

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1299
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2025

WELFARE OF ARTISTS

1299. SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE
SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH
SHRI BRIJ LAL AND
SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK:

Will the MINISTER OF CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which the Ministry is ensuring timely disbursement of assistance under the scheme for Financial Assistance to Veteran Artists (SFAVA);
- (b) the details of artists from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana who have got the assistance under the scheme;
- (c) the specific process by which a Zonal Cultural Centre (ZCC) verifies the artistic credentials of a local artist; and
- (d) the manner in which the Ministry's collaboration with the Ministry of Finance is supporting artists through cooperative structures that improve access to micro-credit, insurance and market opportunities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) It has been the constant endeavour of this Ministry to make continuous efforts to ensure timely disbursement of financial assistance to the selected beneficiaries. The disbursement under the Scheme is however subject to submission of certain mandatory documents. Upon receipt of the requisite documents from the beneficiaries, all efforts are made to ensure disbursal of financial assistance expeditiously.
- (b) The numbers of artists from the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana who have got their financial assistance under the Scheme for 'Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists' during the last three years are as given below;

Financial year	Numbers of artists got financial assistance from the state of	
	Andhra Pradesh	Telangana
2022-23	148	489
2023-24	191	293
2024-25	177	309

- (c) The following processes are being adopted by the Zonal Cultural Centers (ZCCs) to verify the artistic credentials of the artists applicants;
- (i) Upon receiving applications under the Scheme, the ZCC first verifies that all required documents are submitted along with it as per the guidelines. The details of each applicant are then sent to the respective State Department of Art & Culture to confirm whether the artist is a practicing professional and has contributed on the State's art forms.
 - (ii) In addition, the ZCC consults recognized cultural organizations, expert committee members, and senior artists of the relevant art form to validate the applicant's experience, work, and credibility. All supporting materials, such as certificates, photographs, performance records, press clippings, and publications are thoroughly examined.
 - (iii) Based on these confirmations and document reviews, ZCC prepares its recommendations and forwards the applications for final evaluation in the Expert Committee Meeting.
- (d) No such proposal is under consideration in this Ministry.
