

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2607
ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

**PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF VARIOUS DANCE FORMS OF
KARNATAKA**

2607. SHRI KOTA SRINIVASA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps being taken by Government to preserve and promote the traditional Tiger Dance, AtiKalanja Folk Dance and Bhoota Kola Folk Dance of Coastal Karnataka, which is an integral part of the State's cultural heritage;
- (b) whether Government has any financial assistance Schemes or support programmes for traditional Tiger Dance, AtiKalanja Folk Dance and Bhoota Kola Folk Dance troupes, artists and performers in Karnataka to sustain and promote these ancient dance forms; and
- (c) the manner in which the Government is planning to ensure that traditional Tiger Dance, AtiKalanja Folk Dance and Bhoota Kola Folk Dance receives more national and international exposure and the platforms or events being organized to showcase these dance forms?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c) The Government of India has set up South Zone Cultural Centre (SZCC), Thanjavur and South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur to preserve and promote various forms of folk art and culture including traditional art forms of their member States which includes the State of Karnataka. These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes for which they engage number of artists and performers from their member States including the State of Karnataka who are expert in traditional folk dances. These artists are paid honorarium, DA/TA, boarding & lodging and local transportation which enable them to earn their livelihood.

In addition, Ministry of Culture organizes Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs (National Culture Festivals) in the country where traditional folk artists from all over the country including the State of Karnataka are engaged to showcase various dance forms on a national platform.

Ministry of Culture implements a scheme titled "Global Engagement Scheme" to promote India's rich cultural heritage and enhance India's image in the global arena in a concerted manner. The objective of the scheme is to provide artists practicing Indian art forms, an opportunity to perform abroad under the banner of 'Festival of India'. Under the scheme, artists from diverse cultural fields such as folkart including Folk Music, Folk Dance, Folk Theatre & Puppetry, Classical and Traditional Dance, Experimental/ Contemporary Dance, Classical/ Semi Classical Music, Theatre etc. perform in the 'Festivals of India' abroad. All expenditure on deputation of these artists for performing abroad is incurred by the Government. Ministry of Culture has empanelled 627 artists/groups from all over India under various art forms and artists are selected from the empanelled list for deputing for performing in the Festivals of India abroad.
