

MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.* 309
TO BE ANSWERD ON 21-12. 2015

CULTURE EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

***309: SHRI P. KUMAR:**

will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased state:

- (a) the mechanism in place to showcase India's rich culture and heritage in foreign countries;
- (b) the number of cultural centres established so far in various states/UTs;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up new cultural centres in various countries including the SAARC countries under the cultural exchange programmes and if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated for setting up such centres during the last three years and the current year, year and country-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government has received any proposal from various State Governments for setting up of new cultural centres abroad and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by Government thereon?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND
MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION**

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the house.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *309 FOR 21.12.2015 REGARDING CULTURAL
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES.**

- a) The Festivals of India (Fol) are conducted abroad for spreading Indian culture abroad and enhancing people to people contact through dance, performance, food festival, exhibition, literary festival, film festival, Yoga, Mehendi art etc.

Ministry of Culture aims at disseminating Indian culture in new territories and develops the cultural relations between India and various countries of the world through Cultural Agreements and Cultural Exchange Programmes (CEPs). The CEPs signed between Ministry of Culture and Cultural Ministries of various countries are circulated to implementing agencies for its implementation. As per provision of CEPs cultural delegations/groups are sent on reciprocal basis.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) also actively implements CEPs through its programmes on receiving and sending cultural delegations/groups to and from foreign countries. Indian Missions and ICCR are jointly involved in promotion of culture through their Culture wings and Culture Centres respectively abroad.

- b) Ministry of Culture have set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur to preserve, promote the culture including folk dance, music and literature of different regions and these ZCCs conduct folk festivals/ events at national/ internationals level through various schemes.

ICCR has 20 regional centres in 19 states as at **Annexure- I**, for organizing cultural events of the cultural groups/artists received from abroad.

- c) At present ICCR is running 36 Culture Centres abroad including in the SAARC countries as enumerated in **Annexure- II**. It is in the process of establishing eight new Culture Centres in Washington, Paris, Buenos Aires, Lagos, Toronto, Sydney, Hanoi and Singapore.

Rs. 5.5 Crores has been allocated under ICCR budget for financial year 2015-2016 for meeting recurring expenditure on new Indian Culture Centres.

- d) No, Madam.

ANNEXRURE 'I'**(Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 309 for 21.12.2015)****List of ICCR Regional Centres in various States**

S.No.	State	City
1	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	Hyderabad
2	Assam	Guwahati
3	Bihar	Patna
4	Gujarat	Ahmadabad
5	Haryana & Punjab	Chandigarh
6	Karnataka	Bangalore
7	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar
8		Jammu
9	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
10	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
11	Maharashtra	Mumbai
12	Maharashtra	Pune
13	Meghalaya	Shillong
14	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
15	Goa	Madgaon
16	Rajasthan	Jaipur
17	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
18	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
19		Varanasi
20	West Bengal	Kolkata

ANNEXURE 'II'**(Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 309 for 21.12.2015)****List of Indian Culture Centres abroad**

S.No.	Name of Centre	Year of opening
1	ICC, Georgetown, Guyana	1972
2	ICC, Paramaribo, Suriname	1978
3	IGCIC, Port Louis, Mauritius	1988
4	JNICC, Jakarta, Indonesia	1988
5	ICC sub centre, Bali, Indonesia	2004
6	JNCC, Moscow	1989
7	Tagore Centre, Berlin, Germany	1990
8	MACIC, Cairo, Egypt	1992
9	TNC, London	1992
10	LBSCIC, Tashkent, Uzbekistan	1994
11	ICC, Astana, Kazakhstan	1994
12	ICC, Johannesburg, S. Africa	1993
13	ICC, Durban, South Africa	1993
14	MGICC, Port of Spain T & T	1996
15	ICC, Colombo	1998
16	ICC, Dushanbe, Tajikistan	2002
17	ICC, Suva, Fiji	2005
18	ICC, Kathmandu, Nepal	2007
19	ICC, Kabul, Afghanistan	2007
20	ICC, Beijing, China	2008
21	ICC, Bangkok, Thailand	2009
22	ICC, Tokyo, Japan	2009
23	ICC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	2009
24	IGCC, Dhaka, Bangladesh	2010
25	NWCC, Thimphu, Bhutan	2010
26	GTICC, Mexico City	2010
27	ICC, Budapest, Hungary	2010
28	ICC, Prague, Czech Republic	2010
29	ICC, Yangon, Myanmar	2010
30	ICC, Male, Maldives	2011
31	ICC, Seoul, S. Korea	2011
32	ICC, Dar-e-Salaam, Tanzania	2011
33	Gandhi Centre, The Hague, Netherlands	2011
34	ICC, Sao Paulo, Brazil	2011
35	ICC, Tehran, Iran	2013
36	ICC, Sydney, Australia	2015