

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2170
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2021**

PENSION AND MEDICAL AID TO ARTISTS.

2170. Shri D.K. Suresh:
Shrimati Sumalatha Ambareesh:
Shri Kumbakudi Sudhakaran:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the Government has introduced the Scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Art and Culture and if so, the objectives of the scheme along with the target set to achieve under the scheme;
- (b) the total number of beneficiaries who received the financial assistance under the said scheme in the form of Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes and if so, the details for the last three years; State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is implementing any scheme to provide pension and medical aid of artistes and if so, the details thereof along with the fund allocation and utilization for the scheme Financial Year 2020-21, Financial Year 2019-20 and Financial Year 2018-19; and
- (d) the State/Union Territory-wise details of such artists benefitted under this scheme during each year of the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes Sir. Ministry of Culture administers the Scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Art and Culture which has five components. The objectives of the components of the Scheme are at Annexure 'A'. No particular target has been defined under the Scheme apart from the objective. The number of beneficiaries selected depends upon the eligible applications received.
- (b) The Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes is not covered under the Scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Art and Culture. The Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes is a Central Sector Scheme and no financial assistance is routed through State/UTs. However, a total of 9476 applicants have received financial assistance during the last three years and current

year (till date) under the Scheme of Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes. The year –wise details are as follows:-

Financial Year	Number of beneficiaries paid *
2018-19	4120
2019-20	3188
2020-21	2000 #
2021-22	168

* Payment of pension is done on submission of requisite documents (Annual Income Certificate and Digital Life Certificate).

Number in 2020-21 decreased due to non submission of requisite documents by the approved pensioner.

- (c) Yes Sir, Ministry of Culture administers a scheme namely “Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes” for improving the financial and socio-economic status of the old artist and scholars who have contributed significantly in their specialized fields of arts, letters etc. in their active age or are still contributing in the field of arts, letters etc. but due to old age they have to lead a miserable life or are in penury condition.

Financial Year	Fund allocated BE/RE (Rs. in crore)	Fund Utilized (Rs. in crore)
2018-19	25	19.73
2019-20	21.15	18.17
2020-21	12.36	8.71

- (d) The Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes is a Central Sector Scheme and no financial assistance is routed through State/UTs. However, the details of Artistes benefitted under the above Scheme during each year of the last three years and the current year are at (b) part of the reply.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COMPONENTS

(i) Repertory Grant

The objective of Repertory Grant Scheme Component is to provide financial support for all genres of performing arts activities like dramatic groups, theatre groups, music ensembles, children theatre etc. and imparting training of artists by their respective Guru on regular basis in line with Guru-Shishya Parampara. As per the scheme, support is provided to 1 Guru and maximum 18 Shishyas.

Amount of Assistance – Guru Rs.10000/- p.m. , Shishya – Rs.1000-6000/-p.m.

(ii) Cultural organizations with National Presence

The objective of this scheme component is to provide support for cultural activities at Large scale National / International level. The Quantum of assistance under this scheme is up to Rs. 5 Cr.

(iii) Cultural Function & Production Grant (CFPG)

The objective of this scheme component is to provide financial support to NGOs/ Societies/ Trusts/ Universities etc. for Seminars, Conference, Research, Workshops, Festivals, Exhibitions, Symposia, Production of Dance, Drama-Theatre, Music etc. The maximum grants provided under CFPG is Rs.5 Lakh (Rs. 20 Lakh under exceptional circumstances)

(iv) Financial Assistance for the Preservation & Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas

The objective of this scheme component is to promote and preserve the cultural heritage of the Himalayas through research, training and dissemination through audio visual programmes. The financial support is provided to the organizations in the States falling under the Himalayan Region i.e. Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. The quantum of funding is Rs. 10.00 lakhs per year for an organization which can be increased to Rs. 30.00 lakhs in exceptional cases.

(v) Financial Assistance for the Preservation & Development of Buddhist/Tibetan Organization

Under this scheme component financial assistance is provided to the voluntary Buddhist/Tibetan organizations including Monasteries engaged in the propagation and scientific development of Buddhist/Tibetan Cultural and tradition and research in related fields. The quantum of funding under scheme component is Rs. 30.00 lakhs per year for an organization which can be increased to 1.00 crore in exceptional cases.

