

ORDER

Subject:- Continuation of the erstwhile Financial Assistance Scheme for the Artists, with the new name **“Artistes Pension Scheme and Welfare Fund”** from the 11th Five Year Plan to the 12th Plan

Sanction of the President is hereby accorded to the continuation of 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” **now renamed as “Artistes Pension Scheme and Welfare Fund”** during the XII Five Year Plan (2012-17) with an outlay of Rupees 94.00 crore during the Plan period. The renamed Scheme shall have a fresh component of National Welfare Fund (in replacement of the earlier provision relating to Medical Aid) while retaining the other features of the old Financial Assistance Scheme.

2. The Assistance under the Pension Scheme is provided by the Central Government in the form of monthly allowance which will be Rs. 4000/- for the Pension granted under Central Quota and Rs.3,500/- under Centre-State Quota. Those granted pension under Centre-State Quota, is provided Rs.500/- per month by their respective State Governments against the Amount of Rs.3500/- per month provided by the Central Government. Besides, financial help subject to the prescribed limit, in case of hospitalization and other exigencies is provided out of the National Welfare Fund, to the Artistes already covered under Pension Scheme and the spouse/ dependents after the Artistes death. Features of the Scheme in detail are indicated at the Annexure to this Order. Disbursement of the Financial Assistance to the Artistes under the Scheme shall be done by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), in terms of the Memorandum of Agreement dated 11.12.2009 signed between the Ministry of Culture and the LIC.

3. The expenditure involved will be debited to

- (i) Demand No. 19 Major Head “2205” Art and Culture -00.102 Promotion of Arts & Culture (Minor Head) -04-Other Scheme-04.80 Artists Pension Scheme 04.80.50 – other charges (Plan).
- (ii) Demand No. 19 Major Head “2205” Art and Culture -00.796 Tribal Area Sub Plan (Minor Head) 25 – Artists’ Pension Scheme 25.00.31 – Grant in aid General (Plan).

4. The issues with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division (IFD), Ministry of Culture vide their Dy. No. 3065 dated 20.11.2013.

(N.P. Shukla)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:-

- 1. Secretary, Planning Commission, Yojana Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 2. Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi.
- 3. Addl. Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of Culture, Room No. 173, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Copy also to:-

- 1. PS to Hon’ble Culture Minister
- 2. PSO to Secretary (Culture)
- 3. PPS to JS (Com), Ministry of Culture
- 4. PA to DS (IFD)

