

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2514
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AT MAKAIAS

2514. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:-

- (a) the current status of infrastructure development at Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS);
- (b) whether the Salt Lake campus is fully operational, if so, the details thereof and the timeline for completing any pending construction;
- (c) the details of total funding allocated to the institute during the last five years, along with expenditure on research, infrastructure and academic activities;
- (d) the details of number of research projects undertaken during the last five years, particularly on modern and contemporary Asia, India's relations with neighbouring countries and the North-East Programme; and
- (e) the details of steps taken/being taken to enhance the global collaboration of MAKAIAS with foreign institutions to expand research in Central Asia, South Asia and West Asia?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) The details of current status of infrastructure at MAKAIAS are as under:
Repair & renovation of flooring, top roof sheet of courtyard and store room of library etc. has been completed. Replacement of outside existing settled down paver tiles pathway by paver block has also finished.
- (b) The Salt Lake Campus is fully operational since 16th January, 2010 without any interruption.
- (c) The details of total funding allocated to MAKAIAS since 2020-21 till 2024-25 in last five years is. **Rs.30,13,50,000.00 (Rupees Thirty crores thirteen lakhs and fifty thousand only)**. The detailed break up is enclosed in Annexure 'I'.
- (d) The details of number of research projects undertaken during the last five years is attached at Annexure 'II'.
- (e) The details of the Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) signed both in India and abroad are stated in Annexure 'III'.
The names of different projects Seminars/Workshops/Webinars/Lecture Sessions including research projects are enclosed herewith in the Annexure 'IV'.

Annexure referred in part (c) of Lok Sabha unstarred Question No.2514 for Reply on 04.08.2025 regarding Infrastructure Development at MAKAIAS

STATEMENT SHOWING EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY THE INSTITUTE AGAINST ALLOCATION OF FUND IN LAST FIVE YEARS

(Rupees in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Fund Alloted as per MOU			Expenditure incurred		
		Research	Infrastructure	Academic Activities	Research	Infrastructure	Academic Activities
1	2020-2021	109.60	360.40	125.00	45.86	330.52	6.93
2	2021-2022	26.50	413.50	25.00	13.79	423.85	24.29
3	2022-2023	56.50	413.50	7.00	83.91	420.00	46.00
4	2023-2024	107.00	486.50	60.00	70.87	427.77	92.62
5	2024-2025	82.00	591.00	150.00	13.21	506.85	147.58
TOTAL		381.60	2,264.90	367.00	227.64	2,108.99	317.42

Annexure referred in part (d) of Lok Sabha unstarred Question No.2514 for Reply on 04.08.2025 regarding Infrastructure Development at MAKAIAS

The total number of research projects under taken during the last five years particularly in modern and Contemporary Asia, India's Relations with neighbouring countries and the North- East programme are stated below:

Fellowship in the F.Y.(2020-2021)- A total of 15 research projects in a two year session.

Fellowship in the F.Y. (2022-2023) - A total of 18 research projects in a two year session:

A. Azad Fellow: Total (1)

B. MAKAIAS Fellows: Total (17)

Major projects undertaken in the (Session 2025- at present)

1. Ramayana Diplomacy: Enhancing the Soft Power of India
2. Gautam Buddha: An Unifying Force in Asia
3. Ideas of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: A Religio-Cultural Perspective in the Contemporary Context
4. "Brihattar Bharat' (Greater India): Connecting the Asian Countries through cultural and shared heritage.

Annexure referred in part (e) of Lok Sabha unstarred Question No.2514 for Reply on 04.08.2025 regarding Infrastructure Development at MAKAIAS

MoUs signed with various Universities

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and Indian Institute of Heritage (IIH), Noida.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University), Bilaspur,
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and Registrar, Cotton University, Guwahati, Assam.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and Centre for South East Asian Studies, Gauhati University and Gauhati University, Guwahati, Assam

MoUs signed with following Bali (Indonesia) Universities:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and Business Administration Department, Politeknik, Negeri, Indonesia.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and IkatanCendekiawan Hindu Indonesia, Bali, Indonesia.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and Dwijendra University Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between MAKAIAS, Kolkata and Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha, Indonesia

Major projects at present

- Ramayana Diplomacy: Enhancing the Soft Power of India
- Gautam Buddha: An Unifying Force in Asia
- Ideas of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: A Religio-Cultural Perspective in the Contemporary Context
- “Brihattar Bharat’ (Greater India): Connecting the Asian Countries through cultural and shared heritage

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MAKAIAS International Conferences on Southeast Asia

25th & 26th March, 2023 - BIMSTEC, Kolkata

I MAKAIAS. Kolkata. in collaboration with Ministry of External Affairs. Govt. Of India, TheNational Library. Kolkata, Bharat Chamber of Commerce. ISCS and other Think Tanks. organised 2" ISCS BIMSTEC Conference at Hotel Taj Bengal. Kolkata.

31st March, 2023

MAKAIAS. Kolkata, in collaboration with Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISCS). Kolkata, organised a Seminar on "BIMSTEC Security Cooperation" at ICCR Kolkata.

II 14th & 15th September, 2024 - Bali, Indonesia

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies. Kolkata in collaboration with Consulate General of India in Bali and The Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISC\$) is organizing an international conference entitled "Echoes across the Waves: Revisiting the Intersections of India and Indonesia's shared Cultural Heritage" as a part of commemoration of 75 years of establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Indonesia at Sanur, Bali in Indonesia.

III Publication of MAKAIAS on Central Asia

i. A Book entitled, **TRACING THE TRAIL OF INDO-TAJIK CULTURAL LINK THROUGH PAST AND PRESENT: CASE STUDIES OF VARIOUS ART FORMS**, authored by Dr. Nandini Bhattacharya, (Published by KW Publisher, New Delhi).

ii. A Book entitled, **ARMENIAN COMMUNITY OF KOLKATA: STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE**, authored by Dr. Arunava Patra, (Published by Shipra Publications, New Delhi).