

**Regarding need for restoration and holistic development of Kuchipudi village, the birthplace of Kuchipudi dance, in Andhra Pradesh-Laid**

**SHRIMATI DAGGUBATI PURANDESWARI (RAJAHMUNDRI):** I wish to draw attention to the urgent need for restoration and holistic development of Kuchipudi village in Andhra Pradesh—the birthplace of India's renowned classical dance form, Kuchipudi—transforming it into a global cultural heritage destination. Kuchipudi village, home to numerous hereditary artists and historical landmarks dating back to the 16th century, currently lacks adequate infrastructure and preservation measures. Establishing modern facilities like state-of-the-art performing arts centres, museums, recording studios, and visitor amenities will protect this invaluable heritage. Empowering the local community, particularly women and youth, through skill development in costume-making, jewellery design, and other related crafts, will promote sustainable livelihoods and economic growth. Additionally, digitization of manuscripts, archival material, audio-visual recordings, and cultural artefacts is essential to preserve Kuchipudi's rich legacy for future generations. Recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site would significantly enhance global visibility, tourism opportunities, and international appreciation of India's vibrant culture. I, therefore, strongly urge the Central Government to extend its full support, including financial assistance and necessary infrastructural backing, to turn Kuchipudi village into a global cultural attraction. This initiative aligns perfectly with our nation's vision of preserving heritage, boosting tourism, and fostering inclusive economic empowerment at the grassroots level.