

## **NEWS ITEM**

Ministry of Minority affairs, Government of India implements a Central Sector Scheme “USTTAD” (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts / Crafts for Development) . The Schemes aims at capacity building and updating the traditional skills of Master craftsman / Artisans , documentations of identified traditional arts / crafts of minorities, set standards for traditional skills, training of minority youths in various identified traditional arts / crafts through master craftsman ; and develop national and international market linkages.

The Ministry of Minority affairs have introduced “USTTAD” Samman awards for the minority crafts persons (Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Biddhist, Parsi and Jain) under the Scheme “USTTAD”.

Application with duly filled in proforma are invited from minority craft persons all over India including UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands for consideration / selection of USTTAD Samman- 2018. The eligibility for USTTAD Samman are as under :-

- I. All crafts persons belonging to six notified minority communities namely Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Biddhist, Parsi and Jain residing in India and who are above the age of 30 years and having 10 years experience in the field of Arts and Crafts as on 31/12/2017.
- II. Should be actively involved in the practice of the chosen crafts,
- III. Special consideration for languishing, dying crafts and innovative products will also be given while selecting the craftsman and their crafts.

Details on the above available in the website of MoMA i.e [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in) and last date of submission of application for USTTAD Samman is 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2018. For more information may please visit Directorate of Industries, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, and Port Blair.

Director of Industries