

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2086  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2022**

**JOURNALISTS WELFARE SCHEME**

**2086. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:**

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Journalist Welfare Scheme was started for working journalists in the country and if so, the current status of the said scheme;
- (b) the names of schemes launched to protect the interest and health of journalists in the country;
- (c) whether the journalists are not getting financial benefits of Journalist Welfare Scheme (JWS), if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the reasons for the applications of many journalists spent lakhs of rupees in private hospitals for treatment during the Covid pandemic are still pending today under the JWS;
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to approve the applications of expenses of covid pandemic of journalists under the JWS; and
- (f) whether the Government has conducted any review in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND  
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

**(a) & (b) Under the Journalists Welfare Scheme (JWS) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, financial assistance is provided to Journalists or their families all across the country as per the extant JWS Guidelines. Further, Journalists accredited by Press Information Bureau (PIB) are provided CGHS facility for self and family administered by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.**

**(c) & (d) During the last 5 financial years and current year, the Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 13.12 Crore to 290 Journalists or families of journalists under Journalists Welfare Scheme (JWS).**

**(e) & (f) Applications received by Press Information Bureau (PIB) under the Journalists Welfare Scheme for financial assistance from accredited and non-accredited Journalists are considered by the JWS Committee, as per the JWS Guidelines dated 05-03-2019.**

**The Government undertook a special drive for providing financial assistance to the families of journalists who succumbed to COVID-19 and a sum of Rs. 6.95 Crore was approved during 2020, 2021 and 2022 for financial assistance @ Rs.5 lakh/family to each of 139 families of journalists on the basis of applications received and processed under the extant JWS Guidelines**

**.....**