

Grants to Theatre Organisations

*1910. **Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of theatre organisations have been sanctioned grants by Government recently for production of new plays;

(b) if so, how many theatre organisations in each State Union Territory have been sanctioned grants; and

(c) to what extent?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Twenty organizations were assisted as per the statement given below:

STATEMENT

Name of the State Union Territory	The Theatre organisations assisted during 1960-61 were as follows
Andhra	.. 1
Assam	1
Gujarat	.. 1
Kerala	3
Madras	.. 1
Maharashtra	2
Manipur Administration	1
Mysore	.. 1
Orissa	2
Punjab	.. 2
West Bengal	.. 5

(c) At Rs. 7,500/- per play.

Shrimati Maimoona Sultan: May I know the various considerations that were taken into account by the Ministry while giving these grants to these organisations? May I also know the procedure that was followed by the Government for giving grants to the various organisations? Was it done directly by the Centre or was it left to the States?

Shri Humayun Kabir: This scheme was widely circulated and the conditions were announced, and the awards were given according to the conditions which were announced.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether any applications were invited for the purpose, and, if so, the number of applications received?

Shri Humayun Kabir: 69 applications were received.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether any suggestions were given to these organisations about the types of plays to be produced?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Yes, Sir. In the terms which were announced, it was stated that the troupe had to satisfy some conditions, some of which were that they must be of sufficient standing, they must be registered, they must have produced a certain minimum number of plays etc. They were told that they can get assistance for two plays, provided one was a Tagore play for the centenary.

श्री प्र० सु० तारिक : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मौजूदा हालात के पेशे नजर वजारत कल्चरल एफेयर्स ने इस बात को जेर गीर लिया है कि यह थिएटर भारगेनाईजेशन कौमी यकजहती के बनाने में काफी काम कर सकता है, और क्या इस सिलसिले में वजारत ने थिएटर भारगेनाईजेशन को धाईडिया दिया है कि वह जो ड्रामा पेश करें वह कौमी यकजहती पर हो ?

[स०] یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا موجودہ حالات کے پیش نظر وزارت کلچرل ایفئرس نے اس بات کو زیر غور لیا ہے کہ یہ تھیٹر آرگنائزیشن کوئی ایک جہتی کے بنانے میں کافی کام کر سکتا ہے - اور کیا اس سلسلہ میں وزارت نے تھیٹر آرگنائزیشن کو ایڈیا دیا ہے کہ وہ جو ڈرامہ پیش کریں وہ کسی ایک جہتی پر ہو -

Shri Humayun Kabir: May I answer it in Hindi or English?

Mr. Speaker: What is the question?

Shri Humayun Kabir: His question was....

Shri A. M. Tariq: I will put it in English. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they have given any directive to the organisations to produce such dramas which are based on national integration.

Shri Humayun Kabir: The answer which I gave a minute ago has already answered this.

Shri Sampath: May I know whether the Ministry has set up any council or board consisting of non-officials to select the plays which deserve this grant?

Shri Humayun Kabir: As I said this was the first year during which we introduced this scheme. We laid down certain conditions that the societies must be registered, they must have performed one hundred shows and they must have produced at least three plays. Those troupes which satisfied these conditions were recommended by the State Governments and we gave them the assistance.

Mr. Speaker: The simple question is whether there is any advisory council like the film advisory council, or everything is done by the department.

Shri Humayun Kabir: In this particular case, last year there was no advisory council.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Has it come to the notice of the Minister that certain of these troupes that have received financial assistance from Government have put up certain dramas caricaturing and ridiculing certain political leaders, not excluding the Congress, in the country?

Shri Humayun Kabir: We have given this assistance to troupes which are well established on the recommendation of the State Governments. As for the plays, as I said, this year they have chosen a Tagore play. I do not know of any Tagore play which has caricatured any political party.

Shri Thirumala Rao: He said that they should have two plays and that one of them should be a Tagore play.

On the other play they have no control.

Shri Humayun Kabir: In this particular year no troupe has selected any non-Tagore play. It was left to them, but all of them have selected a Tagore play.

Shrimati Maimoona Sultan: May I know whether Government has any information as regards the number of non-official organisations that are undertaking production of plays other than Hindi plays?

Shri Humayun Kabir: As I said, we had received applications from 69 organisations. We have no record of how many organisations there are in the country. There are any number of amateur organisations also and the figures cannot be collected without an expenditure of time and energy which would not be commensurate with the result.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Some Hon. Members rise—

Mr. Speaker: Every small matter is made much of and we are not progressing at all. It is made out as if the whole world hangs upon theatres. Next question.

Arrest of ex-ruler of Gondal

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*1911.	{	Shri S. M. Banerjee:
		Shri Assar:
		Shri Raghunath Singh:
		Shri D. C. Sharma:
	}	Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ex-ruler of Gondal was arrested in Bangalore under the charge of spying; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):
(a) The Ruler of Gondal was arrested on 17th April 1961 at Bangalore under section 3(b) of the Official Secrets Act;