

Circuits (PIDDC) in the State of Sikkim with a total approved cost of ₹292.44 crore requiring financial assistance from Centre. The outstanding liabilities in respect of these projects is reportedly ₹ 151.66 crore.

(b) to (e) States were requested to complete the projects through their own resources, after the PIDDC Scheme was delinked from central support with effect from 2015-16. The completed/substantially completed PIDDC projects in the North Eastern States have been meanwhile considered for funding by North Eastern Council (NEC), within their overall availability of resources.

Promotion of North East Indian tribal culture

2404. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any project has been started in the North East region from 2013 till date to promote the rich North East Indian tribal culture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of funds allocated and spent in the promotion of these projects; and
- (d) the details of new/upcoming cultural project to be started in the North Eastern Region to promote their tribal culture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) As per information available, an amount of ₹23.50 crore has been sanctioned for construction of a Regional Convention Centre at North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC) Complex, Dimapur. Out of an amount of ₹ 13.00 crore released to NEZCC, ₹5.72 crore has been spent towards construction of the Convention Centre. Under Tagore Cultural Complex Scheme, from 2013 till date, an amount of ₹41.65 crore has been allocated and ₹22.50 crore spent for construction of Tagore cultural complexes at Chedema, Aboi, and Dimapur in Nagaland and at Raga and Upper Subansiri District in Arunachal Pradesh.

Government has set up Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in Sikkim, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram during 2016-17 and 2018-19, which, *inter alia*, function as a body of knowledge and research and preservation of tribal art and culture. From

2014-15 till date, ₹86.18 crore have been provided to the TRIs in North East Region to carry out various activities viz. research studies, evaluation studies, organization of training/seminar/workshop, organization of tribal festivals, baseline survey, publications, documentaries/documentation, organization of exchange visits etc., catering to promotion of tribal culture.

In addition, North Eastern Council also provided funds for projects aimed towards promotion of the cultural heritage in the North Eastern Region, including for allotment of land for construction of cultural and information centre in Delhi.

(d) New projects are considered based on proposals received as per the extant guidelines, within the overall availability of resources.

Funds available for North Eastern States

2405. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fund availability in the Ministry for development of North Eastern Region together with the purpose for which the funds were allocated;

(b) whether Government has issued some guidelines to the North Eastern States to expedite proper and timely utilisation and implementation of targeted programmes; and

(c) if so, whether the guidelines are being followed by States in letter and spirit and if not, what remedial actions are proposed by Government in the larger interest of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) The details of funds allocated to different schemes of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region during 2018-19 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Funding and utilization under the different schemes of the Ministry are made as per extant guidelines of these schemes which, *inter alia*, also incorporate instructions about utilization/implementation by the State Governments.