

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2462
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2022**

PENSION SCHEME FOR PROFESSIONAL AND NON-PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

2462. Shrimati Poonamben Maadam:

Shrimati Angadi Mangal Suresh:

Will the MINISTER OF CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a provision of pension scheme or any other financial assistance for professional and non-professional artists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the current number of beneficiaries, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the measures taken/being taken by the Government so far to ensure that all cultural Artists in indigent circumstances are sanctioned Central Pension?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF CULTURE,
TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

- (a) Yes sir. The Ministry of Culture administers a Scheme by the name of "Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists" (formerly known as 'Scheme for Pension and Medical Aid to Artistes') for providing financial assistance to old aged professional and non professional artists.

Further, Ministry of Culture also administers a Scheme namely 'Scheme of Scholarship & Fellowship for promotion of art and culture' having following three components:-

- (i) Award of Scholarships to Young Artists in Different Cultural Fields (SYA)
- (ii) Award of Senior/Junior Fellowships to outstanding persons in different cultural fields.
- (iii) Award of Tagore National Fellowship for cultural research.

Apart from the above, financial assistance is also provided to professional and non-professional artists through other schemes for organizations such as Repertory Grant, Cultural Function Production Grant etc.

- (b) (i) The Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artistes is implemented by this Ministry to improve financial and socio-economic status of the old ages artistes and scholars including various Folk Artistes (both professional and non professional artistes). The objective of the Scheme is to provide a pension of Rs.6000/- p.m. to the old artistes and scholars (not less than the age of 60 years and annual income not exceeding Rs.48,000/-p.a.) who have contributed significantly in their specialized fields of arts, letters etc. but leading a miserable life or are in penury condition.
- (ii) 'Award of Scholarships to Young Artists in Different Cultural Fields (SYA)'- Scholarship of Rs.5000/- per month is provided to selected beneficiaries in the age group of 18 -25 years, in four equal six monthly installments for a period of 2 years. The candidates should have undergone training under any Guru or Institution for a minimum period of five years.
- (iii) Award of Senior/Junior Fellowships to outstanding persons in different cultural fields – Fellowships are provided to selected Fellows in the age group of 25 to 40 years(Junior) and above 40 years(Senior) @ Rs. 10,000/- and Rs.20,000/- p.m respectively for 02 years, for cultural research. Upto 400 Senior & Junior Fellowships are awarded in one batch year.
- (iv) Award of Tagore National Fellowship for cultural research – Fellowship under this Scheme in two categories viz. Tagore National Fellowship and Tagore Research Scholarship to work on cultural research by affiliation under different participating institutions in 4 different groups. The final selection is made by the National Selection Committee (NSC) specially constituted by the Ministry.
- (c) The current number of beneficiaries as per the last selection under the Schemes for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists” and under the ‘Scheme of Scholarship & Fellowship for promotion of art and culture’ is provided State / UT wise at **Annexure A & B** respectively. However, it is to be noted that all Schemes of Ministry of Culture are Central Sector Schemes and no financial assistance is routed through States/UTs.
- (d) Sanctioning of pension to old age artistes under the “Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists” is a continuous process for which meetings of the Expert Committee are held at regular intervals to identify fresh cases for grant of Artist Pension. Besides, it has been the endeavor of the Government to make continuous efforts to ensure that pension to the selected beneficiaries is disbursed in a timely manner.

Annexure A referred in reply to para (c) of L.S.U.S.Q.No.2462

Sl. No.	States	Number of Artists Selected
1.	Andhra Pradesh	91
2.	Assam	02
3.	Bihar	-
4.	Delhi	-
5.	Goa	-
6.	Gujarat	-
7.	Haryana	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-
10.	Jharkhand	-
11.	Karnataka	03
12.	Kerala	08
13.	Madhya Pradesh	-
14.	Maharashtra	547
15.	Manipur	-
16.	Meghalaya	-
17.	Mizoram	-
18.	Nagaland	-
19.	Odisha	1260
20.	Puducherry	-
21.	Punjab	-
22.	Rajasthan	-
23.	Tamil Nadu	01
24.	Telangana	306
25.	Tripura	-
26.	Uttar Pradesh	01
27.	Uttarakhand	-
28.	West Bengal	32
	Total	2251

Annexure B referred in reply to para (c) of L.S.U.S.Q.No. 2462

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Award of Scholarships to Young Artists in different Cultural Fields(SYA)	Award of Senior/Junior Fellowships to outstanding persons in different cultural fields	Award of Tagore National Fellowship for cultural research
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3	4	01
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	-	-
4.	Assam	27	23	-
5.	Bihar	16	13	-
6.	Chandigarh	3	1	-
7.	Chhattisgarh	11	3	-
8.	Delhi	24	37	13
9.	Gujarat	6	8	-
10.	Goa	2	1	-
11.	Haryana	5	9	-
12.	Himachal Pradesh	-	4	-
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	4	-
14.	Jharkhand	8	10	-
15.	Karnataka	28	17	-
16.	Kerala	20	31	-
17.	Madhya Pradesh	26	23	-
18.	Maharashtra	42	27	02
19.	Manipur	8	16	-
20.	Meghalaya	-	1	-
21.	Mizoram	-	-	-
22.	Nagaland	-	1	-
23.	Odisha	25	30	-
24.	Puducherry	-	1	-
25.	Punjab	4	4	-
26.	Rajasthan	10	10	-
27.	Sikkim	1	-	-
28.	Tamil Nadu	18	9	05
29.	Telangana	3	11	-
30.	Tripura	2	1	-
31.	Uttar Pradesh	36	61	03
32.	Uttarakhand	3	6	-
33.	West Bengal	67	34	04
Total		400	400	28

