

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO: *434
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2026

CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS AND OVERSEAS EXPEDITIONS

*434. SHRI THIRU D M KATHIR ANAND:

SHRI DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has signed any agreement with European countries like Greece, Italy, Germany, France as well as Middle-east and South East Asian countries to have Cultural Exchange Programmes to promote heritage and culture and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the expeditions undertaken so far by Indian archaeologists and art historians to various countries during the last ten years; and
- (c) whether the Government has adequate budgetary allocation for sending Indian archaeologists and art historians to various countries and if so, the details thereof along with the funds utilised thereon, year-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *434 FOR REPLY ON 23.03.2026 REGARDING CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS AND OVERSEAS EXPEDITIONS ASKED BY Shri THIRU D M KATHIR ANAND AND DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN

(a) to (c): Ministry of Culture, Government of India has signed the cultural agreement with 115 countries including Greece, Italy, Germany, France and other European countries, Middle east and South east Asian countries to have Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs) promoting heritage and culture. The list of Countries with whom Ministry of Culture, Government of India has signed Cultural Agreement is given at **Annexure-I** and the list of Countries with whom Ministry of Culture has signed Cultural Exchange Programme is given at **Annexure-II**.

In order to take up conservation and restoration of historical monuments, teams are deputed to various countries within the allocated budget of ASI. However, there is no separate budget allocated for expeditions for Indian archaeologists and art historians.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to part (a) to (c) in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.434 for 23.03.2026

List of Countries with whom Ministry of Culture, Government of India has signed Cultural Agreement

Sl. No.	Name of Country	Sl. No.	Name of Country	Sl. No.	Name of Country	Sl. No.	Name of Country
1.	Algeria	31.	Estonia	61.	Malaysia	91.	Seychelles
2.	Afghanistan	32.	Finland	62.	Maldives	92.	Somalia
3.	Australia	33.	France	63.	Mongolia	93.	South Africa
4.	Argentina	34.	Ghana	64.	Mexico	94.	Sudan
5.	Armenia	35.	Guyana	65.	Malta	95.	Sri Lanka
6.	Benin	36.	Germany	66.	Madagascar	96.	Syria
7.	Botswana	37.	Greece	67.	Mauritius	97.	Suriname
8.	Bahrain	38.	Hungary	68.	Morocco	98.	Trinidad and Tobago
9.	Bangladesh	39.	Nigeria	69.	Mozambique	99.	Tanzania
10.	Burma (Myanmar)	40.	Indonesia	70.	Namibia	100.	Tunisia
11.	Belize	41.	Iran	71.	Netherlands	101.	Tajikistan
12.	Bolivia	42.	Iraq	72.	Norway	102.	Thailand
13.	Belarus	43.	Israel	73.	Nicaragua	103.	Turkey
14.	Belgium	44.	Iceland	74.	Nepal	104.	Uganda
15.	Bulgaria	45.	Ireland	75.	Oman	105.	Upper Volta
16.	Brazil	46.	Italy	76.	Pakistan	106.	United Arab Emirates
17.	Congo	47.	Jamaica	77.	Philippines	107.	Uzbekistan
18.	Cambodia	48.	Japan	78.	Panama	108.	Vietnam
19.	China	49.	Jordan	79.	Peru	109.	Venezuela
20.	Cuba	50.	Kazakhstan	80.	Poland	110.	Yemen
21.	Chile	51.	Korea (North)	81.	Portugal	111.	Zambia
22.	Colombia	52.	Kuwait	82.	Qatar	112.	Zimbabwe
23.	Croatia	53.	Kyrgyzstan	83.	Rwanda	113.	Moldova
24.	Cyprus	54.	Kenya	84.	Russian Federation	114.	Ukraine
25.	Czech Republic	55.	Lithuania	85.	Romania	115.	Democratic Republic of Congo (Zaire)
26.	Djibouti	56.	Luxembourg	86.	Serbia		
27.	Dominican Republic	57.	Laos	87.	Slovakia		
28.	Egypt	58.	Lebanon	88.	Slovenia		
29.	Ethiopia	59.	Lesotho	89.	Spain		
30.	Ecuador	60.	Libya	90.	Senegal		

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to part (a) to (c) in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.434 for 23.03.2026

List of Countries with whom Ministry of Culture, Government of India has signed Cultural Exchange Programmes

S.No.	Name of Country	S.No.	Name of Country	S.No.	Name of Country
1.	Australia	33.	Indonesia	65.	Romania
2.	Armenia	34.	Iran	66.	Rwanda
3.	Angola	35.	Iceland	67.	Serbia
4.	Benin	36.	Italy	68.	Slovakia
5.	Botswana	37.	Israel	69.	Slovenia
6.	Bahrain	38.	Japan	70.	Spain
7.	Bangladesh	39.	Jordan	71.	Saudi Arabia
8.	Brunei	40.	Jamaica	72.	Senegal
9.	Myanmar	41.	Kazakhstan	73.	Seychelles
10.	Bolivia	42.	Korea, South	74.	Sierra Leone
11.	Belarus	43.	Kyrgyzstan	75.	South Africa
12.	Bulgaria	44.	Kenya	76.	Sudan
13.	Brazil	45.	Kuwait	77.	Sri Lanka
14.	Comoros	46.	Lithuania	78.	Suriname
15.	Cambodia	47.	Malaysia	79.	Tanzania
16.	China	48.	Maldives	80.	Tunisia
17.	Cuba	49.	Mongolia	81.	Tajikistan
18.	Chile	50.	Mexico	82.	Thailand
19.	Colombia	51.	Mali	83.	Timor-Leste
20.	Croatia	52.	Mauritius	84.	Turkey
21.	Cyprus	53.	Morocco	85.	Turkmenistan
22.	Czech Republic	54.	Malawi	86.	Trinidad & Tobago
23.	Denmark	55.	Mauritania	87.	Uganda
24.	Egypt	56.	Netherlands	88.	UAE
25.	Ethiopia	57.	Norway	89.	Uzbekistan
26.	Ecuador	58.	Nigeria	90.	Ukraine
27.	Finland	59.	Oman	91.	United Kingdom
28.	France	60.	Philippines	92.	Vietnam
29.	Ghana	61.	Panama	93.	Venezuela
30.	Guyana	62.	Peru	94.	Zambia
31.	Greece	63.	Portugal	95.	Zimbabwe
32.	Hungary	64.	Russian Federation		
