

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2317  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2016**

**PROMOTION OF FOLK ARTISTS**

**2317. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:  
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:**

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any mechanism to promote the rich cultural heritage of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has divided the country into various zones/clustres for cultural studies and preservation and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is promoting folk artists in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is formulating any special scheme to promote Bundelkhandi folk dance and folk music and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the funds spent to promote Bundelkhandi folk dance and folk music during the last three years?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) Yes, Madam. To promote rich cultural heritage of the country, the Government of India through its seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) set up all over the country operates a number of Schemes and conducts various activities, inter-alia, Award to Young Talented Artistes, Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme, Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme, Research and Documentation Scheme, Shilpgram Scheme, Octave and J&K Festivals and National Cultural Exchange Programme (NCEP).

(b) Yes, Madam. For cultural studies and preservation there are seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with Headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur, and Thanjavur.

...2/-

(c) Yes, Madam. To promote folk artistes in the country, the ZCCs set up by the Government of India conduct various cultural activities in many States in which the participation of folk artistes is encouraged and ensured.

(d) No, Madam. However, the Government of India operates a number of Schemes and conducts various cultural activities to promote folk dance and folk music including Bundelkhandi folk dance and folk music.

(e) The details of the funds spent to promote Bundelkhandi folk dance and folk music during the last three years is as under:-

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Amount</b> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2013-14     | ₹ 6,77,618/-  |
| 2014-15     | ₹ 16,89,448/- |
| 2015-16     | ₹ 17,78,119/- |