

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1712
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

Protection of Culture Rights

1712. SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which the Government is ensuring that the cultural rights of minorities, indigenous communities and marginalized groups are protected under the law;
- (b) the manner in which the Government is ensuring the protection of intellectual property rights for artists, performers, and creators of traditional knowledge and folklore;
- (c) the details of the initiatives that are in place to protect and promote indigenous languages, particularly those at risk of extinction and the manner in which these are being funded;
- (d) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to address the issue of cultural appropriation, especially when traditional elements of Indian culture are commercialized without due credit or respect for their origins; and
- (e) the manner in which the Government balance the protection of cultural heritage with the demand for economic development, particularly in areas where culture may be at risk of exploitation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e); Govt. of India, Ministry of Culture works for preservation and conservation of cultural heritage and promotion of tangible and intangible art and culture through its attached, subordinate and autonomous organizations. The Government provides equal opportunities for all artists across the country in the field of art & culture.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs has taken various steps to conserve, promote and protect the indigenous tribal languages, culture, tradition and customs. Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Schemes "Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)" and Central Sector Scheme "Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE)" under which 100% funds are sanctioned for various activities undertaken by Tribal Research Institutes and Research Organizations/ NGOs/ Universities/ State Governments/ PSUs. The objective of these schemes inter alia includes preservation, protection, conservation and promotion of the socio-cultural heritage of tribal communities, including tribal languages, customs and traditions and other tangible and intangible heritage.
