

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:431

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005

CORRUPTION IN SENDING ARTISTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Meghwal Shri Kailash

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that corruption is prevalent in sending the teams of artists to foreign countries for taking part in cultural programmes organised by Regional Cultural Centres and sometimes some persons are included in the teams who are not at all concerned with these arts;

(b) if so, whether some artists going to take part in these programmes do not return with the team;

(c) if so, the number of such cases which have come to the noticed of the Government during the last two years; and

(d) the action taken against the officials found guilty?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (d) The attention of the Government has been drawn to one case involving three officials- Shri P.S. Sareen, erstwhile Under Secretary with Ministry of Culture and currently Deputy Secretary in Department of Post, Shri Rajinder Sharma, Protocol Assistant with Ministry of Culture on contract basis and Shri A.K. Rajput, Assistant.

Ministry of Culture has terminated the services of Shri Rajinder Sharma and placed Shri A.K. Rajput under suspension pending completion of enquiry. Department of Post has been informed to take suitable action against Shri P.S. Sareen.