

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7028  
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2000  
VRAHAD SAHITYAK AUR KALAKAR MANDHAN YOJANA  
UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL

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

- (a) whether the Government have received any request to increase the annual income limit from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 50,000 under the 'Vrahad Sahityak Aur Kalakar Mandhan Yojana';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this limit has been revised thrice;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether various artists are deprived of the benefits of this scheme due to keeping low annual income limit;
- (f) by when the income limit is expected to be increased; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefore?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CULTURE ( SHRI ANANTH KUMAR )

(a) to (g) The Department of Culture administers a Scheme under which financial assistance is extended to persons distinguished in letters, arts and such other walks of life who may be in indigent circumstances and their dependents. The assistance per month per artiste is Rs. 2000/- In order to become eligible, an artiste should have attained an age of 58 years and his/her monthly income from all sources should not exceed Rs. 2000/- per month. The Govt. have already effected a raise in the assistance level from Rs. 1500/- per month to Rs. 2000/- per month w.e.f. 1.10.98. Since the revision in the level of assistance has recently been made, there is no proposal to revise these ceilings further.