

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 147
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2021**

INTER-CULTURAL INTERACTIONS

† 147. SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Inter-Cultural interactions carried out by the Government with different nations in the world during the last three years;**
- (b) whether any concrete impact or positive outcome has been noticed due to the said interactions;**
- (c) whether the said interactions helped to promote Indian Culture;**
and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR CULTURE, TOURISM AND
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION**

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): The list of major inter-cultural interactions carried out during the last three years is enclosed at Annexure-I.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), an autonomous organization under Ministry of External Affairs also foster and strengthen cultural relations between India and other countries. The list of activities is enclosed at Annexure II.

(b) to (d): Yes. These inter cultural interactions have been able to popularize and create interest about Indian art and culture and have fostered closer friendship and cultural contact between India and other countries.

MAJOR INTER-CULTURAL INTERACTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT WITH DIFFERENT NATIONS DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

1. During the last three years the Cultural Exchange Programmes have been signed with the following 35 countries

Cambodia, Guyana, Jordan, Mauritius, Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece, South Korea, Seychelles, Rwanda, Uganda, Ghana, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Tajikistan, Zimbabwe, Maldives, Algeria, Bolivia, Chile, Bahrain, China, Benin, Zambia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Iceland, Slovenia, Bangladesh, Comoros, Sierra Leone, Philippines, Mongolia, Brazil

2. The exhibition titled “Experiments with Truth” by Lalit Kala Akademi at India Pavillion at the Jerusalem Biennale 2019 commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

3. The National School of Drama had presented a play “Karna Charitra” based on Indian Mythology in the Asia Pacific Bond Theatre Schools Festival held at Vietnam in September, 2019.

4. In the year 2019 National Museum has organized collaborative international outgoing exhibitions in countries like China, USA, Switzerland, Singapore, Canada and also hosted collaborative international incoming exhibitions from China and France.

5. During the year 2020, National Museum has organized an incoming exhibition from Kazakhstan

6. To enhance institution to institution cooperation, National Museum has signed MoU with Hubei Provincial Museum on 12th August,

2019. As a part of the MoU National Museum also hosted an incoming exhibition from Hubei Provincial museum in November 2019.

7. An MoU between the National Museum, the National Gallery of Modern Art, the Indian Museum, Kolkata, the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, Germany and the Stiftung Humboldt Forum in Berliner Schloss, Germany has been signed on 30th October, 2019.

8. MoU between National Museum of India and Bangabandhu Museum of Dhaka, Bangladesh has been signed.

9. NGMA participated in one of the oldest and biggest art Biennale, the 'Venice Biennale' in May 2019

10. The Victoria Memorial Hall (VMH) has signed a non-binding Memorandum of Agreement in 2018 with the University of Exeter and the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM), Exeter, UK, for a collaborative exhibition combining the natural history paintings in the VMH and RAMM collections in 2022

11. Four Students from Royal Academy of Drama of U.K. visited National School of Drama as part of the student exchange programme between both the institutions for a period of two weeks from 13th to 29th April 2019.

12. Four Students from Royal Academy of Drama of U.K. had visited National School of Drama as part of the student exchange programme between both the institutions for a period of two weeks from 31st March to 14th April 2019.

13. National School of Drama has signed MOUs with the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, (RADA) London, Iceland Academy of Arts, Iceland, University of Theatrical Arts, Moscow, Russia.

14. In the Theatre Olympics 2018 organized by National School of Drama 25 theatre performances were showcased from the following countries:

France, Germany, USA, Israel, Azerbaijan, Russia, Japan, China, Belgium, Bangladesh, Australia, Sri Lanka, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland, Nepal, Turkey, Mauritius, South Korea, Greece, Denmark, Brazil.

15. 15 theatre performances from Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Italy, Russia, Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Singapore were showcased in 20th Bharat Rang Mahotsav organized by National School of Drama in 2019.

16. 10 theatre performances from Nepal, Bangladesh, Russia, Czech Republic, USA, Sri Lanka were showcased in 21st Bharat Rang Mahotsav organized by National School of Drama in 2020.

17. An MOU between the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Republic of Suriname and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of India in the field of archives (2018- 2025) was signed on 19 June 2018 in Paramaribo. An exhibition on “Indian Emigration to Suriname” was also organized during the visit.

18. An MoU between the National Archives of India and the National Documentation and Information Centre of Mozambique (2018-2021) was signed on 29 November 2018 in New Delhi.

19. Dr. Arun Kumar Chakraborty, DG, National Library, participated through SKYPE in the meeting of National Libraries held on 22-23rd October 2018 at South Africa National Library, Pretoria to discuss “Declaration of Intent for BRICS Alliance of Libraries Co-operation”.

20. National Museum participated in the First BRICS Museum Alliance held at National Museum, Beijing, China on 25-26 October, 2018. An MoU was signed for cooperation in the field of Museums in the meeting

21. National Gallery of Modern Arts (NGMA)-

- (a) Organized an exhibition titled 'A Glimpse into Modern Indian Art' showcasing 15 art works of artists as a part of BRICS Cultural Festival at Xiamen Art Gallery, China from 15-22 September, 2017**
- (b) Participated in International Joint Exhibition 'Uniqueness and Convergence' organized under the auspices of BRICS Alliance of Art Museum and Galleries from 10th April -23rd April, 2018 at National Art Museum of China, (NAMOC), Beijing. NGMA presented an in-house exhibition titled 'Reflections: Man and Nature in the paintings of Bireswar Sen' in the Joint Exhibition of BRICS**

22. National School of Drama (NSD) –

- (a) A team from NSD performed the 'Servant of Two Masters' by Goldoni at BRICS Countries Drama School Festival from 27th May to 3rd June, 2018 held in Moscow, Russia**
- (b) Team from NSD participated in the Workshop on Thang-Ta through virtual medium in the 4th BRICS Countries Theatre Schools Festival organized by the University of Theatre Arts, Moscow from 12-23 November, 2020**

23. Sangeet Natak Akademi participated in the BRICS Cultural Festival hosted by Russia in virtual format in December, 2020. The performance recording of Shri Vishwa Mohan Bhatt – Fragrance of India-Indian Folk Music Ensemble was presented during the festival.

24. Dr. Meeta Pandit (vocal) and Pt. Ronu Majumdar (Instrumental) participated in the Gala Concert organized during the SCO Summit on 13th June, 2019 in Bishkek.

25. National Museum developed and curated the first-ever online exhibition on Shared Buddhist Heritage, participated by all member countries of SCO. The online exhibition (nmvirtual.in) was launched by the Hon'ble Vice President of India on 30.11.2020. About 20 Objects of the Indian Museum were also part of the Indian Buddhist Gallery in the SCO Online Exhibition.

26. Sahitya Akademi translated and published 10 titles of modern Indian literature from 10 Indian languages into English, Russian and Chinese in follow up to the announcement made by Hon'ble P.M during his speech in SCO Summit 2019. The translations were released during the SCO virtual summit in November 2020

27. Sangeet Natak Akademi participated in the SCO Cultural Festival hosted by Russia in December, 2020. Performance recordings of Shri Bhajan Sopori and Shri Abhay Rustom Sopori were presented in the festival

28. Festival of India was organized in the following 9 countries during last three years:

Tunisia, Russia, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, Croatia, Qatar, Nepal, Colombia and Ecuador, South Africa and Mexico

ANNEXURE II**Details of major activities undertaken by ICCR during
the last three years 2018-19; 2019-20; & 2020-21**

S.No.	Activities	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1.	Number of MoUs supporting chairs of Indian studies in various foreign universities	66	65	59
2.	Number of eminent academicians/ distinguished visitors hosted by ICCR	14	16	1
3.	Number of bronze bust/ statues of national heroes gifted	14	47	5
4.	Number of countries to which financial assistance provided for celebration of International Day of Yoga	172	147	174
5.	Number of foreign groups hosted for cultural programmes in various states of India	54	42	--
6.	Number of groups sponsored to participate in various prestigious International Festivals and Events abroad (including travel grants)	118	94	12
7.	Number of Exhibitions organized abroad	12	5	1
8.	Number of Exhibitions hosted in India	4	--	--
9.	Number of Conference/ Seminar organized abroad	4	2	--
10.	Number of foreign students studying in various universities in India	5793	6157	5811