

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2476  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR INDIGENT ARTISTS  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new policy for financial assistance to indigent artists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of artists likely to be benefited as a result thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a)to (d) Government of India is already implementing a scheme of financial assistance to indigent artistes, namely the "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".

The scheme has two parts viz.

- (1) Only Central Quota, under which the beneficiary is given a monthly allowance of Rs.2000/- by the Central Government; and
- (2) Central-State Quota, under which an allowance of Rs. 1500/- p.m. is paid by the Central Government and of Rs. 500/- p.m. by the State Government/UT Administration concerned.

However, the Government proposes to enhance the above mentioned amount of monthly allowance in the current financial year.

Presently, 1921 artistes are beneficiaries of the Scheme.