

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2105
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EXCELLENCE
Scindia Smt. Yashodhara Raje

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any monthly financial assistance/honorarium is provided to the senior people who have excelled in the field of literature, art and other similar fields by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any proposal is under consideration to enhance the said monthly assistance; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the enhancement is likely to take place?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing 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".

To be eligible under the Scheme

- (i) a person's contribution to art and letters, etc. must be of significance;
 - (ii) personal income of the applicant (including income of the spouse) must not exceed Rs.4000/- per month; and
 - (iii) The applicant should not be less than 58 years of age.
- (c) & (d) The monthly assistance under this scheme has been enhanced from Rs. 2000/- per month to Rs. 4000/- per month with effect from 01.04.2009.