

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 198**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025

**CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES**

†198. Dr. Rajkumar Sangwan:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of countries with which India has signed Cultural Exchange Programmes during the last four years and the current year;
- (b) the details of the areas covered under these Cultural Exchange Programmes;
- (c) the details of the Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) signed by the Government organisations with cultural Organisations of other countries; and
- (d) the details of the specific areas of cooperation established through these MoUs?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

**(a) & (b)** Ministry of Culture, Government of India has signed Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs) with 41 countries (as per list attached at **Annexure-I**) for disseminating Indian art and culture abroad to promote India's soft power and for developing and promoting inter-cultural relations between India and other countries in different areas of arts and culture like music, dance, theatre, museums & science museums, libraries, archives, protection and conservation of historic monuments and archaeological sites, literature, research & documentation, festival, anthropology, among others.

**(c) & (d)** The details of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed by different Organizations under the aegis of Ministry of Culture as per existing CEPs or otherwise with corresponding Cultural Organizations of other Countries for partnership and collaboration in different areas of arts and culture along with specific areas of cooperation established through these MoUs are given at **Annexure-**

**II.**

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**DETAILS OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES SIGNED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES DURING THE LAST FOUR YEARS AND THE CURRENT YEAR**

| <b>2021</b>    |                              |                         |               |                  |                        |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the countries</b> | <b>Name of Document</b> | <b>Period</b> | <b>Signed on</b> | <b>Enabling clause</b> |
| 1              | Russia                       | CEP                     | 2021-2024     | 02.12.2021       | Valid for 4 Years      |
| 2              | Serbia                       | CEP                     | 2021-2025     | 11.10.2021       | Valid for 5 Years      |
| 3              | Uzbekistan                   | CEP                     | 2021-2025     | 24.09.2021       | Valid for 5 Years      |

| <b>2022</b>   |                              |                         |               |                  |  |
|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
| <b>Sl. No</b> | <b>Name of the countries</b> | <b>Name of Document</b> | <b>Period</b> | <b>Signed on</b> | <b>Enabling clause</b>                     |
| 1             | Greece                       | CEP                     | 2022-2026     | 23.03.2022       | Valid Till 31.12.2026                      |
| 2             | Turkmenistan                 | POC                     | 2022-2025     | 02.04.2022       | Valid Till 31.12.2025                      |
| 3             | Panama                       | CEP                     | 2022-2026     | 29.04.2022       | Valid for 4 Years or till a new CEP signed |
| 4             | Denmark                      | CEP                     | 2022-2026     | 30.04.2022       | Valid for 5 Years                          |
| 5             | Senegal                      | CEP                     | 2022-2026     | 01.06.2022       | Valid for 5 years or till a new CEP signed |
| 6             | Kyrgyzstan                   | CEP                     | 2022-2026     | 11.06.2022       |  |
| 7             | Kazakhstan                   | CEP                     | 2022-2025     | 13.06.2022       | Valid Till 31.12.2025                      |
| 8             | Romania                      | CEP                     | 2022-2027     | 1.07.2022        | Valid for 5 years or till a new CEP signed |
| 9             | Vietnam                      | CEP                     | 2022-2025     | 15.12.2022       | Valid Till 31.12.2025                      |
| 10            | Thailand                     | CEP                     | 2022-2027     | 22.12.2022       | Valid till new CEP is signed               |

| <b>2023</b>    |                              |                         |               |                  |  |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the countries</b> | <b>Name of Document</b> | <b>Period</b> | <b>Signed on</b> | <b>Enabling clause</b>   |
| 1              | Egypt                        | MOU                     | 2023-2028     | 25.01.2023       | Valid for 5 Years or till a new MoU signed                             |
| 2              | South Korea (ROK)            | CEP                     | Till 2026     |                  | Valid till new Programme is signed                                     |
| 3              | Slovak republic              | POC                     | 2023-2026     | 04.03.2023       | Valid till 31.12.2026 and thereafter automatically renewed 3 years.    |
| 4              | Colombia                     | CEP                     | 2023-2026     | 26.04.2023       | Valid till 31.12.2026, thereafter automatically renewed for successive |

|    |           |      |           |            |   |
|----|-----------|------|-----------|------------|---|
|    |           |      |           |            | periods of 4 years  |
| 5  | Mauritius | POC  | 2023-2026 | 06.07.2023 | Valid till 31.12.2026   |
| 6  | Tanzania  | CEP  | 2023-2027 | 09.10.2023 | Valid for five year or till new Programme is signed                             |
| 7  | Italy     | EPCC | 2023-2027 | 02.11.2023 | Valid till 31.12.2027   |
| 8  | Belarus   | POC  | 2023-2025 | 09.11.2023 | Valid for three year or till a fresh Programme is signed                        |
| 9  | Kenya     | CEP  | 2023-2027 | 05.12.2023 | Valid for five years and thereafter automatically extend for period of 5 years  |
| 10 | Croatia   | CEP  | 2023-2025 | 15.12.2023 | Valid till 15.12.2025 or new CEP is signed                                      |
| 11 | Oman      | MoU  | ---       | 15.12.2023 | Valid for five years and thereafter automatically extend for periods of 5 years |

| 2024    |                       |                  |           |            |   |
|---------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------|------------|---|
| SI. No. | Name of the countries | Name of Document | Period    | Signed on  | Enabling clause   |
| 1       | Timor-Leste           | CEP              | 2024-2028 | 10.08.2024 | Valid for five years or till a fresh Programme is signed                        |
| 2       | Ukraine               | PCC              | 2024-2028 | 23.08.2024 | Valid for four years or till a fresh Programme is signed                        |
| 3       | Malaysia              | POC              | ----      | 20.08.2024 | Valid for five years and thereafter automatically extend for periods of 5 years |
| 4       | Jamaica               | MoU              | 2024-2029 | 30.09.2024 | Valid for five years or until a fresh MoU is signed                             |
| 5       | Malawi                | MoU              | 2024-2029 | 18.10.2024 | Valid for five years  |
| 6       | Kuwait                | CEP              | 2025-2029 | 22.12.2024 | Valid for four years or till a fresh Programme is signed                        |
| 7       | Mauritania            | CEP              | 2024-2028 | 16.10.2024 | Valid for five years or till a fresh Programme is signed                        |
| 8       | Spain                 | CEP              | 2024-2028 | 28.10.2024 | Valid for four years or till a fresh Programme is signed                        |
| 9       | Nigeria               | PCCE             | 2024-2029 | 15.11.2024 | Valid for five years  |
| 10      | Guyana                | CEP              | 2024-2027 | 19.11.2024 | Valid for four years or till a fresh Programme is signed                        |

| 2025    |                       |                  |           |            |                                      |
|---------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| SI. No. | Name of the countries | Name of Document | Period    | Signed on  | Enabling clause                      |
| 1       | Indonesia             | CEP              | 2025-2028 | 24.01.2025 | Valid for four year                  |
| 2.      | Bolivia               | PCE              | 2025-2027 | 20.03.2025 | Valid till a new Programme is signed |

|    |                   |     |           |            |  |
|----|-------------------|-----|-----------|------------|--|
| 3. | Chile             | CEP | ----      | 01.04.2025 | Valid for five years or till a fresh Programme is signed |
| 4. | UK                | CEP | 2025-2030 | 02.05.2025 | Valid for five year                                      |
| 5. | Angola            | CEP | 2025-2029 | 03.05.2025 | Valid for four year                                      |
| 6. | Ghana             | CEP | 2025-2030 | 02.07.2025 | Valid for five years or till a fresh Programme is signed |
| 7. | Trinidad & Tobago | PoC | 2025-2028 | 04.07.2025 | Valid for three years                                    |

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**Details of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the organizations of Ministry of Culture, Government of India with other countries in respective areas of cooperation**

| S.NO. | Name of Indian Organization                       | Name of the Country  | Area of Cooperation   |
|-------|---|--|---|
| 1     | 2   | 3  | 4   |
| 1.    | <b>National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)</b> | <b>United Kingdom</b><br>(signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Science Museum Group, London on 10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024.) | Professional exchanges/workshops to promote science communication |
| 2.    | <b>Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata</b>            | <b>United Kingdom</b><br>(with Natural History Museum, London, and British Council)<br><b>2022-23</b>  | Educational activities  |
| 3.    |   | <b>France</b><br>(with Consulate General of France and Alliance francaise du Bengale)<br><b>2022-23</b>  | Music performances  |
| 4.    |   | <b>France</b><br>(with Consulate General of France and Alliance francaise du Bengale)<br><b>2023-24</b>  | Music performances  |
| 5.    |   | <b>Japan</b><br>(with Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata)<br><b>2023-24</b>   | Drama performance   |
| 6.    |   | <b>France</b><br>(with Consulate General of France and Alliance francaise du Bengale)<br><b>2024-25</b>  | Music performances  |
| 7.    |   | <b>Thailand</b><br>(with Consulate General   | Dance Drama Performance   |

|     |  |                            |   |
|-----|--|----------------------------|---|
|     |  | of Thailand in Kolkata)    |   |
| 8.  | <b>National School of Drama (NSD)</b>        | <b>Russia</b>              | Faculty and student exchange between both the partner schools.  |
| 9.  |  | <b>Poland</b>              | Workshops and master classes by the experts from both institutions on a reciprocal basis.   |
| 10. |  | <b>France</b>              | Sharing of academic journals and research materials related to theatre studies.<br><br>Directing productions by the faculty of both the institutions on reciprocal basis. |
| 11. | <b>National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA)</b> | <b>South Korea</b><br>2017 | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Korean Cultural Centre, Embassy of Korea in India   |
| 12. |  | <b>China</b><br>2017       | Outgoing exhibition under BRICS Summit  |
| 13. |  | <b>Italy</b><br>2018       | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Italian Cultural Centre, Embassy of Italy in India.   |
| 14. |  | <b>China</b><br>2018       | Outgoing exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and National Museum of China under BRICS Alliance of Art Museums and Galleries  |
| 15. |  | <b>Israel</b><br>2018      | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Petach Tikva Museum.  |
| 16. |  | <b>Australia</b><br>2018   | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and National Museum of Australia.   |
| 17. |  | <b>Portugal</b><br>2019    | Outgoing exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Fundacao Orient.  |
| 18. |  | <b>Italy</b><br>2019       | Outgoing exhibition under agreement between NGMA and Venice Biennale Foundation.  |
| 19. |  | <b>South Korea</b><br>2019 | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Daegu Art Museum.   |
| 20. |  | <b>France</b><br>2020      | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Embassy of France in India.   |
| 21. |  | <b>Brazil</b><br>2022      | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Embassy of Brazil in India.   |
| 22. |  | <b>Italy</b><br>2022       | Outgoing — Loaning of work/s of art under MOU between NGMA and  |

|     |   |  |   |
|-----|---|--|---|
|     |   |  | Venice Biennale   |
| 23. |   | <b>Japan</b><br>2022-2023  | Outgoing exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Fukuoka Asian Art Museum and with Kobe City Museum.   |
| 24. |   | <b>South Africa</b><br><br>2023  | Outgoing Loaning of work/s of art under MOU between NGMA and Joburg Contemporary Art Foundation.  |
| 25. |   | <b>Japan</b><br><br>2023   | Outgoing exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Hiroshima Prefectural Art Museum.   |
| 26. |   | <b>Portugal</b><br><br>2023  | Incoming exhibition under MOU signed between NGMA and Fundacao Orient.  |
| 27. |   | <b>Oman</b><br><br>2023  | Outgoing under MOU signed between NGMA and NMO  |
| 28. |   | <b>Belgium</b><br><br>2024   | Incoming under CEP. MOU signed between NGMA and MOSA  |
| 29. |   | <b>Sri Lanka</b><br><br>2024   | Outgoing digital exhibition   |
| 30. |   | <b>China</b><br><br>2024   | Outgoing digital exhibition   |
| 31. |   | <b>Hungary</b><br><br>2025   | Incoming under CEP. MOU signed between NGMA and Liszt Institute New Delhi   |
| 32. |   | <b>Belgium</b><br><br>2025   | Outgoing under CEP. MOU signed between NGMA and MOSA  |
| 33. | <b>National Archives of India (NAI)</b> | <b>Saudi Arabia</b><br><br>2023  | 1. Identification and exchange of copies of archival material of mutual interest;   |
| 34. |   | <b>Oman</b><br><br>with National Records and Archives Authority (NRAA)<br><br>2025 | 2. Holding of joint exhibitions, seminars, workshops, and international conferences in the areas of our historical relations and on various aspects of archival studies and records management; |
| 35. |   | <b>Peru</b><br><br>2025  | 3. Exchange of archival experts in the fields of Records management, conservation of manuscripts and documents, digitization, archival storage, trainings, etc.                                 |
| 36. |   | <b>Qatar</b><br><br>2025   |   |

|     |   |  |  |
|-----|---|--|--|
| 37. |   | <b>UAE</b><br><br>2024   |  |
| 38. |   | <b>Czech Republic</b><br><br>2024  |  |
| 39. | <b>Nava Nalanda Mahvihara (NNM)</b>         | Hsuan Chuang University, Taiwan<br><br>2024  | Support for foreign students in Indian cultural education                          |
| 40. |   | Dharma college, Harold Way, Berkeley, U.S.A<br><br>2025  | Support for foreign students in Indian cultural education                          |
| 41. |   | Bodhi Vision Petaling Jaya Selangor Malaysia<br><br>2025   | Support for foreign students in Indian cultural education                          |
| 42. | <b>Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)</b> | <b>Italy</b><br><br>Signed among Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, CA' Foscari University of Venice, Archaeological Survey of India and Soprintendenza Archaeologia, Belle Arti E Paesaggio, Venice<br><br>2020 | Creating a Network and sharing skills for restoration and protection of Monuments. |
| 43. |   | <b>Egypt</b><br><br>Signed between ASI and Supreme Council of Anitiquities of The Arab Republic of Egypt<br>2023   | On Protection and Preservation of Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains.  |
| 44. |   | USA<br>(Cultural Property Agreement)<br><br>2024   | Preventing the illicit trafficking of irreplaceable artifacts                      |

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