

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3413
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2025

PRESERVATION OF TRIBAL CULTURE IN VALSAD

3413. SHRI DHAVAL LAXMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of **TRIBAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to document and preserve the cultural heritage of tribal communities under the 'Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)' initiative in Valsad;
- (b) the research studies conducted on the traditional knowledge and practices of tribal communities in Valsad;
- (c) the initiatives undertaken to promote tribal arts, crafts and folklore through cultural festivals and exhibitions; and
- (d) the role of digital platforms in preserving and disseminating tribal cultural heritage from Valsad to a wider audience?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a): Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends financial support to the 29 State/UT Tribal Research Institute(s) including Tribal Research Institute Gandhinagar, Gujarat that are under administrative control of State/UT Governments under centrally sponsored Scheme "Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)" to strengthen their infrastructural needs, research & documentation activities and training & capacity building programmes, organization of tribal festivals yatras for promotion of unique cultural heritage and for promoting tourism and organisation of exchange visits by tribals, so that the tribal culture practices, languages and ritual are preserved and disseminated. As informed, Tribal Research Institute Gujarat has taken various steps to document and preserve the cultural heritage of Valsad's tribal communities. Traditional dances such as Tur, Dobru and Pawri have been documented and documentary films have been systematically preserved and primers in the Dhodia dialect have been prepared. A documentary film has been filmed to showcase and highlight Vaghbarasi festival, which venerate Vagh Dev (Tiger God).

(b) to (c): As informed, the research studies conducted on the traditional knowledge and practices of tribal communities by Tribal Research Institute Gujarat is placed at Annexure I. Further, the initiatives undertaken to promote tribal arts, crafts and folklore through cultural festivals and exhibitions by TRI Gujarat is as follows:
i. Tribal Craft Trade Fair - November 2024, Ahmedabad (Vastrapur): It provided a platform for tribal artisans from across the state to showcase and sell their traditional handicrafts.

ii. Valsad Artisans at the Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas Annual Fair - November 2024: A variety of traditional crafts were showcased by artisans from Valsad.

(d): Tribal Research Institute (TRI) Gujarat has effectively utilized digital platforms to preserve and share the cultural heritage of Valsad's tribal communities. Various details, literature, videos, and photography have been uploaded to the Adi Prasaran portal/Digital Repository of Ministry of Tribal Affairs. This initiative has facilitated the wider dissemination of tribal heritage, making it accessible to a national audience and ensuring its preservation for future generations.

Statement referred to in reply to part (b) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3413 for answer on 20.03.2025

Details of Research Studies conducted on the traditional knowledge and practices of tribal communities

Sl. No.	Name of Research Studies on the traditional knowledge and practices	Publication Number	Publication year	Language
1.	Tribal Fair in Gujarat	108	1982	Gujarati
2.	Tribal Folk Music	131	1983	Gujarati
3.	Folk songs of Dublas	59	1979	Gujarati
4.	Study of Tribals Folklore	40	1977	Gujarati
5.	Folk Literature of Dublas	139	1984	Gujarati
6.	Marriage songs of Dhodias	254	1988	Gujarati
7.	Socio Religious Movements Among Tribals of South Gujarat	48	1977	English
8.	Traditional laws of Dhodias of Gujarat	191	1986	Gujarati
9.	Traditional laws of Kokna of Gujarat	192	1986	Gujarati
10.	Traditional laws of Chaudhary of Gujarat	193	1986	Gujarati
11.	Uses of traditional medicines (herbals) among tribal Valsad district	253	1988	Gujarati
12.	Development of Dungri warlis	268	1989	Gujarati
13.	Traditional Haat market in tribals	420	2006	Gujarati
14.	Dublas of Gujarat	4	1966	Gujarati
15.	Warlis of Gujarat	107	1982	Gujarati
