

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2585
ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

**CULTURAL FESTIVALS UNDER NATIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE
PROGRAMME**

2585. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cultural festivals organized under the National Cultural Exchange Programme in 2023-24;
- (b) the details of regions where these festivals were held;
- (c) the total funds allocated and utilized for the cultural festivals during the FY 2024-25; and
- (d) the number of artists and performers who participated in these festivals with a specific focus on folk and tribal artists, particularly from Odisha?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) 562 cultural festivals have been organized by all the Zonal Cultural Centres (autonomous organizations under Ministry of Culture) under the National Cultural Exchange Programme in 2023-24.
- (b) Under National Cultural Exchange Programme, artists from other Zones/ States are invited to participate in various cultural activities/ programmes/ festivals organized by all the ZCCs in their member States covering all the regions of the country. During these festivals, 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.
- (c) During the year 2024-25, Rs. 9843.47 lakh have been allocated/ released (till date) to all the ZCCs for organizing various cultural festivals in the country.
- (d) 55,519 artists/ performers have participated in the various cultural activities/ programmes/ festivals organized by all the ZCCs in their member States out of which 2323 artists/ performers were from Odisha.
