

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1110  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024**

**‘Pending Pension for Veteran Artists’**

**1110. DR. MALLU RAVI:**

**Will the MINISTER OF CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that several veteran artists from Telangana State have not received their pension under the Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists for the last two years despite submitting the required documents, and if so, the details thereof, including the month from which payments are pending;
- (b) the details of the total amount of pension pending for veteran artists from Telangana State till date; and
- (c) whether the Government considers expediting the payment of pending pensions to these artists and if so, the time-frame for the same?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM**

**(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

(a) & (b) Release of financial assistance to the selected artists under the ‘Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists’ depends on submission of certain mandatory documents such as, Digital Life Certificate (DLC) once in a year, annual income certificate once in every five years, documents showing receipt of artist pension, if any, from the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Once the requisite mandatory documents are received from the selected artists, which is a continuous process throughout the year, all efforts are made to disburse the financial assistance expeditiously.

Accordingly, the number of veteran artists from the State of Telangana getting Financial Assistance under the scheme during last two years is given below:

Financial Year	Number of Veteran Artist supported	Amount disbursed (Rs. in Lakh)
2022-23	489	268.16
2023-24	293	274.94

(c) Ministry of Culture had entrusted the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) for disbursing the financial assistance to the selected beneficiaries prior to the year 2017. With effect from 2017, the Ministry itself started the disbursal of assistance to the old artists upon receipt of requisite documents from them. To further streamline the disbursement of financial assistance to the beneficiaries of all states including Telangana under the scheme, an MoU has been signed between the Ministry and Canara Bank on 28.06.2023 which has led to increase in the disbursal of financial assistance from Rs. 18.17 crore in 2022-23 to Rs. 28.96 crore in 2023-24.

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