

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2096
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023**

SCHEME OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PROMOTION OF ART AND CULTURE

**2096. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde:
Smt. Seema Dwivedi:**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be please to state:

- (a) the details of the scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Art and Culture;
- (b) details of the funds allocated for the schemes; and
- (c) the definite steps taken by the Government to give respect to freedom fighters and for Jallianwala Bagh renovation, Netaji Statue, Statue of Unity, Celebrate Gandhiji, Tribal Freedom Fighters etc., the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(a) Sir. The Ministry of Culture is implementing Scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Art and Culture consisting 08 scheme components through which cultural organizations are given financial assistance for the promotion of art and culture. The details of the Schemes, through which cultural organizations are given financial assistance under scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Art and Culture are placed at **Annexure-I**.

(b) A financial outlay of Rs.353.46 Crores is approved for under scheme of Financial Assistance for Promotion of Art and Culture consisting 08 scheme components' for a period of five financial years w.e.f 2021-2022 to 2025-2026, the year-wise details of which is as under:-

F.Y.	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Amount (₹ in Crores)	68.79	71.19	71.16	71.16	71.16

(c) The details of various activities undertaken to give respect to freedom fighters and for Jallianwala Bagh renovation, Netaji Statue, Statue of Unity, Celebrate Gandhiji, Tribal Freedom Fighters, etc., are placed at **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE – I

ANNEXURE - I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2096 FOR 21.12.2023

A. SCHEME OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PROMOTION OF ART AND CULTURE: The scheme consists of the following scheme components:

(i) Financial Assistance to Cultural organizations with National Presence

The objective of the scheme component is to provide financial assistance to reputed cultural organizations with national presence ('not-for-profit' organizations, NGOs, Societies, Trusts, Universities, etc.) with a view to disseminate and propagate art & culture by organizing various cultural activities at National/International level for promotion of art and culture of the country. This grant is given to such organizations which has a properly constituted managing body, registered in India having an All India Character with National Presence in its operation, adequate working strength and have spent Rs. 1crore or more during any 3 of the last 5 years on cultural activities. The Quantum of assistance under this scheme is up to Rs. 1 Cr.

(ii) Cultural Function & Production Grant (CFPG)

The objective of this scheme component is to provide financial support to NGOs/ Societies/ Trusts/ Universities etc. for Seminars, Conference, Research, Workshops, Festivals, Exhibitions, Symposia, Production of Dance, Drama-Theatre, Music etc. The maximum grant provided under CFPG is Rs.5 Lakh which can be increased to Rs. 20 Lakh under exceptional circumstances.

(iii) Financial Assistance for the Preservation & Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas

The objective of this scheme component is to promote and preserve the cultural heritage of the Himalayas through research, training and dissemination through audio visual programmes. The financial support is provided to the organizations in the States falling under the Himalayan Region i.e. Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. The quantum of funding is Rs. 10.00 lakhs per year for an organization which can be increased to Rs. 30.00 lakhs in exceptional cases.

(iv) Financial Assistance for the Preservation & Development of Buddhist/Tibetan Organization

Under this scheme component financial assistance is provided to the voluntary Buddhist/Tibetan organizations including Monasteries engaged in the propagation and scientific development of Buddhist/Tibetan Cultural and tradition and research in related fields. The quantum of funding under scheme component is Rs. 30.00 lakhs per year for an organization which can be increased to 1.00 crore in exceptional cases.

(v) Financial Assistance for Building Grants including Studio Theatres

The objective of this scheme component is to provide financial support to NGO, Trust, Societies, Govt. Sponsored bodies, University, College etc. for creation of Cultural infrastructure (i.e. studio theatre, auditorium, rehearsal hall, classroom etc.) and provision of facilities like electrical, air conditioning, acoustics, light and sound systems etc. Under this scheme component, the maximum amount of grant is up to Rs.50 Lakh in metro cities and up to Rs.25 Lakh in non- metro cities.

(vi) Financial Assistance For Allied Cultural Activities

The objective of sub-component is to provide financial assistance to all eligible organizations for creation of assets for enhancing the audio-visual spectacle for allied cultural activities to give firsthand experience of live performances on regular basis and during festivals in open/closed areas/spaces where large numbers of tourists/visitors come regularly and during major events/festivals the number of visitors swells to lakhs. Grants are given to projects for procurement of audio-video equipment etc. Maximum assistance under the scheme component, including applicable duties & taxes and also Operation & Maintenance (O&M) costing for five years, will be as under:- (i) Audio: Rs.1.00 crore; (ii) Audio+Video: Rs. 1.50 crore.

(vii) Scheme for Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage:

This scheme was launched by the Ministry of Culture in 2013 for safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage and diverse cultural traditions of the country with the objective of reinvigorating and revitalizing various institutions, groups, NGOs, etc. so that they may engage in activities/projects for strengthening, protecting, preserving and promoting the rich intangible cultural heritage of India.

B. Domestic Festivals and Fairs

The objective of this scheme is to provide assistance for holding the 'Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs' organized by Ministry of Culture.

ANNEXURE – II

ANNEXURE - II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2096 FOR 21.12.2023

(i) Respect to Freedom Fighters:-

Ministry of Culture has commemorated the birth anniversaries of number of freedom fighters in the past under the scheme of Centenaries and Anniversaries e.g. birth centenary of Rani Gaidinliu(2015-16); 150th birth anniversary of LalaLajpat Rai(2015-16); 125th birth anniversary of Alluri Sitarama Raju(2022-23).

Besides this, Ministry of Culture has organized events on the freedom movement under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM).

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav has commemorated and felicitated the sacrifice of freedom fighters through multiple channels. Two of them were through the narratives of Unsung heroes and Digital District Repositories. More than 24 thousand stories have been uploaded on these two categories. Apart from these, multiple events under Qilaaur Kahaniya and Kalanjali have celebrated our freedom fighters like Mangal Pandey, Rani Lakshmibai, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, and many others. A special booklet focusing on Women freedom fighters was also released by Amar Chitra Katha.

Under the campaign of Krantiteerth, more than 500 events celebrating unsung heroes from various corners of the country were held where awareness drives regarding the unsung heroes were conducted.

On the 9th of August 2023, a nationwide campaign titled "Meri MaatiMeraDesh" was launched to honour the Veers who sacrificed their lives for the nation as well as to pay tribute to the soil and motherland.

The closing ceremony of AKAM was held in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 31st October 2023 at Vijay Chowk, Kartvya Path. More than 2 lakhs Shilaphalakams were established during this campaign. More than 3 crore people took the Panch Pran Pledge and showcased their dedication towards the nation. More than 2 lakhs AmritVatikas were created, and over 2 crore tree saplings were planted across the country. Ceremonies and commemorations were organized for 2,18,856 freedom fighters. More than 4 crore people uploaded their selfies under Meri MaatiMeraDesh Campaign 2023. More than 8500 Kalash(S) were brought to Delhi from 7000+ blocks of the country.

(ii) Jallianwala Bagh Renovation:-

As per the decision of National Implementation Committee it was decided to take up renovation, refurbishment and beautification of JallianwalaBagh National Memorial at Amrtisar. The project was implemented by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

through National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC). Funds for the renovation of the above project were released by Ministry of Tourism.

(iii) Netaji's Statue:-

Netaji's Statue made in granite stone has been installed at the Canopy near India Gate to commemorate 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The Statue was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8th September, 2022. The Statue cost Rs 20.40 Crore.

(iv) Statue of Unity:-

Statue of Unity on Sardar Patel in Gujarat has been installed by State Government of Gujarat. This Ministry has however released token amount of Rs 200 cr as central assistance against the above project.

(v) Celebrations on Gandhi Ji:-

Government of India celebrated 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi from 2nd October 2018 to 2nd October 2020 at national and international level. Large number of cultural programmes associated with Gandhi Ji were organized during the commemoration. National Committee headed by Hon'ble President of India and Executive Committee headed by Hon'ble Prime Minister were constituted for deciding various programmes and activities under the commemoration. Commemorative silver coin of Rs.150 and commemorative postage stamp were released by Hon'ble Prime Minister at a function held at Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad. Logo on the above commemoration was also launched by Hon'ble President of India. Gandhi portal has also been set up on life of Mahatma Gandhi.

As a tribute to the ideals espoused by Gandhiji, the Government of India launched the Gandhi Peace Prize in 1995 on the occasion of 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhiji. The award carries an amount of Rs.1 crore and a citation.

(vi) Tribal freedom fighters:-

Birth anniversaries on tribal freedom fighters have been celebrated under the scheme of Centenaries and Anniversaries and events were organized on tribal freedom fighters under the commemoration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Akam has spotlighted programs and people of Tribal origin. The birth anniversary of Birsa Munda was declared as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas under the aegis of AKAM in 2021. Since then, programs led by the Hon'ble PM, President, and other Hon'ble dignitaries have happened across diff parts of India.

Ministry of culture has done the following towards promotion of cultural heritage specially of tribal and others.

In partnership with Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, the largest university in the world with tribal students, has organized two big programs. The first one was celebration of birth anniversary of Birsa Munda as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas. Another one

was celebration of first Janjatiya Khel Mahotsav. This program focused on celebrating sporting traditions in tribal communities. Celebrating and felicitating tribal sportspersons and achievers through competitions. Academic conference on the unique context and tradition of tribal sports culture in India.

The Ministry of Culture has also undertaken an initiative to document the contribution of unsung heroes of freedom struggle. Many of whom belong to tribal communities like Rani Gaidinliu, Haipou Jadonang, Tirok Sing. There was a Special edition of Amar Chitra Katha dedicated to the contribution of tribal freedom fighters.

Many programs have celebrated the sacrifice of Tirok Sing. Multiple programs dedicated to Tirok Sing have been undertaken under the aegis of AKAM. The caves where Tirok Sing hid from the British (KremTirok) have been specially preserved and spotlighted under this initiative.

Revolutionaries such as Alluri Sitarama Raju have been spotlighted with high level programs and yearlong commemoration initiatives. (Press release)

Special outreach through in-flight announcements have also been part of AKAM initiatives to spotlight unsung heroes of freedom struggles many of whom are from tribal backgrounds.

(vii) Under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana (SSSY) administered by Ministry of Home Affairs, pension is granted to those freedom fighters who fulfill the eligibility criteria and evidentiary requirements and provide requisite documents and duly recommended by the concerned State Government/UT Administration as required under the Scheme which covers 40 movements. Further, the Hon'ble President of India conventionally hosts 'AT HOME' function in Rashtrapati Bhavan on 09th August every year on the anniversary of the Quit India Movement, to honour the central freedom fighters receiving pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana (SSSY). From the year 2019 onward, they are being honoured by the State Govts/UT Administrations on behalf of Hon'ble President of India. As a gesture of respect, Angavastram & Shawls are being presented to the revered freedom fighters during the occasion. Also, on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM), Ministry of Home Affairs has conducted 'Know your Freedom Fighter/Family (KYFF/F)' initiative during which the officials of disbursing banks visited the homes of freedom fighters/families who have been receiving samman pension under SSSY and honoured them.
