

**Protection of tribal culture and heritage**

301. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken by Government to protect tribal culture and heritage across the country;
- (b) whether Government had conducted any study to identify vulnerable cultural groups; and
- (c) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) To protect, preserve and promote various forms of folk art and traditional culture including Tribal Culture and Heritage throughout the country, Ministry of Culture operates a number of schemes and conducts various activities on regular basis through its several organizations including seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur.

The ZCCs and other institutions under Ministry of Culture take various measures to protect these art forms by implementing a number of programmes/ schemes, inter-alia, Award to Young Talented Artistes, Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme, Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme, Research & Documentation Scheme, Shilpgram Scheme, Octave and J&K Festivals and National Cultural Exchange Programme (NCEP).

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

**Establishment of ideal libraries at district level in the country**

302. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any plan regarding National Library Mission for upgradation of libraries under the scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allotted, State-wise, by Government in this respect; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to establish an ideal library at district level in each State/Union Territory of the country, if so, the details thereof and the State-wise number of libraries established so far?