

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1192**  
ANSWERED ON- 05/12/2024

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ICCR**

1192#. SHRI SANJAY SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) the financial assistance being given to the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) for cultural diplomacy programmes and the year-wise details thereof for the last five years; and

(b) the efforts made by Government to enhance India's cultural strength through global programs and partnerships?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

(a) ICCR receives Grants-in-Aid from Ministry of External Affairs every year for cultural diplomacy of ICCR. The year-wise details for the last five years are given below:

(Amount in Crores)

Sl.No.	Financial Year	Grants-in-Aid received from MEA
1.	2019-20	250.00
2.	2020-21	217.50
3.	2021-22	204.16
4.	2022-23	320.00
5.	2023-24	303.38

(b) The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) promotes Indian culture worldwide through its Cultural Centres and Missions/Posts abroad. Activities conducted by them include *inter-alia*, teaching of Yoga, Dance, Music (vocal and instrumental), Sanskrit and Hindi; organising/supporting Conferences/ Seminars/ Workshops in different fields of Indian culture; supporting Chairs of Indian Studies in foreign universities; gifting of busts/statues of Mahatma Gandhi and other national icons; exchanging visual arts exhibitions; celebrating International Day of Yoga, Ayurveda Day and Indian festivals; promoting Indian films; hosting visitors under various Visitors Programmes (Academic/Distinguished/Important/Gen.Next Democracy Network); and sponsoring scholarships to foreign students under different scholarship schemes. ICCR has also concluded MoUs with various State Governments to promote their culture abroad and to facilitate cultural exchanges with foreign countries. ICCR also hosts incoming foreign cultural troupes to enable Indians to discover various foreign cultures.

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