

Status and Expansion of Tribal Cultural Centres in India

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The Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala (Punjab), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Udaipur (Rajasthan), Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh), Kolkata (West Bengal), Dimapur (Nagaland) and Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu) to protect, promote & preserve various forms of folk art & culture including tribal culture. These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes on regular basis in the country for which they engage folk/ tribal artists from all over India who showcase their talent during these programmes.

All the ZCCs are fully functional with dedicated infrastructure viz. auditorium, exhibition galleries, libraries and Shilpgram/ Kalagram facilities to host artists and craft displays.

All the ZCCs are actively undertaking the following activities to keep tribal languages, stories, crafts and performing arts alive: -

- Recording & documenting of endangered tribal languages & dialects with the help of locals and language experts;
- Printing books, reports and stories about tribal folklore and oral history,
- Conducting training and demonstration workshops on tribal crafts, folk theatre, music and dance.
- Organising annual Tribal Festivals, Craft Melas and Art Camps.
- To share the unique tribal culture, artists are engaged to perform in other parts of India.
- Supporting tribal researchers, writers & young artists by providing them fellowships, grants and performance opportunities.

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