

1	2	3	4
11.	Punjab	-325.64	-295.91 (A)
12.	Rajasthan	-343.87	-499.92 (A)
13.	Tamil Nadu	-76.74	-256.88 (A)
14.	Uttar Pradesh	-1495.00	-1385.97 (A)
15.	W.B.	-64.49	-227.27 (A)
16.	Assam	-261.46	-411.05 (U)
17.	Meghalaya	-21.66	-42.02 (A)
Total		-6748.68	-6729.98

- (A) Audited  
(U) Unaudited  
(P) Provisional

[English]

**Misuse of Funds by Lalit Kala Akademi**

\*577. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:  
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Artful goings on at Lalit Kala exposed" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated July 2, 1998;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the funds allocated for the celebrations of 50 years of India's Independence;

(d) the details of the programmes organised and the utilization of funds till June 30, 1998;

(e) whether there has been a large scale misuse of funds for the celebration of the 50 years of Independence by the Lalit Kala Akademi;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the outcome of the inquiry, if any, made by the Government to know the factual position in this regard; and

(h) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) A statement is enclosed.

(g) and (h) Do not arise.

**Statement**

During the year 1997-98, Lalit Kala Akademi had a budget of Rs. 103 lakhs for celebrations of 50 years of India's Independence. Out of this a sum of Rs. 41 lakh was allocated for Ninth Triennale India out of which Rs. 28.35 lakh was spent. For Special Exhibitions Rs. 31.77 lakhs was spent out of the allocated sum of Rs. 32.00 lakhs. Against the actual allocation of Rs. 15 lakhs an amount of Rs. 8.22 lakhs only was spent for

the International Artists Seminar. Similarly as against an allocation of 15.00 lakhs an amount of Rs. 14.15 lakhs was spent for the International Artists Workshop (Camp). Thus out of the total budget of Rs. 103 lakhs only Rs. 82.49 lakhs was spent resulting in a saving of Rs. 20.51 lakhs.

The position, as ascertained by the Government on the various allegations contained in the news item appeared in the Hindustan Times is as follows:

Allegations appeared in the News Report	Factual Position
1. Akademi withdrew ten awards and purchase of art works from the exhibits of 9th Triennale India.	Based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee for Lalit Kala Akademi appointed by the Government of India, the practice of giving awards in Triennale was withdrawn. Purchase of art works from those exhibited was stopped as per the recommendations of the Haksar Committee.
2. There were avoidable expenditure on refreshment, (Rs. 5,62,125/-) honorarium to staff (Rs. 35,000/-) and honorarium to the Honorary Director, 9th Triennale India (Rs. 8,000/-).	It is customary to serve refreshment at the inauguration of Triennale. The actual expenditure was only Rs. 57,000/-.
3. An amount of Rs. 3.00 lakh was spent on catalogue of the exhibition Human Form and Art.	The Honorarium paid to staff was only Rs. 37,050/- against the previous Triennale's (1994) expenditure of Rs. 51,347/-.
4. A miscellaneous expenditure of Rs. 1.00 lakh was incurred during the Human Art and Form Exhibition.	An amount of Rupees 8,000 was paid as honorarium to the Honorary Director, as admissible under the instructions of the Department of Personnel and Training dated 21.12.1993.
5. Expenditure on catalogue for the contemporary Art Trends was Rs. 7.50 lakhs.	The Actual expenditure was only Rs. 2.62 lakhs.
6. Out of the sum of Rs. 7.00 lakhs earmarked for exhibition at Peru, more than 50% was spent on pre-exhibition travel.	No expenditure under miscellaneous head was incurred. The actual expenditure was only Rs. 6.49 lakhs.
7. The Akademi spent an amount of Rs. 1.55 lakhs on catalogue of Peru Exhibition.	The actual expenditure was only Rs. 6.49 lakhs.
	For Special Exhibitions including that in Peru Rs. 32.00 lakhs were allocated. The expenditure incurred on the Peru exhibition was Rs. 12.44 lakhs. Of this, Rs. 5.71 lakhs were spent on travel expenses, and Rs. 5.39 lakhs on freight and insurance of the Art works.
	The actual expenditure on this bilingual catalogue (Spanish and English) was Rs. 1.09 lakhs