

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3056  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO OLD AGED ARTISTS**

**3056. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the old aged artists and scholars in the country are leading a miserable life;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has introduced any scheme for betterment/welfare of old aged artists and scholars in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/released/utilised in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise including Karnataka?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C)**

**FOR CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) The Government is extremely sensitive to and concerned about the improvement of financial and socio-economic status of old aged artists and scholars in the country.
- (b & c) For assistance of old aged indigent artistes and scholars, the Government administers a Scheme namely "Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes" under which financial assistance in the form of monthly pension is provided to old artists and scholars of the age of sixty years and above who have made significant contribution in their fields, art and letters etc. and their income (including income of the spouse) must not exceed Rs.4000/- per month.
- (d) The funds under the scheme are released directly to the beneficiaries by the Ministry or through service provider i.e. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and not State/UT-wise. The details in respect of funds

allocated/released/ utilized during each of the last three years and the current year including Karnataka are as under:-

Financial Year	Funds allocated (Rs. in crore)	Amount utilized (Rs. in crore)
2015-2016	17.75	13.86
2016-2017	18.00	13.17
2017-2018	14.95	15.30 <sup>^</sup>
2018-2019	25.00	14.69 <sup>*</sup>

<sup>^</sup> expenditure incurred by utilizing unspent balance of previous year.

<sup>\*</sup>As on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2018.

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