

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3565  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010  
PROMOTION OF FOLK ARTS, CULTURE AND ARTISTS  
Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

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

- (a) the efforts being made by the Government to promote folk culture, arts and artists in the country, especially in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether some well known artists are living in miserable conditions in various States of the country due to the indifference of the Government towards folk art and culture;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; State-wise, indicating their name and field of profession; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the folk arts, culture, and artists in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) The Government of India implements schemes for the protection, development and promotion of all forms of arts and artistes including folk arts and artistes across the country, including in the State of Madhya Pradesh. In addition, the Government has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres with the primary objective of preservation, promotion and dissemination of traditional/folk arts of the country.

(b) to (d): The Government of India has a scheme, entitled "Scheme of Financial Assistance to Persons Distinguished in Letters, Arts and Such Other Walks of Life Who May be in Indigent Circumstances and Their Dependents."

Under the scheme, the amount of monthly honorarium has been increased from Rs.2000/- to Rs.4000/- from 01.04.2009. The number of artistes in indigent circumstances benefited under this scheme in different States is at Annexure