

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-74**  
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

**PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF SHEKHAWATI CULTURAL HERITAGE**

†74. SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH OLA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has allocated and utilised any funds for conducting cultural activities, and preservation and promotion of folk art, folk music, folk dance, traditional crafts and cultural heritage in Jhunjhunu Parliamentary Constituency during the last five years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds allocated and utilised alongwith the locations and programmes, year-wise;
- (c) the details of cultural programmes, festivals, training camps and workshops organised and assistance to artists, heritage conservation and carried out by using other activities carried out by using the said funds, year and location-wise;
- (d) the details of the number of artists, cultural organisations and youth benefited from these activities alongwith the positive outcomes achieved in the fields of preservation of local art and culture, employment generation, tourism promotion and public awareness;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to initiate additional financial assistance or start new schemes for preservation and promotion of the rich Shekhawati cultural heritage of Jhunjhunu; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d) For conducting cultural activities and preservation and promotion of folk art, folk music, folk dance, traditional crafts and cultural heritage of the State of Rajasthan including Jhunjhunu Parliamentary Constituency, the Government of India has set up West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC) at Udaipur (Rajasthan). Rajasthan is also the member State of North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala and North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj. These ZCCs cater to the cultural needs of its member States by organizing various cultural activities and programmes on a regular basis in their member States including the State of Rajasthan.

The grant-in-aid released to these ZCCs to organize various cultural programmes and activities in their member States including Rajasthan during the last five years and current year is as under:

| (Rs. in lakh) |                         |               |               |                  |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| Sl.No.        | Year                    | WZCC, Udaipur | NZCC, Patiala | NCZCC, Prayagraj |
| i.            | 2021-22                 | 653.92        | 530.76        | 984.70           |
| ii.           | 2022-23                 | 1452.49       | 276.51        | 301.51           |
| iii.          | 2023-24                 | 1280.10       | 1067.79       | 3553.24          |
| iv.           | 2024-25                 | 1129.00       | 1129.00       | 3227.66          |
| v.            | 2025-26                 | 1333.00       | 2914.87       | 1288.89          |
| vi.           | 2026-27<br>(as on date) | 347.50        | 217.63        | 417.60           |

WZCC, NZCC & NCZCC engage folk artists from their member States including the State of Rajasthan during various cultural activities & programmes organized by them for which these artists are paid honorarium, TA/DA, boarding & lodging, local transport etc. The details of the major cultural programmes/ activities organized by these ZCCs, the number of artists who benefited, and the financial assistance extended to them are enclosed at **Annexure**.

(e) & (f)        No such proposal is under the consideration of Government.

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**Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 74 for 20.07.2026**

Details of the major cultural programmes/ activities organized by WZCC, NZCC & NCZCC in the State of Rajasthan, number of artists who benefited and the financial assistance extended to these artists

➤ **West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur:**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity</b>                               | <b>Venue</b>       | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1              | Malhar 2021-22                                                       | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 12                               | 2.24                             |
| 2              | Wood, Cane & Bamboo Workshop 2021-22                                 | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 14                               | 77.00                            |
| 3              | Shilpdarshan (Throughout the year) 2022-23                           | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 649                              | 75.98                            |
| 4              | Ritu Basant 2022-23                                                  | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 57                               | 8.85                             |
| 5              | Bhakti Utsav 2022-23                                                 | Raj Bhavan, Jaipur | 37                               | 24.55                            |
| 6              | Lokanurajan Mela 2022-23                                             | Jodhpur            | 109                              | 5.81                             |
| 7              | Chitrangan' Mural Art Camp 2023-24                                   | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 21                               | 16.00                            |
| 8              | Har Ghar Tiranga & Meri Mati Mera Desh Campaign Program 2023-24      | Rajasthan          | 27                               | 6.96                             |
| 9              | Malhar 2023-24                                                       | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 62                               | 17.27                            |
| 10             | Meri Matti Mera Desh 2023-24                                         | Rajasthan          | 168                              | 11.29                            |
| 11             | Qila Aur Khaniya 2023-24                                             | Chittorgarh        | 84                               | 15.00                            |
| 12             | Ritu Vasant 2023-24                                                  | Shilpgram, Udaipur |                                  | 9.03                             |
| 13             | Shilpdarshan (Throughout the year) 2023-24                           | Shilpgram Udaipur  | 482                              | 84.36                            |
| 14             | Shilpgram Utsav 2023-24                                              | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 855                              | 106.70                           |
| 15             | All India Senior Artist Camp WZCC & Takhman 28 Collaboration 2024-25 | Udaipur            | 20                               | 6.15                             |
| 16             | Gulzar-E-Gazal 2024-25                                               | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 20                               | 6.61                             |
| 17             | Guru-Shishya Parampara 2024-25                                       | Rajasthan          | 56                               | 4.13                             |
| 18             | Lokanurjan Mela 2024-25                                              | Jodhpur            | 56                               | 5.43                             |
| 19             | Lord Birsa-Munda National Tribal Festival 2024-25                    | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 179                              | 12.95                            |
| 20             | Malhar Classical Dance 2024-25                                       | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 36                               | 10.43                            |
| 21             | National Lok Mahotsav Lokrang 2024-25                                | Jaipur             | 70                               | 10.50                            |

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity</b>               | <b>Venue</b>       | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 22             | Ritu Vasant 2024-25                                  | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 47                               | 9.80                             |
| 23             | Shilpdarshan Program 2024-25                         | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 750                              | 114.42                           |
| 24             | Shilpgram Utsav 2024-25                              | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 683                              | 101.76                           |
| 25             | Surtaal 2024-25                                      | Jaipur             | 40                               | 6.38                             |
| 26             | Tarang Shakti 2024-25                                | Jodhpur            | 69                               | 5.02                             |
| 27             | Celebration 75 Years the Indian Constitution 2025-26 | Balotara           | 59                               | 5.36                             |
| 28             | Chitrangan Miniature Painting Camp 2025-26           | Udaipur            | 23                               | 7.36                             |
| 29             | Lokanurjan Mela 2025-26                              | Jodhpur            | 72                               | 7.08                             |
| 30             | Lok-Rang 2025-26                                     | Jaipur             | 97                               | 10.55                            |
| 31             | Malhar 2025-26                                       | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 28                               | 5.25                             |
| 32             | Ritu Basant 2025-26                                  | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 64                               | 15.1                             |
| 33             | Shilpdarshan Program 2025-26                         | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 939                              | 136.48                           |
| 34             | Shilpgram Utsav 2025-26                              | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 666                              | 100.29                           |
| 35             | Yatra Pachimalap 2025-26                             | Pali               | 85                               | 11.83                            |
| 36             | Bharav Ji Mela 2026-27                               | Baswara            | 80                               | 5.80                             |
| 37             | Folk of Contemporary Art Camp 2026-27                | RIC Jaipur         | 20                               | 12.30                            |
| 38             | Hatotsav 2026-27                                     | Baswara, Rajasthan | 68                               | 2.62                             |
| 39             | Shilpdarshan 2026-27                                 | Shilpgram, Udaipur | 107                              | 14.96                            |
| 40             | Swar Sudha Classical Dance 2026-27                   | Jodhpur            | 23                               | 14.96                            |

➤ **North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj:**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity organized</b> | <b>Venue</b>           | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Financial assistance given to these artists (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1              | NatyaKaryashala 2021-22                          | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 26                               | 1.75                                                             |
| 2              | Dharohar 2021-22                                 | Balotra, Rajasthan     | 100                              | 6.54                                                             |
| 3              | Lokrang 2021-22                                  | Jaipur, Rajasthan      | 30                               | 4.51                                                             |
| 4              | Maru Natya Mahotsav 2021-22                      | Bikaner, Rajasthan     | 45                               | 2.39                                                             |
| 5              | Meera Mahotsav 2022-23                           | Chittorgarh, Rajasthan | 15                               | 0.48                                                             |
| 6              | Bhilwara Festival 2022-23                        | Bhilwara, Rajasthan    | 15                               | 0.77                                                             |
| 7              | Lokanuranjan Mela 2022-23                        | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 60                               | 5.45                                                             |
| 8              | Thar Mahotsav 2022-23                            | Barmer, Rajasthan      | 30                               | 1.87                                                             |
| 9              | Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke 2023-                       | Siker, Rajasthan       | 15                               | 2.00                                                             |

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity organized</b> | <b>Venue</b>           | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Financial assistance given to these artists (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                | 24                                               |                        |                                  |                                                                  |
| 10             | Rastriya NatyaSamaroh 2023-24                    | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 72                               | 5.50                                                             |
| 11             | SaptrangKaryakram 2023-24                        | Jaipur, Rajasthan      | 30                               | 2.03                                                             |
| 12             | Natya Festival 2023-24                           | Ajmer, Rajasthan       | 24                               | 0.35                                                             |
| 13             | Meera Mahotsav 2023-24                           | Chittorgarh, Rajasthan | 15                               | 0.54                                                             |
| 14             | LokrangSamaroh 2023-24                           | Jaipur, Rajasthan      | 30                               | 6.00                                                             |
| 15             | Camel Festival 2024-25                           | Bikaner, Rajasthan     | 30                               | 3.50                                                             |
| 16             | Nrityam 2024-25                                  | Jaipur, Rajasthan      | 23                               | 2.66                                                             |
| 17             | Lokanuranjan Mela 2024-25                        | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 15                               | 0.91                                                             |
| 18             | Meera Mahotsav 2024-25                           | Chittorgarh, Rajasthan | 55                               | 4.41                                                             |
| 19             | 3 Days Natya Mahotsav 2024-25                    | Alwar, Rajasthan       | 45                               | 2.46                                                             |
| 20             | Lokanuranjan Mela 2024-25                        | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 45                               | 5.27                                                             |
| 21             | Dharohar 2024-25                                 | Bikaner, Rajasthan     | 75                               | 9.83                                                             |
| 22             | International Lok Nritya Samaroh 2025-26         | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 15                               | 1.13                                                             |
| 23             | Meera Mahotsav 2025-26                           | Chittorgarh, Rajasthan | 04                               | 0.54                                                             |
| 24             | Lokrang 2025-26                                  | Jaipur, Rajasthan      | 45                               | 4.50                                                             |
| 25             | Sufi Mahotsav 2025-26                            | Jaipur, Rajasthan      | 55                               | 2.38                                                             |
| 26             | Oont Utsav 2025-26                               | Bikaner, Rajasthan     | 26                               | 2.06                                                             |
| 27             | Thar NatyaSamaroh 2025-26                        | Bikaner, Rajasthan     | 54                               | 3.94                                                             |
| 28             | Lokanuranjan Mela 2025-26                        | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 60                               | 6.83                                                             |
| 29             | Virasat Lok Kala Utsav 2025-26                   | Jodhpur, Rajasthan     | 171                              | 17.74                                                            |
| 30             | Nrityam 2025-26                                  | Jaipur, Rajasthan      | 46                               | 3.04                                                             |

➤ **North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala:**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity organized</b> | <b>Venue</b> | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Financial assistance given to these artists (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1              | National Lok Rang 2021-22                        | Jaipur       | 96                               | 7.74                                                             |
| 2              | Desert Festival 2021-22                          | Jaisalmer    | 30                               | 2.16                                                             |
| 3              | International Camel Festival 2021-22             | Jaipur       | 47                               | 1.99                                                             |
| 4              | Lokanuranjan Mela 2021-22                        | Jodhpur      | 123                              | 10.18                                                            |
|                |                                                  | Udaipur      | 31                               | 1.69                                                             |
| 5              | Tribal Festival 2021-22                          | Jodhpur      | 210                              | 21.32                                                            |

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity organized</b>                                   | <b>Venue</b>          | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Financial assistance given to these artists (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6              | Rajasthan Diwas 2021-22                                                            | Barmer                | 46                               | 3.81                                                             |
|                |                                                                                    | Bundi                 | 61                               | 4.31                                                             |
|                |                                                                                    | Jodhpur               | 45                               | 2.73                                                             |
| 7              | Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav 2022-23                                                    | Udaipur               | 23                               | 0.79                                                             |
| 8              | 781 <sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of Bubdi 2022-23                                  | Bundi                 | 40                               | 1.52                                                             |
| 9              | Theatre Fetival 2022-23                                                            | Bhanswara and Bikaner | 61                               | 1.17                                                             |
| 10             | Folk Theatre workshop 2022-23                                                      | Jaipur                | 12                               | 3.20                                                             |
| 11             | Lok Rang Festival 2022-23                                                          | Alwar                 | 39                               | 1.2                                                              |
| 12             | Theatre Fetival 2022-23                                                            | Jaipur                | 33                               | 0.46                                                             |
| 13             | Meera Maho 2022-23                                                                 | Chittorgarh           | 45                               | 2.81                                                             |
| 14             | National Lok Rang Festival 2022-23                                                 | Jaipur                | 116                              | 9.70                                                             |
| 15             | 7 <sup>th</sup> Bikaner Theatre Festival 2022-23                                   | Bikaner               | 70                               | 2.55                                                             |
| 16             | Pushkar Mela 2022-23                                                               | Ajmer                 | 76                               | 5.35                                                             |
| 17             | Bundi Festival 2022-23                                                             | Bundi                 | 60                               | 4.54                                                             |
| 18             | KHELA-National Comedy Theatre Festival 2022-23                                     | Ajmer                 | 41                               | 1.58                                                             |
| 19             | Cultural programme 2022-23                                                         | Dungarpur             | 16                               | 2.19                                                             |
| 20             | Rang Natya Theatre Festival 2022-23                                                | Jaipur                | 65                               | 2.95                                                             |
| 21             | Dhruvpad Samaroh 2022-23                                                           | Jaipur                | 4                                | 1.50                                                             |
| 22             | Seminar & Art Workshop as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav 2022-23                | Udaipur               | 6                                | 0.60                                                             |
| 23             | Bhilwara Mahotsav 2022-23                                                          | Bhilwara              | 31                               | 1.78                                                             |
| 24             | Camel festival 2022-23                                                             | Bikaner               | 31                               | 2.16                                                             |
| 25             | Baneshwar Mela 2022-23                                                             | Dungarpur             | 47                               | 2.31                                                             |
| 26             | Closing Ceremony of Delphic Games Rajasthan 2022-23                                | Jaipur                | 1                                | 0.50                                                             |
| 27             | Jalor Mahotsav 2022-23                                                             | Jalor                 | 46                               | 3.17                                                             |
| 28             | Loknuranjan Mela 2022-23                                                           | Jodhpur               | 107                              | 8.21                                                             |
|                |                                                                                    | Udaipur               | 30                               | 2.70                                                             |
| 29             | 19 <sup>th</sup> National theatre Festival 2022-23                                 | Udaipur               | 13                               | 0.61                                                             |
| 30             | Performance during Industrial Bussiness Expo organized The SSI Association 2022-23 | Kota                  | 8                                | 3.50                                                             |
| 31             | AbhigayanShankuntalam during Classical Theatre Festival 2022-23                    | Jaipur                | 15                               | 0.74                                                             |
| 32             | 60th kumbha Sangeet Samaroh 2022-23                                                | Udaipur               | 24                               | 3.10                                                             |
| 33             | Thar Festival 2022-23                                                              | Barmer                | 31                               | 1.20                                                             |
| 34             | MELLA 2022-23                                                                      | Udaipur               | 11                               | 0.35                                                             |
| 35             | Amar Kala Mahotsav 2022-23                                                         | Bikaner               | 22                               | 0.61                                                             |

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity organized</b>         | <b>Venue</b> | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Financial assistance given to these artists (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 36             | Bhairav Ji Mela 2023-24                                  | Banswara     | 23                               | 10.01                                                            |
| 37             | Saptrang 2023-24                                         | Jaipur       | 32                               | 1.76                                                             |
| 38             | Three day cultural event and Flute Recital 2023-24       | Jaipur       | 2                                | 2.81                                                             |
| 39             | Lok Rang Festival 2023-24                                | Jaipur       | 124                              | 1.48                                                             |
| 40             | Maharaja Surajmal Samriti Samroh 2023-24                 | Bharatpur    | 46                               | 1.96                                                             |
| 41             | Camel festival 2023-24                                   | Bikaner      | 47                               | 2.31                                                             |
| 42             | Jalour Mahotsav 2023-24                                  | Jalour       | 16                               | 0.84                                                             |
| 43             | Sangeet Samaroh 2023-24                                  | Udiapur      | 10                               | 3.00                                                             |
| 44             | Loknaranjan Mela 2023-24                                 | Jodhpur      | 93                               | 6.31                                                             |
| 45             | 8 <sup>th</sup> Bikaner Theatre Festival 2023-24         | Bikaner      | 22                               | 0.55                                                             |
| 46             | Transgender Dance Music & Literature Festival 2024-25    | Dhaulpur     | 6                                | 2.25                                                             |
| 47             | Sur Taal 2024-25                                         | Jaipur       | 11                               | 2.30                                                             |
| 48             | Tarang Shakti 2024-25                                    | Jodhpur      | 12                               | 1.17                                                             |
| 49             | Rashtriya Lok Nritya Samaroh- Lok Rang 2024-25           | Jaipur       | 120                              | 19.10                                                            |
| 50             | 525 <sup>th</sup> Janam Mahotsav of Meeran Bai 2024-25   | Chittorgarh  | 7                                | 2.00                                                             |
| 51             | Kala Milan Utsav 2024-25                                 | Jaipur       | 3                                | 3.00                                                             |
| 52             | Rankapoor Jawai Bandh Utsav 2024-25                      | Pali         | 57                               | 5.14                                                             |
| 53             | 30th All India Dhrupad Nad Ninad Virasat Samaroh 2024-25 | Jaipur       | 1                                | 1.50                                                             |
| 54             | Camel Festival 2024-25                                   | Bikaner      | 31                               | 2.65                                                             |
| 55             | Kota Mahotsav 2024-25                                    | Kota         | 30                               | 4.08                                                             |
| 56             | Desert Festival 2024-25                                  | Jaisalmer    | 30                               | 4.09                                                             |
| 57             | Lok Nuranjan Mela 2024-25                                | Udaipur      | 30                               | 5.48                                                             |
| 58             | Churu Mahotsav 2024-25                                   | Churu        | 10                               | 0.87                                                             |
| 59             | 63 <sup>rd</sup> Maharana Kumbha Sangeet Samaroh 2024-25 | Udaipur      | 5                                | 2.00                                                             |
| 60             | Lok Nuranjan Mela 2024-25                                | Jodhpur      | 1                                | 1.50                                                             |
| 61             | Sanskritik Programme 2025-26                             | Jaipur       | 3                                | 1.10                                                             |
| 62             | Rashtriya Lok Nritya Samaroh 2025-26                     | Jodhpur      | 46                               | 5.03                                                             |
| 63             | Meera Utsav 2025-26                                      | Chittorgarh  | 11                               | 1.80                                                             |
| 64             | Marwar Festival 2025-26                                  | Osian        | 37                               | 3.93                                                             |
| 65             | 28 <sup>th</sup> National Lok Nritya 2025-26             | Jaipur       | 76                               | 12.67                                                            |
| 66             | 30-day production-oriented Theatre workshop 2025-26      | Jaipur       | 8                                | 2.78                                                             |
| 67             | Camel Festival 2025-26                                   | Bikaner      | 31                               | 3.01                                                             |
| 68             | Desert Festival 2025-26                                  | Jaisalmer    | 30                               | 4.19                                                             |
| 69             | Cultural Event Aayo Basant 2025-26                       | Jaipur       | 10                               | 1.72                                                             |

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the programme/ activity organized</b>         | <b>Venue</b> | <b>No. of artists benefitted</b> | <b>Financial assistance given to these artists (Rs. in lakh)</b> |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 70             | Bikaner Theatre Festival 2025-26                         | Bikaner      | 26                               | 1.62                                                             |
| 71             | Loknarajan Mela 2025-26                                  | Jodhpur      | 47                               | 5.80                                                             |
| 72             | Qawwali Festival 2025-26                                 | Jaipur       | 6                                | 4.90                                                             |
| 73             | 63 <sup>rd</sup> Maharana Kumbha sangeet Samaroh 2025-26 | Udaipur      | 4                                | 1.50                                                             |
| 74             | District Foundation Day 2026-27                          | Hanumangarh  | 32                               | 2.04                                                             |

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