

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2680
ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

**PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF FOLK MUSIC AND
TRADITIONAL PERFORMANCES OF GUJARAT**

2680. SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAIBHABHOR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the efforts being made by the Government to preserve and promote the folk music and traditional performances of Gujarat;
- (b) the details of the financial support provided to folk artists and performers in Gujarat;
- (c) the role of the Government in organizing folk music festivals and cultural events for the promotion of Gujarat traditions; and
- (d) the details of the initiatives to integrate Gujarat's traditional performances into national cultural festivals?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur (Rajasthan), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture, has been set up by Government of India to preserve and promote the folk music and traditional performances of its member States including the State of Gujarat. WZCC organizes various cultural activities and programmes on regular basis in its member States including the State of Gujarat.
- (b) Rs. 72.67 lakh has been provided to 670 artists of Gujarat by WZCC during the year 2024-25.
- (c) Folk artists of Gujarat are engaged by WZCC to showcase Gujarat traditions in the folk music festivals and cultural events organized by them in the country for which they are paid honorarium, TA/DA, boarding & lodging, local transport etc.
- (d) Ministry of Culture organizes Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (National Culture Festivals) in the country where traditional performances from all over the country including the State of Gujarat are showcased at one place. A RSM has been organized at Ahmedabad, Gujarat in the year 2017-18.

Besides, WZCC also organizes Shilpdarshan Mela, Shilpgram Utsav, Lokotsav, Vasantotsav, Ged Mahotsav, Daang Darbar, Maru Mahotsav, Lok Rang, Lokanarunjan, Nareli Purnima, National Unity Day, Pushkar Mela, Lord Birsa Munda National Tribal Festival, Bundi Mahotsav, Matsay Mahotsav, Ranakpur Jawai Dam Festival, Kota Mahotsav, Beneswar Mela, Maru Mahotsav etc. where folk/ tribal art forms like Garba & Talvaar Raas, Daang & Rathwa Nritya, Siddhi Dhamal, Mewasi & Pawari Nritya etc. are presented.
