

Further, in UNESCO's Representative List of 251 elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage, India has got 9 elements inscribed till date out of which one element is the tradition of Vedic chanting.

Setting up cultural centres

337. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that strong Indian cultural values are vanishing from the Indian youths;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of concrete steps Government is taking or propose to take to launch awareness programmes/drives about Indian cultural values among the Indian youths;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to setup cultural centres throughout the country in the next financial year;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH): (a) and (b) Indian cultural values are embedded deep in the psyche of not only resident Indians but even the Indian Diaspora spread all the world over who take justified pride in their cultural heritage and lasting time tested values. The cultural values are a continuum and the variations with time are natural phenomena. Continuous assimilation of different facets of other cultures act as a catalyst to further enrich our culture and prevent its stagnation. However, no known dedicated studies have been undertaken by Ministry of Culture to fathom the decline of cultural values amongst the Indian youths.

(c) Government has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) having their headquarters at Patiala, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur, Nagpur and Thanjavur. The main objective of the ZCCs is the preservation, promotion and dissemination of the traditional folk arts and culture of the various States/ UTs. The ZCCs endeavor to develop and promote the rich diversity and uniqueness of various arts of the Zone and to upgrade and enrich consciousness of the people about their cultural heritage. The ZCCs have been carrying out various activities and organizing programmes at the national, zonal and local levels in accordance with their aims and objectives implemented through following schemes:

1. National Cultural Exchange Programme
2. Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme

3. Young Talented Artistes Scheme
4. Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms
5. Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme
6. Shilpagram Activities
7. Loktarang - National Folk Dance Festival, OCTAVE-Festival of the North East.

(d) and (e) The following two proposals have been considered by the Government of India:

- (i) To establish Cultural Centres (Main Centre at Jammu and 3 sub-centres at Rajouri, Kupwara and Kulgam) for Gujjars, Bakarwals and Pahari-speaking communities in Jammu and Kashmir following the announcement made by Hon'ble Prime Minister during his visit to the State on the 7-8th June, 2010; and
- (ii) To establish Autonomous Institutions at Srinagar, Jammu, and Leh to safeguard, preserve and promote regional cultures of the three geographically, and linguistically distinct regions of the State of Jammu and Kashmir *i.e.* Jammu, Leh and Kashmir. Besides the head quarters at Srinagar. there will be two sub-Centres, one each at Bhadarwah and Leh.

However both the above proposals are to be implemented by Government of Jammu and Kashmir with financial assistance from Government of India.

- (f) Does not arise.

Beautification of Quli Qutubshah and Humayun Tombs

338. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has spent any amount on the tombs including Quli Qutubshah Tombs in Hyderabad and on Humayun Tomb in Delhi for the beautification and for other works; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the amount spent in the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan period, tomb-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH): (a) and (b) Conservation work of protected monuments of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) including Tombs is a continuous process, wherein repair work is attended regularly depending upon the need of the repairs and availability of recourses. The State-wise details of expenditure on these monuments is given in the Statement.