

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:372  
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013  
PENSION SCHEME FOR TRADITIONAL ARTISTS  
Tandon Annu

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

- (a) whether any pension scheme is available for the artistes, artisans, craftsmen and performers of traditional cultural forms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of funds allocated and the persons benefited under the scheme during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch a scholarship scheme for communities to ensure that the younger generation learn their cultural heritage;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. A Scheme titled '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' is administered by Ministry of Culture for which an amount of Rs. 4000/- p.m. and Rs. 3500/- p.m. under Central and Central State Quotas respectively is granted to artistes/writers who have made significant contribution in the field of arts, letters etc.

The funds under the Scheme are not allocated State-wise. Total allocation of funds for last 3 years and the current year is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Total Funds allocated
2009-10	8.69
2010-11	12.92
2011-12	11.94
2012-13	10.11

(Till 21st February, 2013) A state wise list of beneficiaries under the Scheme is Annexed.

(c) & (d) No, Madam. However, Ministry of Culture administers a Scheme titled 'Scholarships to Young Artistes in Different Cultural Fields'. In a year, upto 400 candidates are awarded scholarships @ Rs. 5,000/- per month for a period of two years.

Further, the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture, is implementing since 1982, a Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme at the national level. The object of the Scheme is to provide

facilities to outstanding talented children in the age group of 10 to 14 years studying either in recognized schools or belonging to families of practicing traditional performing artists for getting specialized training in various cultural fields such as traditional forms of music, dance, drama as well as painting, sculpture and crafts, laying special emphasis on rare art forms in the process of becoming extinct.

The amount of scholarship is Rs. 3,600/- per year per child. In addition to this, actual tuition fee paid for the specialized training to the institution or to the Guru/ Teacher is also reimbursed up to a ceiling of Rs. 9,000/- per year.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (c) & (d) above.