

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4198
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000
NATIONAL CULTURE FUND
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any National Culture Fund has been created;
- (b) if so, the purpose thereof; and
- (c) the details of assistance so far given from the fund to writers, artists, etc. category-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) Yes Sir, it was launched on 29.3.1997.

(b)&(c) The fund is not intended to duplicate the schemes of the Department which include financial assistance to writers and artists. Instead it is intended to promote private-public partnership for mobilisation of extra budgetary resources, conceptualization and implementation of projects for conservation of the rich cultural heritage of the country. Among the projects undertaken are:

- (i) The upgradation of environs of the Humayun's Tomb complex in collaboration with the Agha Khan Trust for Culture.
- (ii) The restoration and enlivening of environs of Shaniwarwada, Pune in collaboration with Pune Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra State Tourism Development and Pune Industrialists.
- (iii) Child City, Durgapur in collaboration with Children's Academy, Durgapur.
- (iv) Preservation of oral heritage in partnership with Jnana Pravaha Trust, Varanasi; and
- (v) Preservation of Anegundi Village, Karnataka as living heritage village in partnership with Kishkinda Trust. Further the Indian Oil Corporation is setting up a foundation, with a corpus of Rs.25 crores to collaborate with the National Culture Fund for Conservation of monuments and development of infrastructure. To begin with, eight monuments have been identified for conservation and development.