

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3228**  
ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025

**WELFARE SCHEMES FOR ARTISTS IN FILM AND OTT INDUSTRY**

3228. SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA:

Will the MINISTER OF CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that many artists, including actors, writers, musicians and crew in the film and OTT industry, lack access to social security, health insurance and formal contracts;
- (b) whether any survey or data collection has been conducted on the working and living conditions of cultural workers in the entertainment sector; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed by Government to extend welfare schemes, pensions or insurance to freelance and independent artists working in film and digital media?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c) Sir, the Government of India administers an act named Cine-Workers and Cinema Theatre Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1981, which has now been subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSHWC) Code, 2020.

The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 extends labour protections across formal and informal employment in different establishments including film, TV, and OTT workers by mandating safe and hygienic sets, regulated working hours (8 hours/day, 48 hours/week with overtime pay), weekly rest, and annual leave. It ensures welfare facilities like canteens, crèches, first aid, and proper sanitation, while allowing women to work night shifts with safeguards such as transport and security. The code also formalizes workplace standards, giving artists and crew safer conditions, fairer work hours, and welfare benefits that were often absent in the entertainment industry.

Also, a scheme namely 'Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists' under the aegis of Ministry of Culture provides financial assistance to artists aged 60 years and above who have contributed significantly in the field of art, culture and letters in their active age or are still contributing for the same. The financial assistance under this scheme is provide @ Rs. 6000/- per month to the selected artists of all States/UTs.

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