheli Theatre at Shilpgram, Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh).
