

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1772
ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PROTECT FOLKLORE ARTISTS

1772 SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any scheme or project to support folklore artists across the country to buy art instruments;
- (b) whether there is any special scheme/ project that provide financial assistance to folk artists belonging to SC/ST communities to protect their art form; and
- (c) if so, the details of each scheme/ project under which the poor folk artists from the marginalised section can apply for financial assistance?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Culture administers the scheme of Scholarship and Fellowship for promotion of art and culture through which scholars and artists including folklore artists are provided financial assistance in the form of scholarships and fellowships to pursue their respective forms of art and buy the specific art instruments etc. Similarly, Sangeet Natak Akademi, an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture, also provides financial assistance to support folklore artists across the country on the recommendation of its Advisory Committees.

(b) Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture, implements Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme (CTSSS) which provides facilities to young talented children in the age group of 10-14 years to study various art forms. Under this scheme, 650 scholarships are awarded every year out of which 100 are reserved for Tribal Culture (ST candidates).

Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India provides funds for Tribal Festivals (at State Level) like Hornbill Festival of Nagaland, Pawl-Kut festival of Mizoram and Medaram Jatra of Telangana through Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs).

Similarly, OCTAVE is a festival organized regularly by the Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) to promote and protect the rich cultural heritage of North East Region. Only folk & tribal artists belonging to the North East Region are specifically provided opportunity to perform during this festival for which they are provided remuneration.

(c) To protect, promote and preserve various forms of folk art and culture throughout the country, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) in the country. These ZCCs organize various cultural activities and programmes all over the country on regular basis for which folk and tribal artists are engaged by these ZCCs to showcase their talents. These artists are paid TA/DA, honorarium, boarding & lodging, local transport etc. to help them to earn their livelihood. These ZCCs also implement a number of schemes for financial assistance to folk/ tribal artists, the details of which are at **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1772 for 22.12.2022

Schemes being implemented by Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs)

- i. Award to Young Talented Artists:** The Scheme “Young Talented Artists” is carried out to encourage and recognize the young talents especially in the field of rare art forms. Talented youngsters of the age group of 18-30 years are selected and given a onetime cash award of Rs. 10,000/-.
- ii. Guru Shishya Parampara:** This scheme envisages transmitting our valued traditions to the coming generations. Disciples are trained under veterans in art forms which are rare and vanishing. Rare and vanishing art forms of the region are identified and eminent exponents are selected to carry out the training programmes in ‘Gurukula’ tradition. The monthly remuneration for Guru – Rs. 7,500/-, Accompanist – Rs. 3,750/- and Pupils - Rs. 1,500/- each for the period of six month to maximum 1 year for one scheme. The names of the Gurus are recommended by the State Cultural Affairs Departments.
- iii. Theatre Rejuvenation:** To promote theatre activities including stage shows and Production oriented workshops, etc. Honorarium Up to Rs. 30,000/- per show excluding TA & DA is paid. The groups finalized on the basis their credentials as well as the merit of project submitted by them.
- iv. Research & Documentation:** To preserve promote and propagate vanishing visual and performing art forms including folk, tribal and classical in the field of music, dance, theatre, literature, fine arts etc. in print/ audio – visual media. The art form is finalized in consultation with state Cultural Department.
- v. Shilpgram:** To promote folk and tribal art and crafts of the zone by organizing seminar, workshops, exhibitions, craft fairs, design development and marketing support to the artisans living in the rural areas.
- vi. National Cultural Exchange Programme:** It can be termed as the lifeline of the Zonal Cultural Centers. Under this scheme, various festivals of performing arts, exhibitions, yatras etc are organized in member States. Artists from other zones/states are invited to participate in these programmes. Participation of artists from the Zone in festivals held in other parts of the country are also facilitated. Zonal centres also participate in Major festivals happening in member States by arranging performances during these festivals where large number of audience get chance to enjoy and understand art forms of other regions. These festivals provide opportunity to taste and understand various cultures of our country.
