

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:201
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014
TRADITIONAL CULTURE
Patel Smt. Anupriya Singh

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether action has been taken to document cultural traditions, spiritual beliefs and practices followed in the country in the context of cultural diversity and heritage, being important pillars of inclusive development and if so the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (b) whether some of the traditions and culture including those of the Eastern Uttar Pradesh particularly Mirzapur have either disappeared or on verge of disappearance and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to protect, preserve, promote, popularise and revive the culture and traditions including tribal culture and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to preserve and revive the dying rich traditions and culture of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM (SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 201 FOR ANSWER ON 22.07.2014.

(a) Yes, Madam. Various Organizations under the Ministry of Culture have taken action to document cultural traditions in the country. Sangeet Natak Akademi documents various performing art forms of India. Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) collects and documents material on art and culture of the country and prepares audio-visual kits which are used to promote the study of a regional culture or a specific art form. Kalakshetra Foundation and Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) also have projects for documenting art forms and cultural traditions. Lalit Kala Akademi regularly documents and publishes books on visual art traditions. Under the scheme "Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms", the Zonal Cultural Centres have been documenting various Art Forms in the form of Audio/video and Literature. Anthropological Survey of India has also worked extensively for documenting cultural traditions in the country.

(b) Some performing art forms from Eastern Uttar Pradesh such as Natua and Karma are declining in these regions in this age of globalization due to changing lifestyles and livelihood and shift to popular means of entertainment. The tribal dances of Mirzapur i.e. Dharkari, Musahari & Vijaymall and traditional dances of eastern Uttar Pradesh i.e. Dhobia, Godau & Chaular art forms are becoming rare. The reason is that they are not very remunerative and the practitioners are gradually decreasing with time.

(c) Yes, Madam. Ministry of Culture implements a number of schemes for promotion, protection and preservation of culture and traditions, including tribal culture. A list showing schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Culture during 12th Five Year Plan is enclosed at Annexure-I.

In order to promote and disseminate folk and tribal art and culture of the country the Zonal Cultural Centres have been organizing/participating in various programmes/activities. The National School of Drama is also taking various steps to protect, preserve, promote, popularize, revive and document the various forms of theatre arts, including traditional and tribal, across the country through the medium of theatre. Separate budgetary provision is made for North-East and under Tribal Sub-Plan.

(d) Many steps have been taken for preserving and reviving the dying rich traditions and culture of the country. For example, Sangeet Natak Akademi has worked for the preservation and promotion of performing arts such as Bhand Pather, Ankia Nat, Prahlad Natak etc. It has given financial assistance to cultural institutions for Kuttiyatam, Bhagwatmela, Rasleela and Naacha etc. The North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Allahabad is putting an effort to revive the art forms that are becoming rare by ensuring their participation in various events from time to time. Kalakshetra Foundation is also focusing in reviving and sustaining lost crafts and traditions of India e.g. revival of Kodali Karuppursaree, Rukmini Devi line of Silk Sarees and Kalamkari art. Under the scheme "Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms", the Zonal Cultural Centres have been documenting various Art Forms in the form of Audio/video and Literature.