

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3092  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2018**

**CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES**

**3092.SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR :**

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of cultural exchange programmes to boost ties with other nations;
- (b) whether there is any potential for exchange programmes of experts for production and productivity enhancement of commercial crops; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to tap this potential?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE  
AND  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

**(a)** Government has signed Cultural Agreement/Cultural Exchange Programmes with 132 countries to boost ties with other nations and to promote Indian Culture and Indian artists abroad.

**(b) & (c)** The Government has signed 88 Memorandum of Understandings(MOU) with 73 countries for cooperation in the field of agriculture and its allied sectors. The areas of cooperation in these MOUs inter-alia include enhancing investment in agriculture, cooperation in agriculture research and development, increasing productivity, post-harvest management, value addition/food processing, plant protection, animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries, enhancing agriculture trade. The cooperation also includes mutual exchange visits and training program for Scientist/Experts, mutual exchange of technical expertise, exchange of germ-plasm, transfer of technology, setting up of centres of excellence in different fields to demonstrate new technologies etc.

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