

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7515

ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012

PENSION TO ARTISTS

Annayagari Shri Sai Prathap;Saroj Shri Tufani;Thomas Shri P. T.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the criteria for awarding pensions to artists under 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;
- (b) the number of artists benefited under the said scheme, State-wise including Rajasthan;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring any amendment/ revision in the said scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, whether the Government would consider the same in the near future?

Answer

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

- (a) To be eligible for financial assistance under the Scheme, (i) a person's contribution to arts and letters, etc. must be of significance. Traditional scholars who have made significant contribution in their fields would also be eligible notwithstanding the absence of any published works (ii) personal income of the applicant (including income of the spouse) must not exceed Rs. 4000/- per month (iii) the applicant should not be less than 58 years of age. This does not apply in the case of dependents and (iv) on the death of a recipient, the said financial assistance may be continued at the discretion of the Central Government after examining the financial condition of the dependents.
- (b) The number of artists benefited under the Scheme, State-wise, including Rajasthan is at Annexure.
- (c) (d) & (e) At present there is no proposal to bring any amendment/ revision in the Scheme.