

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:355
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
CULTURAL FELLOWSHIPS
Ganeshamurthi Shri A.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has a scheme to annually award fellowships to outstanding persons in the field of culture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria adopted by the Government for award of such fellowships;
- (d) the details of awardees under the said scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of funds sanctioned and utilized under the said scheme during the said period, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Fellowships are awarded annually to outstanding persons in the field of culture. The criteria adopted for award of fellowships, in brief, is given under each of the respective Scheme as follows:

(1) Scheme for Award of Fellowships to Outstanding Persons in the field of Culture:-

This scheme intends to provide opportunities to persons in the field of creative arts or for revival of our traditional forms of art. The fellowships are awarded for undertaking research oriented projects in the following fields/ areas:

(a) Senior/Junior Fellowships in the Field of Performing, Literary and Plastic Arts:

(b) Senior/Junior Fellowships in the New Areas related to Culture such as Indology, Epigraphy, Sociology of Culture, Cultural Economics, Structural and Engineering Aspects of Monuments, Numismatics, Scientific and Technical aspects of Conservation, Management aspects of Art and Heritage and Studies relating to application of Science and technology in areas related to culture and creativity.

The objective is to encourage analytical application of new research techniques, technological and management principles to contemporary issues in areas related to art and culture. The number of senior fellowships will be 200 of the value of Rs.20,000/- each per month for the artistes in the age group of above 40 years. The Number of junior fellowships will be 200 and these will be of the value of Rs.10,000/- each per month for the artistes in the age group of 25-40 years. In addition, there could be a one time grant up to maximum of Rs. 20,000/- or 50% of the cost of the publication, whichever is less, for publication of selected Project documents. This will be restricted to 20% of the awardees.

Applicant for senior Fellowship should not be the recipient of pension from Ministry of Culture under the scheme for grant of financial assistance to artistes in indigent circumstances. An applicant should not have availed of the same fellowship earlier. However an applicant who had been awarded a Junior Fellowship can apply for a Senior Fellowship, provided 5 years have elapsed after the closure of the earlier project. Graduation is the minimum educational qualification for applicants in the fields/areas listed above.

(2) Tagore National Fellowship for Cultural Research (TNFCR):-

The objective of this Scheme is to invigorate and revitalize various institutions under the Ministry of Culture and other identified cultural institutions in the country, by encouraging scholars/ academicians to affiliate themselves with these institutions to work on projects and research work that are related to the main objectives of these institutions and to enrich them with a new creative edge and academic excellence. Scholars who have sound academic or professional credentials and have made significant contribution to knowledge in their respective fields, as reflected in publications in reputed and referred journals and books authored by them, or persons with significant creative work in any field of art or culture, will be eligible to be considered for the award of the Fellowship. To start with, 15 Fellowships per annum are paid by the Ministry of Culture, to institutions that seek it. A Tagore National Fellow who is from a University, College, Research Institute or Government set-up in India would be entitled to the same pay, including grade pay, etc., which he/she would have drawn had he/she continued in his/her parent organization. Others would be entitled to a fixed honorarium of Rs. 80,000/- per month. All scholars who take up the Fellowship under the Scheme will be reimbursed, on 'actuals' basis, contingent

expenses for making academic trips, engaging research assistants, etc. up to a ceiling of Rs. 2.50 lakhs per annum, during the tenure of Fellowship. The normal duration of the Fellowship will be for a maximum period of two years.

(d): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e): Details of funds sanctioned on Award of scholarships & fellowships during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. In lakhs)

2008-09 (Actual) 2009-10 (Actual) 2010-11 (Actual)

580.98 449.01 709.02

As regards the Tagore National Fellowship for Cultural Research, details of funds sanctioned are not available as the scheme has been implemented only recently.