

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1291
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006
UNESCO CONVENTION
Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has ratified UNESCO convention on protection and promotion of diversity of cultural Expression;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and (C) its impact on cultural expression?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

- (a) The Government have approved the proposal for ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions. The process of ratification has has begun.
- (b) The Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions urges the State parties to provide and protect the diversity of cultural expressions, which is defined as the common heritage of humanity including traditional knowledge system and cultural and linguistic diversity. It is manifested in artistic expressions and cultural values that expresses cultural identities and from the creativity of individuals, group and societies, having a cultural content.
- (c) Under this Convention, the member States agree to adopt measures aimed at protecting and promoting the diversity of Cultural expressions within its territory, this may be regulatory and promotional including financial assistance and other measures. It is also incumbent on the national governments to create an environment, which encourages individual and social groups to create and disseminate their own cultural expression and to have access to diverse cultural expressions within their territory as well as from other countries of the world. It aims to create the conditions for cultures to flourish and to freely interact in a mutually beneficial manner.