

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2467
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
CONTEMPORARY ART PRACTICES AND FESTIVALS
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cultural development initiative supported by the Government has not substantially promoted the contemporary art practices and festivals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to change/improve the existing initiatives and introduce a bill in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to extend financial assistance to promote large festivals to help develop them into international festivals; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b): Cultural Functions Grant Scheme introduced in November 2009, constitutes a major initiative under which exhibitions of contemporary art, festivals of performing arts and seminars, etc., on important cultural subjects are supported by the Ministry of Culture up to a ceiling of 5 lakhs per project. In the first one year of the introduction of this scheme, 35 exhibitions, 198 festivals and 163 seminars, symposia and other events have been sanctioned for a total amount of 988 lakhs.

(c) & (d): There is no proposal under consideration of the Government, at this stage.

(e) & (f): There is a draft proposal on supporting/participating in Cultural Mega Festivals organized by Non-Governmental organizations, on which the Ministry has invited suggestions from the stakeholders.