

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2529  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2015**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ARTISTS**

**2529 DR. RAVINDRA BABU:  
SHRI B. SRIRAMULU:  
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:  
SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY:  
SHRI J.C.DIVAKAR REDDY:  
SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:  
SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:  
SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:**

Will the Minister of **CULTURE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new welfare/pension/honorarium scheme for the welfare of cultural artists and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any grant, pension or financial assistance/honorarium/scholarship has been granted to such artists in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT- wise and art-wise amount of scholarship/financial assistance provided to each artist and the criteria fixed for providing financial assistance under the scheme along with the funds allocated and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to increase the financial assistance to such artists under the said scheme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government is considering to give any concession in travelling and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM  
AND  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION**

**(Dr. MAHESH SHARMA)**

- (a) The Ministry of Culture administers the "Artistes Pension Scheme and Welfare Fund" Scheme for the welfare of cultural artists.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) Under the Scheme, financial assistance for the welfare of artists whose personal income (including income of the spouse) does not exceed Rs. 4,000/- per month and who are not less than 60 years of age are considered for financial assistance of Rs. 4,000/- p.m. under Central Quota and with maximum of Rs. 3,500/- p.m. under Central - State Quota, the remaining balance of Rs.4000/- being given by the State Governments. The eligible artists should have made significant contribution in the field of arts, letters, etc. for being considered for financial assistance under this Scheme. A statement showing the state-wise number of beneficiaries is enclosed as Annexure. The total amount of funds allocated and disbursed under the scheme in the last 3 years are as under:-

**(Rs. In Crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Budget allocated</b>	<b>Financial assistance granted</b>
2012-13	15.72	15.22
2013-14	19.35	15.31
2014-15	19.00	17.64

(d) No, Madam.

(e) No, Madam.

**ANNEXURE****State-wise details of Artistes / dependents availing financial assistance under the "Artistes Pension Scheme and Welfare Fund".**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>States</b>	<b>No. of Beneficiaries</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	270
2.	Assam	52
3.	Bihar	46
4.	Delhi	50
5.	Goa	11
6.	Gujarat	6
7.	Haryana	33
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3
10.	Jharkhand	10
11.	Karnataka	744
12.	Kerala	341
13.	Madhya Pradesh	55
14.	Maharashtra	947
15.	Manipur	153
16.	Meghalaya	1
17.	Mizoram	5
18.	Nagaland	3
19.	Odisha	300
20.	Puducherry	6
21.	Punjab	7
22.	Rajasthan	21
23.	Tamil Nadu	251
24.	Telangana	187
25.	Tripura	1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	261
27.	Uttarakhand	15
28.	West Bengal	96
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3882</b>