

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2191  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024**

**INDIAN CONSERVATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (ICFP)**

**2191. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:**

Will the Minister of **CULTURE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details about the number of Fellowships awarded annually from the inception of the Indian Conservation Fellowship Programme till date, State-wise;
- (b) details of the number of fellows who have successfully implemented conservation projects to date;
- (c) whether the Government has evaluated the impact of the programme on capacity building within Indian museums;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any plans to expand the programmes reach and make it more accessible to a wider range of conservation professionals across the country, especially those from the northeast regions; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF CULTURE&TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

(a)& (b):The Indian Conservation Fellowship Pilot Program (ICFPP) was undertaken by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA) in New York and the Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limbuirg (SRAL), the

Netherlands. A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed between Ministry of Culture, Government of India and the Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA), New York on 19.03.2013 for a period of two years.

Thereafter, an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Culture and Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA), New York was signed on 27.06.2016 for launching of the Indian Conservation Fellowship Program (ICFP) for a period from 2016 to 2021 was to be undertaken by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Metropolitan Museum Art(MMA), New York, the Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg (SRAL), the Netherlands, the Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage, Brussels ("KIK-IRPA"), and the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, The Smithsonian Museums of Asian Art, Washington, DC ("FG") with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (the "Mellon Foundation").

So far, 36 conservators from India have received fellowship under ICFP (17 conservators during Pilot Program and 19 conservators during Main Program). Details are attached at Annexure-I.

(c) to (f): Yes, Sir. The aim of this fellowship was to equip the participants with skills to better care for collections at their home institutions and to establish a larger and stronger conservation community in India with international links to professionals in the field.

This Fellowship programme has achieved significant capacity building in the areas of conservation skills, knowledge sharing, networking, leadership development, institutional capacity, community engagement, research and documentation, standardization of projects, mentorship and career advancement. By achieving there capacity building outcomes, the ICFP has made significant impact on the conservation of India's cultural heritage.

Some of the other important benefits to the museums from the skill acquired during the fellowships are as under:

- Reorganising the photographic collection.
- Exhibition support
- Developing research
- Resource centre
- Improving disaster recovery procedures
- Empowering staff
- Channels of communication

An MoU between Ministry of Culture and Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA), New York was signed on 27.06.2016 for the Indian Conservation Fellowship Program (ICFP) for a period from 2016 to 2021 only.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A)&(B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED  
QUESTION NO. 2191 FOR 05.08.2024****List of Fellows who have completed fellowship under  
Indian Conservation Fellowship Pilot Program  
(2013-15)**

<b>S.NO.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Period</b>
<b>1.</b>	Abdur Rasheed	IGNCA	MMA	Dec 9, 2013– Mar 31, 2014) (4 months)
<b>2</b>	Ambika Patel	The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda	MMA	Apr 1 – Jul 31, 2015 (4 months)
<b>3.</b>	Kailas Abhiman Humane	Salar Jung Museum	MMA	Aug 1 – Oct 31, 2014 (3 months)
<b>4.</b>	Kalpana Awasthi	Salar Jung Museum	MMA	Jul 1 – Sept 2015 (3 months)
<b>5.</b>	Mandira Chhabra	CSMVS/Himalayan Soc. for Heritage and Art Conservation	MMA	Apr 1 – Sept 30, 2014 (6 months)
<b>6.</b>	Nidhi Shah	CSMVS	MMA/ SRAL	Fall 2014 (2 months)
<b>7.</b>	Shilpa Raturi	Archaeological Survey of India	MMA	Apr 1 – Sept 30, 2014 (6 months)
<b>8.</b>	Subhra Devi	Museum of Tezpur University	MMA	Sept 1 – Feb 28, 2015 (6 or 4 months)
<b>9.</b>	Vikram Singh Rathore	Mehrangarh Fort Museum	MMA	Jan – March 2015 (3 months)
<b>10</b>	Anil Dwivedi	Formerly IGNCA	SRAL	Jan – June 2014 (6 months)
<b>11.</b>	Anil Verma	IGNCA	SRAL	Mar – May 2015 (3 months)
<b>12</b>	Diwakar Karmaker	VMH	SRAL	Jan – June 2015 (6 months)
<b>13.</b>	Minesh Harinkhede	NRLC Lucknow	SRAL	Oct 2014 – March 2015 (6 months)
<b>14.</b>	Omkar Mohan Kadu	CSMVS	SRAL	Apr- July 2014 (3 months)
<b>15.</b>	Shikha Bansal	NMI	SRAL	Oct – Dec 2013 (3 months)
<b>16.</b>	Shruti Asoka	Coimbatore	SRAL	Sept – Dec 2014 (4 months)
<b>17.</b>	Umesh Kumar Ahuja	Rashtrapati Bhavan	SRAL	Oct – Dec 2013 (3 months)

**List of 1st batch of the fellowship under ICFP**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Period</b>
1.	Ms. Vandana Singh	National Museum	MMA	01.02.2017 – 31.07.2027
2.	Shri PareetNagamurthi	INTACH	MMA	01.02.2017 – 30..04.2017
3.	Ms. Merrin Anil	INTACH	SRAL	03.04.2017 – 16.09.2017
4.	Shri Vipin Joshi	NGMA, New Delhi	SRAL	29.05.2017 – 19.08.2017

**List of 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of the fellowship under ICFP**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Period</b>
1.	Mr. Subir Dey	VMH, Kolkata	FG	01.02.2018 - 31.05.2018
2.	Mr. Dilip Mestry	CSMVS, Mumbai	MMA	01.04.2018 - 30.06.2018
3.	Mr. Nikhil Ramesh	CSMVS, Mumbai	MMA	01.04.2018 - 30.06.2018
4.	Mr. Jitender Chauhan	IGNCA, New Delhi	SRAL	01.10.2017 - 31.01.2018
5.	Mr. Rahul Tongaria	NGMA, New Delhi	SRAL	01.03.2018 – 30.06.2018
6.	Ms. Madhu Rani Puttaswamy	INTACH Conservation Institutes, Bangalore	SRAL	01.03.2018 – 30.06.2018
7.	Mr. Lalit Kumar	INTACH, New Delhi	SRAL	28.08.2017 - 26.02.2018

**List of 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of the fellowship under ICFP**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Period</b>
1.	Mr. Pradip Madhumita Vasundhara	City Palace Museum, Udaipur	MMA	01.02.2019 – 31.07.2019
2.	Azhar Syed Tariq	Rampur Raza Library	FG	01.02.2019 – 31.05.2019
3.	Shyama Prasad Datta	NGMA (Delhi)	SRAL	01.03.2019 – 30.06.2019
4.	Mohd. Galib	INTACH	SRAL	01.10.2018 – 28.02.2019
5	Sarvesh Singh	Reserve Bank of India	MMA	01.02.2019 – 30.04.2019

**List of 4<sup>th</sup> batch of the fellowship under ICFP**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Period</b>
1.	Ms. Mrinalini Mani	INTACH Conservation Institutes, Bangalore	SRAL	4 months started in November, 2019
2.	Ms. Baisakhi Mallick	VMH, Kolkata	SRAL	4 months started in March/April, 2020
3.	Ms. Nalini Biluka	INTACH Conservation Institutes, Bangalore	SRAL	4 months started in March/April, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*