

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.577
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2020

ACHIEVEMENT OF ICCR

577. DR. AMOLRAMSING KOLHE:
SHRI GAUTAM SIGAMAANI PON:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the work being done through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) along with the details of the target set and the achievements made during the last three years;
- (b) the details of the number of foreign students studying in Indian Universities on scholarship provided by ICCR, at present, State/UT-wise during the last three years;
- (c) the details of the expenditure incurred on these students during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether ICCR has a special grievance cell for redressal of complaints of these foreign students;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by ICCR on these complaints; and
- (f) whether the Government is planning to make some amendments in this scholarship scheme and planning to open more regional offices and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

- (a) i. Indian Council for Cultural Relations has been engaged in enhancement of India's cultural profile worldwide through its programmes as teaching of Yoga, Dance, Music and Hindi abroad; sponsoring visits of performing art groups, organizing Indian festivals abroad; hosting foreign cultural groups; organizing/supporting conferences/seminars/workshops in various fields including Indology, Yoga & Ayurveda; supporting Chairs of Indian Studies in various foreign universities for promotion of India studies; offering scholarships to foreign students to study in India; hosting eminent academicians/distinguished visitors in India; promotion of Hindi overseas; gifting of busts/statues of Mahatma Gandhi and other national heroes; exchanging visual art exhibitions; celebration of International Day of Yoga. ICCR carries out these activities with the help of its 38 Cultural Centres, all Indian Missions and Posts overseas and 19 Regional Centres in India.
- ii. ICCR's activities are need-based and demand driven depending on (a) Missions' annual action plan and priorities indicated by Heads of Missions and (b) specific directives given by Ministry of External Affairs. Some of the important activities and events carried out in recent years include: World Sanskrit Award given to the nationals of Thailand, USA & Canada; Distinguished Indologist Award to the citizens of China & Japan; and Distinguished Alumni Award given to 22 ICCR alumni. ICCR hosted Guangzhou Ballet from China, Battery Dance from USA, Africa Festival and Russian Cultural Festival among others. Celebrated

Singhast Mahakumbh Mela in Ujjain during 2016-17 and coordinated visit of 186 delegates of different countries to witness Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj during 2018-19. Special efforts were made to sponsor cultural groups from North East Region of India overseas. Details of other activities in last three years are at Annexure 'I'.

(b) The detail of the number of foreign students studying in Indian Universities on scholarship provided by ICCR, at present, State / UT-wise during last three years is at Annexure 'II'.

(c) Details of expenditure incurred on these students during the last three years State/ UT-wise are at Annexure 'III'.

(d) Yes. The grievances of foreign students are under supervision of Director General, ICCR.

(e) As and when the grievance is received, urgent redressal under intimation to the complainant is done on priority. At present there is no grievance pending.

(f) The amendments are made to the scholarship schemes from time to time on the basis of feedback received from various sources. There is no proposal as of now to open new Regional Offices.

ANNEXURE -I

Details of activities during the last three years 2016-2019

S.N	Activities	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Number of MoUs supporting chairs of Indian studies in various foreign universities	74	79	66
2.	Number of eminent academicians/ distinguished visitors hosted by ICCR	14	17	14
3.	Number of bronze bust/ statues of national heroes gifted	11	7	13
4.	Number of countries to which financial assistance provided for celebration of International Day of Yoga	120	128	172
5.	Number of foreign groups hosted for cultural programmes in various states of India	53	66	54
6.	Number of groups sponsored to participate in various prestigious International Festivals and Events abroad	166	175	118
7.	Number of Exhibitions organised abroad	20	7	8
8.	Number of Exhibitions hosted in India	2	11	4

ANNEXURE -II**State/UT-wise Details of No. of Students**

S. N.	Regional Offices ICCR	State/Union Territory	No. of Students			
			2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 till Dec. 2020
1	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana	1294	1194	1000	878
2	Guwahati	Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh	85	89	73	95
3	Shillong		79	94	47	36
4	Patna		Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand	4	11	14
5	Delhi (HQ.	Delhi NCR, Haryana, Uttarakhand	471	369	424	475
6	Goa	Goa	124	236	225	290
7	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	844	778	690	662
8	Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir	3	1	4	7
9	Bengaluru	Karnataka	1287	1235	963	673
10	Trivandrum	Kerala	115	118	116	160
11	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	122	113	94	57
12	Mumbai	Maharashtra	65	113	138	193

13	Pune		1003	759	774	1039
14	Bhubaneshwar	Odisha	67	69	102	150
15	Chandigarh	Punjab, Himachal Pradesh	464	442	416	377
16	Jaipur	Rajasthan	47	48	55	66
17	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	77	102	156	193
18	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	70	74	50	56
19	Lucknow		129	121	143	112
20	Kolkata	West Bengal, Sikkim	219	258	309	372
		Total	6569	6224	5793	5915

ANNEXURE -III

State/UT-wise Details of Expenditure

S. N.	Regional Offices ICCR	State/Union Territory	Year-wise Expenditure			
			2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 till December, 2020
1	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana	325039565	293045771	304626756	212779172
2	Guwahati	Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh	17993051	18608562	22569959	19078499
3	Shillong		12296171	15921522	17209308	9100874
4	Patna		Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand	868785	2232811	2109147
5	HQRS	Delhi, Haryana, Uttarakhand	96854762	120372390	221365554	155364737
6	Goa	Goa	19458489	34822541	49381219	55583588
7	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	177061818	160469320	184867570	100393227
8	Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir	485740	175500	355002	1153650
9	Bengaluru	Karnataka	281880571	245178738	323566407	219680871
10	Trivandrum	Kerala	25343827	26442283	41453785	40792737
11	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	30163819	28005920	30718282	9127404
12	Mumbai	Maharashtra	11133022	12447744	34712160	36590001
13	Pune		140224607	107052267	180413076	131922583
14	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	15460696	11436665	31408396	34551960
15	Chandigarh	Punjab, Himachal Pradesh	75374615	77948526	100797773	105523145
16	Jaipur	Rajasthan	14923255	14073098	18162046	14631446
17	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	19836132	16127475	70717098	34533530
18	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	20929673	9517114	11658018	13579777
19	Lucknow		10322641	23264910	35319771	37990904
20	Kolkata		West Bengal, Sikkim	37778947	40823903	72900476
Total			1333430186	1257967060	1754311803	1310199227
