

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1342  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2019**

**Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artists**

**1342. SHRI M MURALI MOHAN:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of ‘Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artists, (SPMAA);
- (b) the quantum of amount given to each beneficiary under SPMAA;
- (c) the number of film/TV artistes benefitted under this scheme during the last four years in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to expand such scheme to drama artists; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**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 implementing a Scheme namely “Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes”. The objective of the Scheme is to improve financial and socio-economic status of the old aged artistes and scholars who have contributed significantly in their specialized fields of arts, letters etc. but leading a miserable life or are in penury condition. The Scheme has also provision to provide medical aid facility to such Artistes and his/her spouse by covering them under a convenient and affordable Health Insurance Scheme of the Government.

(b) An amount of maximum Rs.4,000/- per month is being given to each beneficiary.

(c) Art form-wise data is not maintained by the Ministry. However, the number of beneficiaries awarded the pension under the Scheme during the last four years in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are as under:-

Year	Andhra Pradesh	Telangana
2014-15	304	90
2015-16	295	90
2016-17	312	103
2017-18	312	103

(d) & (e) The drama artistes are already covered under the Scheme.