- Tribal Forest Dwellers Empowerment Scheme: Under the scheme, NSTFDC provides financial assistance to Scheduled Tribes given land rights under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. Loan upto 90% of the scheme costing upto ₹ 1 lakh can be provided at rate of interest of 6% p.a. This is a new scheme introduced and NSTFDC has requested the SCAs to implement the same.
- Scheme for NGOs/ EVAs: This is a newly launched scheme under which NSTFDC provides loans upto ₹ 50,000/- per member and ₹ 5 Lakhs per Self Help Group (SHG) through NGOs/ EVAs. The interest rate chargeable is 12% p.a. from members of SHGs against which they will get an interest incentive of 4% on timely payment thus making the effective rate of interest to 8%.

Renovation/Restoration of Saptakoteshwar temple

831. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to renovate/restore Saptakoteshwar temple;

(b) if so, the details of items taken up for renovation/restoration;

(c) the estimate of amount likely to be incurred on each of the item;

(d) the source of funding for the project; and

(e) by what date the project is going to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (e) No Sir. Saptakoteshwar temple is not a protected monument under to Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). However, Saptakoteshwar temple is protected by State of Goa. Government of Goa has accorded Administrative approval for renovation and restoration of Saptakoteshwar temple. The State Government is preparing the estimates and work will be taken up under state allotted budget. As intimated by the Government of Goa, the work is likely to be completed before January, 2018.

Preservation of cultural heritage of Himalayas

832. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to promote, protect and preserve the cultural heritage of Himalayas under the Scheme for Development of the Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas;

(b) the State-wise details of the achievement of the scheme thus far;

(c) what criteria are followed to select the organizations for grant of assistance under this scheme; and

(d) what mechanisms are in place to check the misuse of funds granted under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Under the Himalayan Scheme, the financial assistance is provided to the NGOs to promote, protect and preserve the cultural heritage of the Himalayan region spreading in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh through research, documentation, dissemination, etc.

(b) The State wise details of the fund released during 2015-16 and current financial year is as under:

(₹ in lakhs)

State	Funds Released	
	2015-16	2016-17 (as on date)
Arunachal Pradesh	6.00	1.50
Sikkim	10.00	-
Himachal Pradesh	33.53	9.50
Jammu and Kashmir	7.50	14.00
Uttrakhand	32.75	10.75
TOTAL	89.78	35.75

(c) (i) the voluntary organization should be registered as a society under the societies Registration Act 1860 or as a public trust under Indian Trust Act, 1882 and shall have been functioning for a period of three years.

(ii) the Colleges and Universities are also eligible to apply.

(iii) the organisation should have the capacity to undertake and promote research projects. It should have facilities, resources and personnel to implement the scheme for which the grant is required.

(iv) the Colleges and Universities should introduce in their curricula or research course aspects of studies relating to preservation of Himalayan art and culture, in case not already done.

(v) a college applying for the grant should be affiliated to the University.

(vi) the grants will be ad-hoc and of non-recurring nature.

(vii) grants from this scheme will be given only to those organizations which are not in receipt of grants from any other source for similar purposes.

(viii) organizations which are doing good work in the field and having resources for meeting matching funds will be given preference.

(d) The proper utilization of the fund is ensured through Audited Accounts and Utilization certificate duly authenticated by the Chartered Accountant.

Heritage status buildings and monuments in Kerala

833. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of World Heritage Status buildings and monuments approved by UNESCO in Kerala State; and

(b) the expenditure incurred upon such buildings for their upkeep during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) There is no site in the UNESCO World Heritage List from the State of Kerala.

(b) Question does not arise.

Threat of extinction of Indian music and dance forms

834. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the extinction threat to Indian music and dance forms;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to promote Indian music and dance forms at educational institutions and other places; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?