



INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS

Annual Report

2017 – 2018

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President's Message



Friends, it is with pleasure I present the Annual Report for year 2017-2018, which gives account of activities and initiatives undertaken by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in this year.

In January 2018 I was entrusted the responsibility of leading the Indian Council for Cultural Relations as its President. ICCR is a unique organization as it is the only organization in India that is mandated to promote India's soft power overseas. As an autonomous body under the administrative control of the Ministry of External Affairs, guided by country's foreign policy, it is tasked to promote India's rich, diverse and multifaceted intellectual and cultural heritage overseas. With gratitude I undertook the responsibility of leading this organization and worked towards bringing larger awareness about India's soft power both within the country as also overseas.

In this direction new some of the noteworthy initiatives undertaken in 2017-2018 include initiating work on formulation of a comprehensive policy on India's soft power promotion, launch of the Admissions to Alumni (A2A) Portal for streamlining ICCR's scholarship programme and launch of annual oration on India's Soft Power on the occasion of the World Culture Day commemorating the birth anniversary of Deen Dayal Upadhyay.

I hope you find the publication useful and informative. Suggestions for improving our delivery systems are always welcome. I wish you the happy reading.

1

INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS (ICCR) – Introduction

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was founded to actively participate in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes pertaining to India's external cultural relations; to foster and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries; to promote cultural exchanges with other countries and people; and to develop relations with nations.

Established in 1950, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was registered as a Society in the year 1957 under Society Registration Act 1860. ICCR was founded by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad when he was the Minister of Education. The organization was under the administrative control of the Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs till 1970. Since its mandate involved interaction with the foreign countries, foreign organizations, foreign students and foreign citizens, ICCR was transferred from Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in 1971. Since then it has been functioning as an autonomous body under the administrative control of MEA.



ICCR is the only organization in India with the mandate of projection and promotion of India's Soft Power overseas. With its wide outreach both overseas (by way of its culture centres and Missions & posts) and within the country (by way of its regional offices and collaborations entered into with the State governments) and a basket of well-designed and targeted programme elements, ICCR is well equipped to establish appropriate linkages with the world. It has established its credentials as "cultural arm" of the Ministry of External Affairs in carrying forward the mandate.



2

ICCR structure

ICCR's has its headquarters at Delhi. ICCR acquired its own premises in year 1959, when the office was established at Indraprastha Estate, ITO, New Delhi.



Head Quarter of ICCR, Azad Bhawan, IP Estate, ITO, New Delhi

ICCR's Constitution and Statutory Bodies

Council's activities are overseen by its statutory bodies – the General Assembly, Governing Body and Finance Committee. These bodies provide overall guidance and direction and approve ICCR's budget and Annual Plan of Action. These Committees meets regularly, to monitor implementation of programmes and running of the Council.

General Assembly: As per ICCR's Constitution, ICCR's General Assembly consists of the following:

- i. President
- ii. Three Vice-Presidents
- iii. Director General
- iv. Financial Adviser
- v. Five persons nominated by the Government of India
- vi. Two members of the Lok Sabha nominated by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and one member of the Rajya Sabha nominated by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha

- vii. One representative each of the Lalit Kala Akademi, Sahitya Akademi and Sangeet Natak Akademi; to be nominated by the competent authorities of these Academies
- viii. Not more than ten persons eminent in various spheres of Indian Culture to be nominated by the President of the Council in their individual capacity
- ix. Ten eminent artistes from the fields of performing, fine and plastic arts to represent institutions and Organizations of this category to be selected by the Governing Body
- x. Fifteen representatives of universities or of institutions deemed to be universities, to be selected by the Governing Body
- xi. Five representatives of prominent scientific and technical institutions to be selected by Governing Body
- xii. Five representatives of research institutions and institutes of higher learning in areas of Humanities and Social Sciences and
- xiii. Five representatives of other Organizations interested in the work and objectives of the Council to be selected by Governing Body.

Members of the General Assembly are nominated as mentioned in the list above. Except where otherwise provided, term of General Assembly is three years. List of General Assembly members is annexed at **Annexure 1**.

Governing body: As per the Constitution the Governing Body consists of the following members:

- i. President
- ii. Three Vice-Presidents
- iii. Director General
- iv. Financial Adviser
- v. Three members nominated by the Government of India from among their nominees on the General Assembly
- vi. Nine members to be elected by the General Assembly from amongst its members of whom at least one shall be a member of the Rajya Sabha and two of the Lok Sabha.

Governing Body meetings were held twice in 2017-2018 on (i) April 04, 2017 and (ii) October 17, 2017.

Members of Governing Body are selected from the General Assembly. List of Governing Body members is annexed at **Annexure 2**.

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee consists of the following members:

- i. Chairperson nominated by the Finance Committee
- ii. Director General, ICCR
- iii. Financial Adviser, ICCR/MEA
- iv. One nominee of the Government of India
- v. Two representatives of the General Assembly, and
- vi. One representative of the Governing Body.

Finance Committee meeting was held on October 16, 2017. List of Finance Committee members is annexed at **Annexure 3**.

ICCR's Structure at the organizational level

At the organizational level ICCR is headed by the President. Executive head of the Council is a Director General, who is a Secretary or Additional Secretary level officer from the Indian Foreign Service. Director General (officer from the Indian Foreign Service) is assisted by Deputy Director Generals and Directors (officers from the Indian Foreign Service), officers from the ICCR cadre and functionaries engaged by the organization as Consultants and outsourced staff. ICCR delivers its functions from its headquarters in New Delhi and through its 19 Regional Offices in various states in India and 37 Indian Cultural Centers overseas.

ICCR Head Quarter in New Delhi

At headquarters ICCR has various sections to oversee various programmes and overall administration, planning and finances of the organization. These sections are headed by Director, Deputy Secretary (Senior Programme Director) and Under Secretary (Programme Director) level officers.

ICCR's Regional Offices in India

ICCR's responsibility is not restricted to carrying out outreach activities and programmes overseas, but also to reach out within the country. Primary idea behind establishing ICCR's Regional Offices in various states was to facilitate ICCR's scholarship programmes in the states where there was concentration of foreign students. However, ICCR's activities within country have increased manifold, wherein in addition to managing the scholarship programmes, ICCR's Regional Offices play important role in facilitating inbound cultural programmes



Regional office in Kolkotta



(performing and visual arts), conferences, seminars, visits and lectures. Regional Offices are headed by ICCR cadre officers or MEA officers. List of ICCR’s regional offices is as follows:

ICCR’s Regional Offices are also involved in ensuring coordination

Table no. 1 : Regional Offices	
S.no	Regional Offices
1	Chennai
2	Mumbai
3	Pune
4	Kolkotta
5	Tiruvananth'm
6	Bengaluru
7	Chandigarh
8	Ahmedabad
9	Shillong
10	Guwahati
11	Patna
12	Lucknow
13	Varanasi
14	Jaipur
15	Goa
16	Bhopal
17	Jammu
18	Hyderabad
19	Bhuwaneshwar



with and reaching out to the State Governments, local artists, scholars, and universities. ICCR has 19 Regional offices in various States. ICCR has signed Memoranda of Understanding with 16 State Governments for cultural cooperation.

List of State Governments with whom ICCR has signed Memorandum of Understanding are as follows:

Table no. 2 : List of State entities with whom ICCR has signed MoU			
S.no.	State Govt. / UT/ Regional Council/Admn. Region	S.no.	State Govt. / UT/ Regional Council/Admn. Region
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9	Karnataka
2	Assam	10	Kerala
3	Bihar	11	Meghalaya
4	Chandigarh Administration	12	North Eastern Council (NEC)
5	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	13	Odisha
6	Daman & Diu	14	Puducherry
7	Haryana	15	Punjab
8	Himachal Pradesh	16	Telangana

Indian Cultural Centres abroad

With the administrative control of ICCR transferred to the Ministry of External Affairs, need was felt for establishing the Culture Centres overseas to ensure effective outreach of India's Soft Power interventions in the foreign countries. Countries with "large India diaspora" were the focus to establish the cultural centres in the initial years. "Neighbourhood First" and "Soft Power Projection Priorities" guided establishment of other Cultural Centres. At present ICCR is operating 37 Indian Cultural Centres (ICCs) across the globe. In addition to 37 centres, ICCR runs two cultural centres in Spain and South Korea in Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. Establishing of Cultural Centre in Tel Aviv was announced in July 2017. Other ICC projects include ICC Paris and ICC Washington.



Indian Cultural Centre, Egypt



Indian Cultural Centre, Mauritius

Following table gives the list of Indian Cultural Centres overseas.

Table no. 3 : List of Indian Cultural Centres overseas

S.no.	Name of the Centre
1	Indian Cultural Centre, Georgetown, Guyana
2	Indian Cultural Centre, Paramaribo, Suriname
3	Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture, Port Louis, Mauritius
4	Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre, Jakarta, Indonesia
5	Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre, Moscow, Russia
6	The Tagore Centre, Berlin, Germany
7	Maulana Azad Centre for Indian Culture, Cairo, Egypt
8	The Nehru Centre, London, United Kingdom
9	Indian Cultural Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa
10	Indian Cultural Centre, Durban, South Africa
11	Lal Bahadur Shastri Centre for Indian Culture, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
12	Indian Cultural Centre, Astana, Kazakhstan
13	Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Cultural Co-operation, Port of Spain, T& T
14	Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka
15	Indian Cultural Centre, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
16	Indian Cultural Centre Bali, Indonesia
17	Indian Cultural Centre, Suva, Fiji
18	Indian Cultural Centre, Kathmandu, Nepal
19	Indian Cultural Centre, Kabul, Afghanistan
20	Indian Cultural Centre, Beijing, China
21	Indian Cultural Centre, Bangkok, Thailand
22	Indian Cultural Centre, Tokyo, Japan
23	Indian Cultural Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
24	Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh
25	Nehru Wang-chuck Cultural Centre, Thimphu, Bhutan
26	Indian Cultural Centre, Mexico City, Mexico
27	Indian Cultural Centre, Budapest, Hungary
28	Indian Cultural Centre, Prague, Czech Republic
29	Indian Cultural Centre, Yangon, Myanmar
30	Indian Cultural Centre, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania
31	Indian Cultural Centre, Male, Maldives
32	Indian Cultural Centre, Seoul, Republic of Korea
33	Indian Cultural Centre, The Hague, Netherlands, Amsterdam
34	Indian Cultural Centre, Sao Paulo, Brazil
35	Indian Cultural Centre Tehran, Iran
36	Indian Cultural Centre, Sydney, Australia
37	Indian Cultural Centre, Hanoi, Vietnam



Indian Cultural Centres overseas

Activities in ICCs:

Indian Cultural Centres are principal institutional instruments mandated for ensuring cultural outreach abroad and projecting India's soft power through a wide range of cultural, academic and intellectual activities, promoting inter alia, knowledge, information and understanding of various aspects of Indian culture including, Indian dance, music, yoga, languages, food, festivals, history, ethos and traditions and contemporary issues. ICCs are headed by a Director and supported by a team of teachers. It closely coordinates with the Mission's Culture, Education and Press wings.

In addition to carrying out various cultural activities, one of the most significant activities undertaken at the Cultural Centres abroad is imparting lessons of Indian classical dances, music, Indian languages and yoga at its Cultural Centres. ICCR posts India based teachers from its panel of teachers in these disciplines. Since the time ICCR started establishing Cultural Centres overseas in 1980s, it sent a set of three to four teachers routinely to its Centres, which included (i) a classical dance/ music/ instrumental teacher, (ii) a Hindi teacher and (iii) a Yoga teacher. For this purpose Council periodically conducted empanelment of such teachers and deployed on short term contract 2-3 years' assignments at the centres.

New initiatives taken in 2017:

- A. **Directors of Indian Cultural Centres**: In order to have full time Directors heading ICCR's Cultural Centres overseas, it was decided to select experts from the fields of culture, art, media and academic for the posts of Directors in 37 ICCs. During this year two rounds of selection were carried out. First round of selection was conducted in June 2017 and second in January 2018.
- B. **Teachers of Traditional Indian Culture**: With three years' success of International Day of Yoga, fast spreading awareness and popularity of Indian Yoga all over the world, in order to expand the outreach of India system of wellness and well being, in 2017 it was decided:
- i. Not limit deployment of yoga teachers to ICCR's Cultural Centres but to post them in all Missions and Posts, and
 - ii. Not to send them for short periods ranging from few days to few months during IDY celebrations, but post them for longer duration, the way teachers are posted in ICCs.

With the support of Ministry of External Affairs, ICCR initiated in May 2017 empanelment of **Teachers of Traditional Indian Culture (TIC)** abroad to teach Yoga, Sanskrit and Veda. A total of 112 TICs were empaneled, of which 47 were deployed by the end of financial year.

- C. **Orientation for newly inducted TICs**: All the 112 selected TICs were provided indepth orientation on how to function overseas in ICCs and Missions, how to conduct and plan classes, assessment system, how to carry out outreach activities, about expected conduct when posted in ICCs and Missions overseas. TICs were provided orientation in two batches in June 2017 with the help of experts from Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga and Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan.

- D. **Standardization of Yoga course:** It was realized that all the teachers come from various backgrounds and from different yoga schools in India. When they are posted they tend to teach and promote yoga learnt in their respective schools, which was not bringing uniformity in the lessons being taught to the foreign students which led to a situation of confusion amongst the students many times. Promotion of Indian system of wellness and well being did not mean promotion of a particular yoga school in India but to promote the composite culture of Indian system of well being. For this purpose, ICCR with the help of MDNIY developed customized standard courses for teaching students in foreign countries.
- E. **Standardization of Dance and Music courses:** ICCR also initiated work on standardization of courses for teaching classical dance and music in the ICCs.

3

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2017-2018

- Admissions to Alumni (A2A) portal was launched by External Affairs Minister on January 17, 2018. A2A is a students' management portal that tracks all aspects of scholarship management from the first stage of admission till the student passes his/her course and leaves India for his/her home country.



EAM, Smt. Sushma Swaraj launching A2A Scholarship portal alongwith MOS General (retd.) V. K. Singh.

- studenthelpline.iccr@gov.in was commenced in September 2017 to redress various queries and problems of ICCR students.
- Border Guard Bangladesh Scholarship Scheme was operationalized from Academic Year 2017-2018 for the Children of Border Security Guards of Bangladesh.
- ICCR offered **3414** slots of scholarships for the foreign students in various State and Central Indian universities for studying in India under various scholarship schemes.
- The Council administered **70** Chairs in various countries and signed **08** memoranda of understanding to establish new chairs.
- Council facilitated the celebration of International Day of Yoga 2017 in **120** countries. **35** Yoga teachers were deputed to lead IDY 2017 Celebrations.
- ICCR organized **four** major conferences in India and abroad and supported **19** conferences/ literature festivals organized by other organizations.

- **Five** major Cultural Festivals were organized overseas namely:
 - i. India-UK Year of Culture in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture (April to November 2017)
 - ii. Colours of India Festival in China (May 2017)
 - iii. Festival of India in Canada (August 2017)
 - iv. Namaste Russia, Festival of Indian Culture in Russia on the occasion of celebrations of 70th anniversary of Diplomatic relations
 - v. India as country of honour at Janadriyah, Saudi Arabia, (February 2018)
- Council sponsored **165** groups to **93** countries from **22** States of India to participate in various prestigious international festivals and events.



10-member Theyyam "Malabar Theyyam Samskarka" group participated in the "Symbols and Scripts – the Language of Craft" event in Singapore from 07-10 September 2017

- ICCR has over the years developed its own cultural products in the form of following cultural festivals organized in India. ICCR organized **five** of its major International Festivals in India:
 - i. 3rd International Ramayana Festival, with participation by groups from ASEAN countries.
 - ii. 7th Delhi International Jazz Festival,
 - iii. 2nd Latin American Festival,
 - iv. 8th International Dance & Music Festival



- In addition to the annual festivals mentioned above ICCR organized following **two** region focused cultural festivals:
 - Girmitiya Cultural Festival
 - Afghanistan-India Cultural Week
- ICCR hosted **66** incoming international cultural groups from various countries across the globe to perform in various cities of India.
- ICCR initiated in coordination with the National Manuscript Mission (NMM) a project on preservation and digitization of 196 manuscripts from Gosha-e-Azad collection – collection of rare manuscripts donated by Maulana Azad.
- **Six** busts and **two** statues of eminent Indian Personalities were sent to various countries of the world as gifts.
- Under its Awards programme, ICCR conferred its annual 'Distinguished Indologist Award for 2017' to Prof. Hiroshi Marui, Professor in Indian Philosophy Department, University of Tokyo, Japan. The award was presented by Hon'ble President of India at a ceremony in Rashrapati Bhavan.
- Visits of **36** academicians/ scholars/ experts and **19** artists from India were sponsored under ICCR's Outgoing Visitors Programme (OVP).

- Council hosted **07** eminent personalities under its Distinguished Visitors Programme and **11** academicians/Scholars under Academic Visitors Programme (AVP).
- On the initiative of the External Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj, Council initiated distribution of *Gagananchal*, Council's Hindi bimonthly magazine, at Air India lounges at airports in India.

4

ICCR PROGRAMMES

ICCR receives its annual funding in the form of Grants-in-Aid from the MEA. In addition to Grant, it receives funds from other Ministries as well to execute programmes on their behalf. ICCR implements programmes in two distinct categories namely – ICCR and Agency programmes.

- I. Major programmes implemented by ICCR are categorized into:
(A) Academic & Intellectual promotion/exchange programmes and,
(B) Visual & Performing Arts promotion/exchange programmes.

A. Academic & Intellectual exchange programmes: These exchanges primarily include programmes targeted towards building long-term relations between India and people from around the World and institutionalizing them for long term impact. These programmes are fully executed and implemented by ICCR. ICCR executes these programmes with the help of Education and Culture Wings of the Missions or its own Cultural Centres. Major programmes under this category include:

- i. Scholarship schemes and welfare of international students,
- ii. Fellowship Programme,
- iii. Chairs of Indian Studies in foreign universities,
- iv. Conferences and Seminars,
- v. Visitors' programmes (Distinguish, Academic, and other visitors' programmes),
- vi. Promotion of Hindi and Sanskrit including Publication of Gagnanchal,
- vii. Promotion of Yoga
- viii. Teaching of languages, dance, music, yoga at Indian Cultural Centres overseas,
- ix. ICCR's Annual lectures (Maulana Azad, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya lectures),
- x. ICCR Awards Programme (Alumni, Indology & Sanskrit),
- xi. Maintenance manuscripts of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

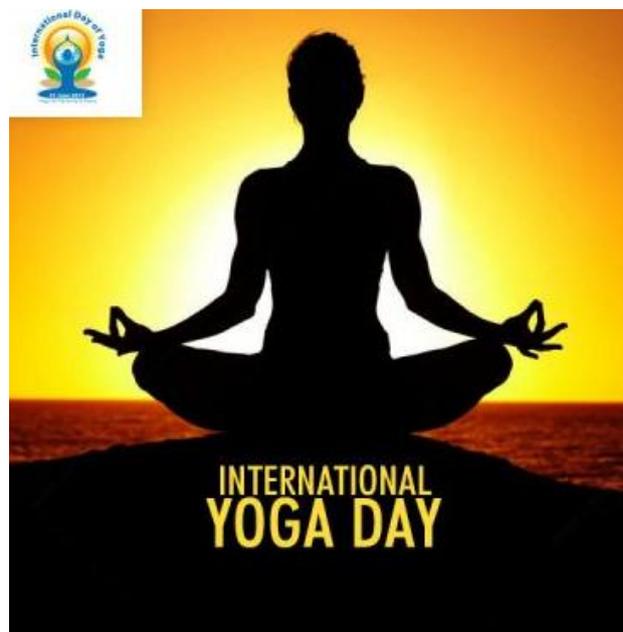
B. Visual & Performing Arts promotion/ exchange programmes:

These exchanges are project based short-term, focused on a particular time and country and targeted towards showcasing the wealth of composite Indian Culture overseas by way of organizing events. These programmes are organized both as stand- alone ICCR events and in collaboration with the line ministries and departments involved in promotion of similar activities such as the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, department of Handicrafts etc. These include following major programmes:

- i. Outgoing Cultural delegations (from India),
- ii. Incoming Cultural delegations (from foreign countries to India),
- iii. Festivals of India abroad,
- iv. International Cultural Festivals in India,
- v. Exhibitions – Outgoing
- vi. Exhibitions – Incoming,
- vii. Busts/Statutes, and
- viii. Presentation.

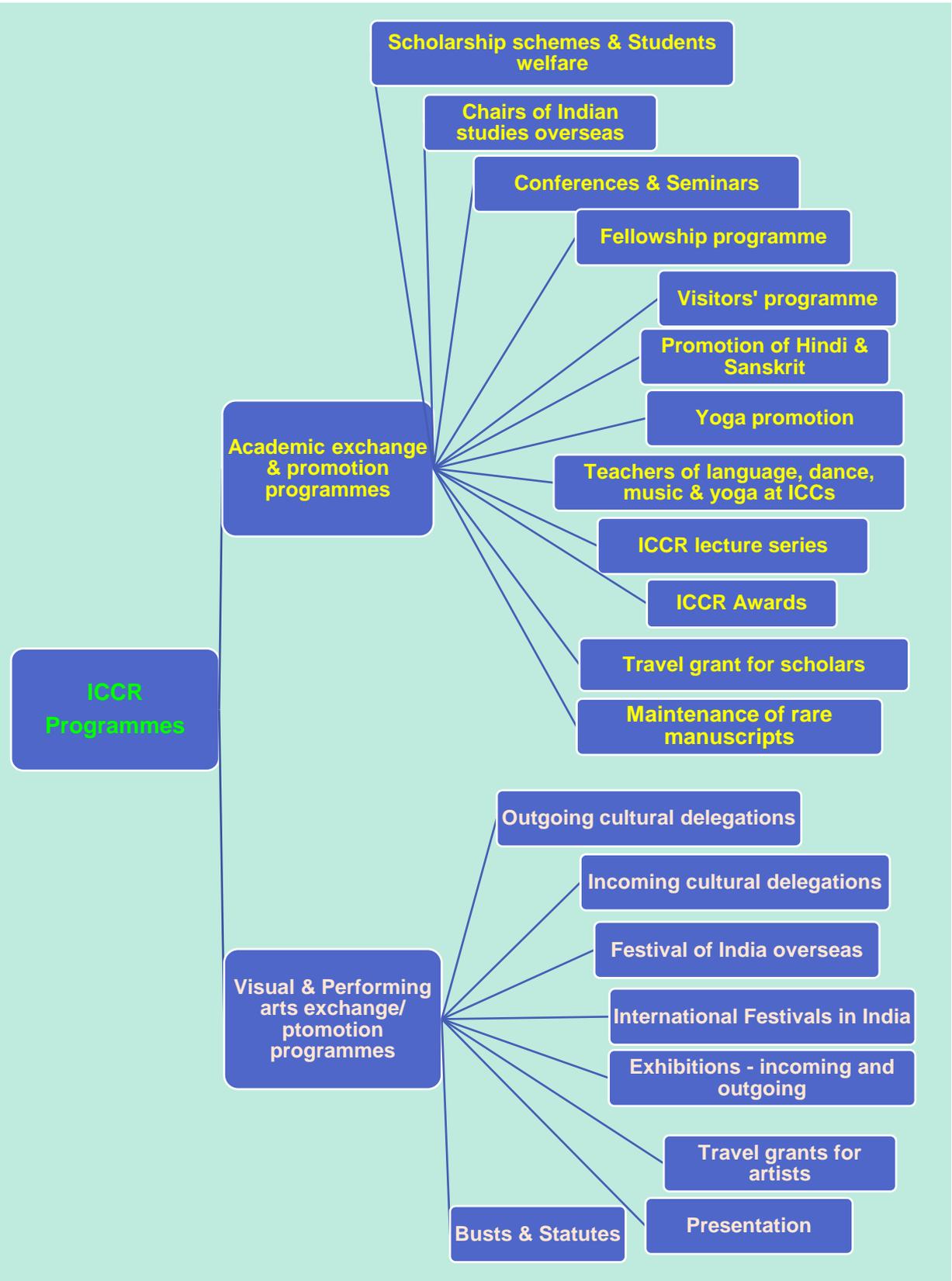


ICCR's IP



ICCR collaborates with line ministries

Pictogram of ICCR Activities



II. In addition to ICCR's own programmes, it also organizes and administers various programmes for other Ministries and Departments. Major programmes implemented by ICCR on behalf of various agencies include:

- i. Seventeen scholarship schemes for various Divisions of MEA,
- ii. Three scholarship schemes for Ministry of Ayush,
- iii. Targetted cultural programmes for various Divisions of MEA.
- iv. Conferences & Seminars for MEA



India-China Yoga Centre jointly administered by ICCR and Ministry of Ayush is a unique example of collaboration with line ministries

5

ACADEMIC AND INTELLECTUAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

I. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMMES

ICCR handles a total of **26** scholarship programmes for the foreign students of which **17** are administered for Ministry of External Affairs and **03** for Ministry of AYUSH. It offers over 900 slots under **06** Scholarship Programmes of its own. Scholarships are offered for various courses (except for medical courses) at Under Graduate, Post Graduate, M. Phil and Ph.D. levels in the State and Central Universities and colleges affiliated to them. In addition to mainstream courses, in its unique programme ICCR offers scholarships for studying performing arts under the *Guru-Shishya parampara*.



Russian student recipient of ICCR scholarship under guru shishya parampara, learning Bharatnatyam dance.

ICCR offered **3414** scholarship slots for various courses including performing art, ayurveda, unani, siddha and homeopathy under AYUSH scholarship schemes. In this calendar year there are over **6000** foreign students from about **140** countries studying in various universities in India.

Table no. 3 : ICCR Scholarship Schemes			
Sl.	Name of Scholarship Scheme	Slots	Courses
1	General Scholarship Scheme	550	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. Post Doctoral Courses
2	CEP/EEP Scholarship Scheme	150	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
3	ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Music & Dance	100	Dance, Music, Yoga/Art Courses
4	Bangladesh Scholarship Scheme	100	UG, PG, Ph.D./Post Doctoral
5	Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme	60	UG, PG Courses
6	Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme	26	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
	TOTAL 06 SCHEMES	986	

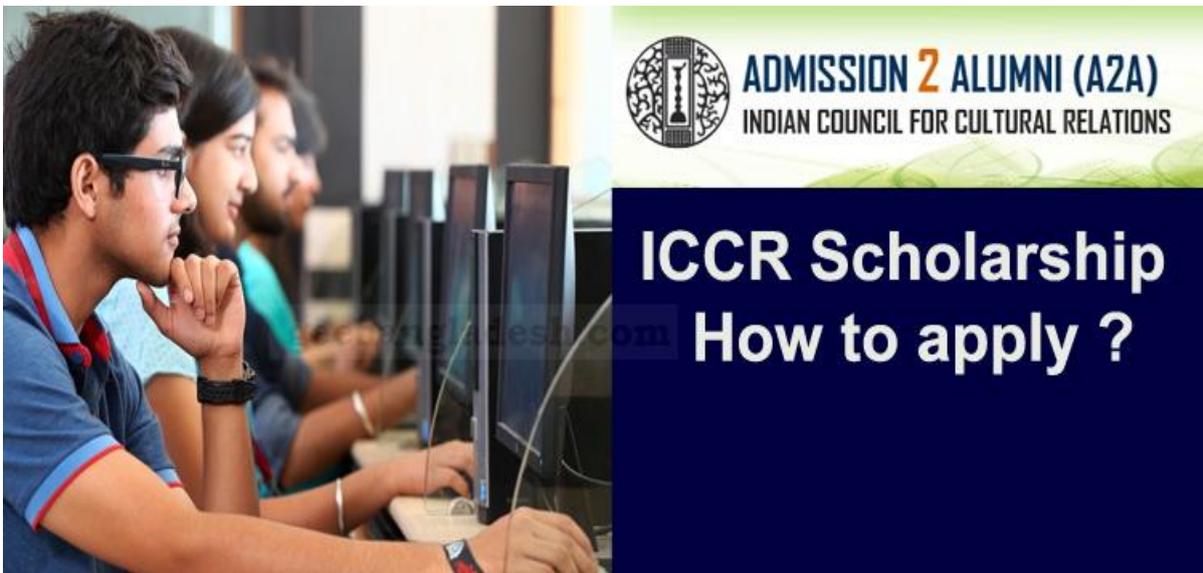
Table no. 4 : Scholarship Schemes ICCR administers for MEA			
S.no	Scheme	Slots	Remarks
1	Special scholarship scheme for afghan nationals	1000	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses offered to Afghan students
2	Scholarship scheme for children of Afghan martyrs	500	One time slots
3	Africa Scholarship Scheme	900	Covers 54 African countries. UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
4	Scholarships offered under CEP and EEP	150	36 countries UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
5	Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme	64	Nepal UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
6	Mekong Ganga Co-operation Scholarship Scheme	50	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
7	Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme	26	Bangladesh, Canada, Guyana, Maldives, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, UK
8	Border Guard Scholarship Scheme for children	20	Bangladesh Only UG courses
9	Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme	60	Sri Lanka. Only UG courses
10	Maulana Azad Scholarship Scheme	50	Sri Lanka. PG in Agriculture Science & Engg Courses
11	Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship Scheme	25	Sri Lanka. IT (BE/ B.Tech Courses)
12	SAARC Scholarship	20	
13	Aid to Maldives Scholarship Scheme	20	UG Courses
14	Aid to Mongolia Scholarship Scheme	20	
15	Aid to Bhutan Scholarship Scheme	20	UG (only Engg Courses)
16	Aid to Malaysia Scholarship Scheme	20	
17	BIMSTEC (Ayush)	20	UG, PG, M.Phil, Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Siddha, Yoga
	TOTAL 17 SCHEMES	2359	

Table no. 5 : Scholarship Schemes administered by ICCR for Ministry of AYUSH			
Sl.	Name of the Scholarship Scheme	Slots	Courses
1	Ayush Scholarship Scheme for Non-Bimstec countries	20	UG, PG, M.Phil, Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Siddha, Yoga
2	AYUSH Scholarships Scheme for Malaysian nationals	20	
3	AYUSH Scholarships Scheme for South East Asian Region (SEAR) Countries	29	
	TOTAL 03 SCHEMES	69	

Table no. 6 : Summary of Scholarship schemes			
S.no	Agency	No. of schemes	Slots
1	ICCR	06	986
2	MEA	17	2359
3	Mo AYUSH	03	69
4	Total	26	3414

Highlights of the scholarship programme in 2017-2018

Under its drive of digitization, automation and ensuring transparency in its delivery systems initiated in 2016-17, ICCR initiated a major programme of developing a portal for online management of admissions and tracking the progress of students admitted under the ICCR administered scholarship, called “**Admission to Alumni (A2A) Portal**”. The A2A Portal is targeted to monitor entire process of student’s educational cycle while studying in India starting from admissions (A) till the time he/ she complete the course and becomes ICCR’s Alumni (A), hence so named - Admission to Alumni (A2A) Portal. The portal was inaugurated by Hon’ble External Affairs Minister, Smt. Sushma Swaraj on January 17, 2018. Major aspects of monitoring on the Portal include: (a) Online processing of admissions, (b) financial monitoring and management, (c) monitoring of academic progress of students and (d) creation data base of ICCR Alumni.



Foreign Students’ Welfare Measures and Programmes in 2017-18

In addition to offering and administering the scholarships, ICCR also carries out activities for the welfare of foreign students. Events organized during this year include:

- i. Under its important initiative, a Students helpline studenthelpline.iccr@gov.in was launched in September 2017 to redress various queries and problems of foreign students studying in India under ICCR scholarship schemes.

- ii. ICCR instituted Distinguished Alumni Award in year 2015 to recognize the ICCR Alumni who made significant achievements and outstanding contribution for promotion of understanding, goodwill and friendship between India and their country. The Award is conferred annually. For 2017 Award, five ICCR Alumni were selected for the Distinguished Alumni Award.



- iii. Annual meeting of Vice-Chancellors, Internationals Advisors and ICCR's Regional Directors was organized on February 02, 2018 at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi to discuss welfare matters related to foreign students studying in India under various scholarship schemes administered by ICCR.



- iii. “Border Guard Bangladesh Scholarship Scheme” was operationalized from academic year 2017-18 for the Children of Border Guards of Bangladesh. A total of 20 slots are offered under this scheme.
- iv. Orientation programme for newly arrived scholars for the academic year 2017-18 was organized on October 18, 2017. Programme was attended by Ambassadors and International Students Advisors of the Universities in Delhi.



- iii. Indian Missions play crucial role in facilitating admissions of foreign students and maintaining contact with them at their end. Missions carried events for orientation of students and celebrating ICCR day.



Ambassador of India to Afghanistan addressing afghan students at the orientation programme



Ambassador of India to Bangladesh addressing ICCR and ITEC alumni

- iii. Afghanistan-India Cultural Week Festival was organized from 29 November 2017 to 01 December 2017 as part of Students Exchange Programme.



Afghan Cultural Week in New Delhi

II. FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

ICCR awards Junior and Senior Research Fellowships to international scholars specialising in Indian studies in the fields of in various streams. Under this programme, the selected Fellow is affiliated, to an academic institution in India. Senior fellowships are given to eminent scholars with proven academic credentials, who has an established body of published works. Junior fellowships are offered to young research scholars wishing to do post-doctoral research on relevant topics. A total of five scholars from Germany, Russia, France and Lebanon joined different universities in India as ICCR Senior Fellows.

III. CHAIRS OF INDIAN STUDIES ABROAD

In order to promote Indian studies and Indian languages abroad, ICCR has established Chairs of Indian Studies and Hindi in various foreign universities. Indian studies covers, subjects including sociology, anthropology, culture & society, languages, political science/ international relations, history, Buddhist studies, pilosophy, economics, Indian law, languages and literature.

A Chair is established on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Council and the host University/ Institution in the foreign country. In the calendar year in reference, the Council maintained two types of Chairs – Short-Term and Long-Term, depending upon the requirement in the University. Chairs with duration of less than one calendar year (one semester) are treated as Short-Term Chairs while those with duration of at least one calendar year and above are treated as Long-Term Chairs.

During the current year a total of 70 Chairs were operational and 08 Memoranda of Understanding were signed to establish new chairs in various countries. In addition to 78 Chairs overseas, ICCR sponsors a Nelson Mandel Chair in JNU, New Delhi.



MoU signed with Kings College, Londong in November 2017



MoU signed with University of Pittsburgh, USA, November 2017



MoU signed with University of Jordan in March 2018



MoU signed with University of Wollongong (UoW), New South Wales, August 2017

ICCR empanels subject experts (assistant professor to professor level educators) to be deputed as Chairs as per the requirement of the foreign university. Council held two rounds of meetings of the Selection Committee for empaneling professors and assistant professors. These meetings were held on January 9-10, 2018 for empanelment of Professors of Indian Studies and January 28-29, 2018 for empanelment of Professors/ Teachers of Hindi and Sanskrit language. A total of 73 Professors/ Teachers of various disciplines were empaneled by the selection committee. List of Chairs is as follows:

Table no. 7 : Indian Studies and language Chairs overseas		
S. No.	Country	University/ Institute & City
1.	Belgium	State University of Ghent, Ghent
2.	Bulgaria	Sofia University, Sofia
3.	China	Peking University, Beijing
4.	Croatia	University of Zagreb, Zagreb
5.	Hungary	Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest
6.	Poland	Warsaw University, Warsaw
7.	Switzerland	University of Lausanne, Lausanne
8.	T&T	University of West Indies, Port of Spain
9.	Turkey	Ankara University, Ankara
10.	China	Shanghai International Studies University, Shanghai
11.	Italy	O'Nepals University Rome
12.	Bangladesh	Dhaka University
13.	Mauritius	Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka
14.	China	Shenzhen University
15.	Indonesia	Mahendradatta University, Bali
16.	Sri Lanka	University of Kelaniya
17.	Morocco	Mohd. V. University
18.	Jordan	University of Jordan
19.	Tajikistan	Tajik National University
20.	China	Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, Guangdong
21.	Spain	Valladolid University, Valladolid
22.	Turkmenistan	Turkmen National Institute of World Languages, Ashgabat
23.	Thailand	Thammasat University, Bangkok
24.	Romania	Bucharest University
25.	Sudan	AL Zaiem Al Azhari University
26.	Serbia	University of Novi Sad
27.	Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan University of Language
28.	Mauritius	Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka
29.	Thailand	Silpakorn University, Bangkok
30.	Indonesia	Udayana University
31.	Germany	University of Gottingen, Gottingen
32.	Fiji	Fiji National University, Suva
33.	Germany	Leipzig Graduate School of Management
34.	Bangladesh	University of Dhaka, Dhaka
35.	Belgium	University of Leuven, Leuven
36.	Canada	Carleton University, Ottawa
37.	Germany	Leibniz University, Hannover
38.	Germany	Leibniz University, Hannover
39.	Germany	Rotating Chair

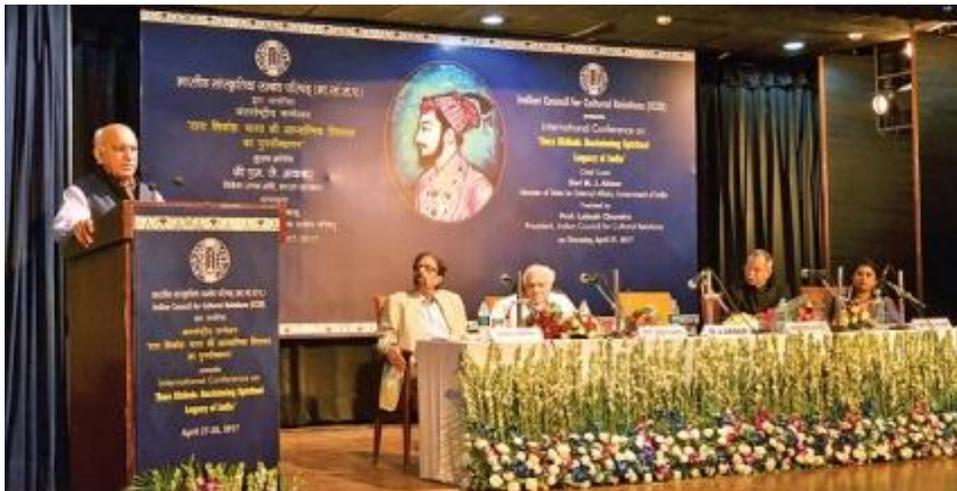
40.	Germany	Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Jena
41.	Germany	Rotating Chair
42.	Israel	Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv
43.	Israel	Haifa University
44.	Netherlands	Leiden University, The Hague
45.	Sri Lanka*	University of Colombo, Colombo
46.	Trinidad & Tobago	University of West Indies, Port of Spain
47.	Vietnam	University of Social Sciences & Humanities, HCM City
48.	Australia	Monash University, Melbourne
49.	Canada	Simon Fraser University, Burnaby
50.	Jamaica	University of West Indies, Kingston
51.	Russia	Kazan (Volga Region) Federal University, Kazan
52.	Ethiopia	Addis Abba University
53.	Lebanon	Lebanese American University
54.	China	Chinese University of Hong Kong
55.	Nairobi	University of Nairobi, Kenya
56.	Tanzania	Dar-Es-Salaam University
57.	Cambodia	Preah Sihanouk Raja Buddhist University, Phnom Penh
58.	Austria	University of Vienna, Vienna
59.	New Zealand	Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington
60.	Russia	Russian State University of Humanities, Moscow
61.	USA	Rutgers State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick
62.	USA	University of Pittsburgh
63.	Nepal	Kathmandu University, Nepal
64.	Portugal	University of Lisbon
65.	Indonesia	Atma Jaya University
66.	Papua New Guinea	PNG university of technology
67.	Japan	Reitaku University
68.	Egypt	Ain Shams University
69.	Australia	Murdoch University
70.	Poland	Jagiellonian University
71.	Poland	Warsaw University
72.	Morocco	Mohd. V. University
73.	Australia	University of Wollongong
74.	Ireland	Dublin City University
75.	Palestine	Al Quds University
76.	Philippines	University of Philippines
77.	U.K.	King's College
78.	Denmark	University of Copenhagen

1.	India *	Nelson Mandela Chair of African Studies at Centre for African Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
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IV. CONFERENCE AND SEMINARS

Conference and Seminars are one of the most important tools and initiatives of ICCR to bring together the experts on subjects of importance for India's soft power projection on one platform to exchange the ideas. Under this programme, ICCR organized four major Conferences in India and abroad including:

- i. Dara Shikoh: Reclaiming Spiritual Legacy of India (New Delhi, April 27-28, 2017)
- ii. Sanskrit, as repository of wisdom and fountain head of harmonious world order (Paris June 21, 2017),
- iii. International conference on Mirza Bedil and his Legacy, (Chandigarh, July 22-23, 2017)
- iv. International Conference on Aparigraha: Philosophy, practice and its implication in the era of consumerism (Jaipur during October 28-29, 2017).



Conference on Dara Shikoh, New Delhi, April 2017

Council also organized Virat Hindi Kavi Sammelan (conference) in various cities of UK during August 23 to September 3, 2017 and Hasya Kavi Sammelan was organized in Nairobi from February 1-6, 2018.



In addition to organizing its own conferences, ICCR also provides support to the Universities and educational institutions to organize conferences and seminars on the subject matters that fall under the mandate of ICCR. Council supported 19 conferences/literature festivals organized by other organizations.

Table no. 8 : Conferences supported by ICCR		
Sl. No.	Details of the Proposal	Place and Date
1	The Inner Path Festival	April 7-11, 2017
2	Innovations in Cultural Skills and Sustainable Livelihoods: An Inter-country dialogue on Making of National Heritage Circus	April 7-8, 2017
3	Sir Syed Ahmad Khan Bicentenary Celebrations, Port Louis	July 15-18, 2017
4	Fifth international conference on "Working together toward a spiritual science of the conscious self", Nepal	Aug 18-19, 2017
5	Santhigiri Global Spiritual Conclave on 'Dharma – Ideal and Praxis in the Emerging Global Scenario' Thiruvananthapuram	Aug 24 – 27, 2017
6	Mountain Echoes Literary Festival 2017, Bhutan	Aug 24-27, 2017
7	Hindi Adhyapan ki Chunoutiya our Sambhabanaye' par Antarrashtriya Hindi Sammelan, Hindi Sangam Foundation	Sept 15, 2017
8	Three days hindi conference on "Nari ki ekrupta ki khoj", Mauritius	Sept 1-3, 2017
9	International Conference on 'India-China Cultural Resonance', Visva Bharati, West Bengal.	Nov 3 – 4, 2017
10	International Conference on Buddhism, Gautam Buddha University, Great NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh	Sept 7 – 9, 2017
11	Annual Geeta Forum, SWAHA, Trinidad and Tobago	Nov 29 – Dec 6, 2017
12	Indian Classical Music: Teaching & Performing Abroad, Delhi	Feb 22-23, 2018
13	Dhyana bhadra Commemorative Celebration, South Korea	Dec 15 – 16, 2017
14	One-day international conference on 'India and Mongolia: Historical linkages, scripts and literary heritage'	Jan 9, 2018
15	Conference on Vedic Mathematics, Delhi	Dec 27-29, 2017
16	Theatre Production workshop cum seminar, Dibrugarh	Feb, 2018
17	Three days conference on "Hindi aur anya bhashayein – Ek samvad", Tirupathi	Mar 17-19, 2018
18	Conference on 'Indian Culture and Psychology: A Consciousness Perspective', Delhi	Mar 22 – 27, 2018
19	National Seminar on 'Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: An analytical study', Maulana Azad Academy, Delhi	Mar 24 – 25, 2018



International Conference on 'India-China Cultural Resonance' Visva Bharati, West Bengal, November 3 – 4, 2017



International Conference on Buddhist Studies and Civilization, Gautam Buddha University, NOIDA, September 2017



Conference on India-Mongolia Relations organized in Delhi, January 2018

V. VISITORS' PROGRAMMES

As part of ICCR's efforts to foster & strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries, under its Visitors' Programme, ICCR administers following visitors' programmes:

- A. Distinguished Visitors Programme
- B. Academic Visitors Programme
- C. Outgoing visitors Programme

A. Distinguished Visitors Programme: Under the programme, the Council receives eminent scholars, intellectuals and well-known personalities in the field of politics, academics, art & culture to India to experience Indian culture and facilitates their interaction with institutions and audiences in India. Leading representatives of think-tanks and cultural institutions are invited to share their insight and experiences. The programme ranging from one week to 10 days exposes the distinguished visitors to their Indian counterparts and helps in providing firsthand view of developments in India. The programme includes visits to various parts of the country, interaction with counterparts, organizing lectures, round table discussions, meetings with Ministers, senior government officials, NGO's & intellectuals, sightseeing to places of historical and touristic attraction.



President ICCR receives D. Nyoman Nuarta, Padmashree Awardee, 2018.

His Eminence Dr. Ahmad Badr Eddine Mohammad Adib Hassoun, Grand Mufti of Syrian Arab Republic visited In



dia in September-October 2017

ICCR hosted a total of seven distinguished visitors during 2017-2018. Following table details the visits:

Table no. 9 : Visits of Distinguished Visitors during FY 2017-18			
S. No.	Name & Designation	Country	Date of visits
1.	Dr. Negeri Lencho, Minister of Communication Affairs, Ethiopia alongwith his companion Mr. Abdurahman Nasir Mosa	Ethiopia	Mar 19-27, 2017
2.	Ms. Ouided Bouchamaoui, Nobel Laureate for Peace 2015 President of Utica	Tunisia	Augu 27 to Sept 04, 2017
3.	His Eminence Dr. Ahmad Badr Eddine Mohammad Adib Hassoun, Grand Mufti of Syrian Arab Republic	Syria	Sept 24 to Oct 03, 2017
4.	Ms. Marcel Diez, DG, Cervantino International Festival, Mexico	Mexico	Nov 18-26, 2017
5.	Dr. Mohammed Attahiru Jega , Former Nigerian Chief Election Commissioner	Nigeria	Dec 15-24 2017
6.	H.E. Mr. Veljko Kajtazi, Member of Parliament, Croatia	Croatia	Mar 7-15, 2018
7.	D. Nyoman Nuarta, Recipient of Padmashree Award-2018	Indonesia	March 31 to April 06, 2018



DG ICCR , Smt Riva Ganguly Das welcoming the distinguished visitor Mr A M Jega, ex Chief Election Commissioner of Nigeria and his spouse December 2017



Former President ICCR, Prof Lokesh Chandra, welcoming Ms. Ouided Bouchamaoui winner of Nobel Peace Prize 2015

A. Academic Visitors Programme (AVP): Under Academic Visitors programme, the Council invites eminent academicians including PIO/ NRI academicians for a 7 to 10 days visit to India. During 2017-18, the Council hosted eleven academicians/ scholars under AVP from various parts of the world including Tunisia, Tanzania, Morocco, Guatemala City, USA, Brunei, Venezuela, Jordan, Republic of Korea and Guyana to visit major Institutions and Universities in India.

B. The programmes include visits to Universities, interactions with students, think tanks, and delivering lectures. Following table gives details of the visits:

S.No.	Name of the visitor	Country	Indicative dates
1.	Dr. (Ms.) Badra Gaaloul, President of International Centre For Strategic, Security and Military Affairs	Tunisia	April 24 – 30 , 2017
2.	Dr. Radwan Masmoudi, President of the Center of the Study of Islam & Democracy (CSID)	Tunisia	Sept 4 – 13, 2017
3.	Prof. R. S. Mukandala, Vice-Chancellor, University of Dar-es-Salaam	Tanzania	Oct 7 - 14, 2017
4.	Mr. Mohammed Tawfik Mouline, Director General of the Royal Institute of Strategic Studies (IRES)	Morocco	Oct 8 – 18, 2017
5.	Dr. Lucrecia Mendez, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) of Rafael Landivar. University of Guatemala City	Guatemala City	Nov 5 – 12, 2017
6.	Dr. Kisor K. Chakrabarti, President, Institute for Cross Cultural Studies and Academic Exchange, Elon, NC	USA	Dec 10 – 16 , 2017
7.	Dr. Haji Norarfan Bin Haji Zainal, Ractor, University Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA)	Brunei	Feb 4 – 13, 2018
8.	Dr. Carlos Pena, Vice Rector, University of Santa Maria, Caracas	Venezuela	Feb 9 – 18, 2018
9.	Prof. Mahmoud Al Shar'ah, Dean, Faculty of Foreign Languages (FFL), University of Jordan	Jordan	Feb 19 – 28, 2018
10.	Prof. Jong Chan Choi, Professor, Department of Hindi, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Imum-ro 107, Dongdaemum-gu, Seoul	Republic of Korea	Mar 06 – 10 & 19 – 21 2018
11.	Prof. Ivelaw Lloyed Griffith, Vice-Chancellor, University of Guyana	Guyana	Mar 12– 21 2018

C. Outgoing visitors Programme (OVP): Council also facilitates visits of Indian scholars, intellectuals, academicians and artistes to foreign countries under its Outgoing Visitors Programme. Council supported 36 Indian scholars for their visits to various countries including – Netherlands, Italy, Morocco, China, Germany, Spain, Hungary, U.K., Mongolia, Nepal, USA and Mauritius – to present their papers and deliver lectures on various topics related to Indian philosophy, culture and heritage across the world. The programme provides opportunity to the Indian scholars to participate in the seminars, conferences and exchange their views with the foreign scholars. It also helps in informing about India and developments in India in various fields. Events listed below and the subjects covered therein demonstrate

how the scholars become means of India's soft power projection through this programme. The subjects range from bilateral cultural relations to introduction to India's society and culture, propagation of thoughts and philosophy of eminent Indian thinkers.

Introduction to Indian Culture and Society:

- Eminent Indian poets participated at the first Edition of Moroccan Poets Festival at Royal Institute of Amazigh Culture at Rabat, (26 – 30 April, 2017)
- Indian culture and art and its linkages with Chinese art and culture since ancient period, organized by Fujian Museum at Fuzhou, China, (19 – 20 May, 2017)
- Conference on 'Theater Without Borders' organized by University of Cologne, (29th May to 1st June, 2017)
- Paper presented by scholar on "Hindi Ka Vishva our Vishva Mei Hindi" at 7th International Conference on Literature and Culture and presents organized by World Hindi Literature Council in Budapest, (2 – 11 June, 2017)
- Paper presented by a scholar on 'Critical Evidence for the Genetic Relationship between the Dravidian and Mongolic Languages' at International Conference held at National University of Mongolia, in Ulaanbaatar, (13 – 16 July, 2017)
- Paper presented by scholar on 'Culture, Protective Policy and Indian Daughters: Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' at International Conference on Education in New York, (30 July to 3 August, 2017)
- Paper presented by scholar on "Vedic Foundations of Indian Management" at the 23rd International Vedanta Congress at Center for Indic Studies organized in University of Massachusetts, USA. (10 – 13 August, 2017)
- World Poetry Festival in memory of Monsignor Romero in San Salvador (20 – 27 August, 2017)
- Eighth Dubrovnik International Conference on the Sanskrit Epics and Puranas at Dubrovnik, (10 – 17 September 2017)
- Tenth International Conference on the Inclusive Museum" to be held at Manchester Museum, Manchester U.K. (15 – 17 September 2017)

Bilateral Cultural Relations:

- Scholars shared 'Reflections on India and China: From Civilization to Climate Change' organized by International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) and Leiden University, Netherlands (6 – 7 April, 2017)
- Seminar on India-Nepal Relations organized by Association of Political Science Studies and the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, (26 – 28 July 2017)

Thoughts and contributions of eminent Indian thinkers:

- Introduction to 'Hundred Years of Gandhiji's Satyagraha and Champaran Movement' and Bhojpuri Culture through theatre workshops organized in Mauritius, (3 – 23 August, 2017)
- Conference on Indian Diaspora (100th Anniversary of the End of Indenture) organized by GOPIO International and International Girmityas Foundation, Mauritius, (18 – 20 August 2017)
- Seminar on 90th Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore's visit to Java and Bali, (15 – 19 September 2017)
- lecture series during Gandhi Jayanti and commemoration of the International Day of Non-Violence in Nairobi at Cairo and Alexandria, Egypt, (30 September to 6th October 2017)

VI. ICCR AWARDS

ICCR has instituted awards to recognize the contributions of persons in the field of art, academic research and cultural promotion. It instituted Gisela Bonn Award in year 1996 and three Awards in the year 2015, namely (i) Distinguished Indologist Award, (ii) Distinguished Alumni Award and (iii) World Sanskrit Award.

i. ICCR Distinguished Indologist Award-2017:

Distinguished Indologist Award for 2017 was conferred to Prof. Hiroshi Marui, Professor in Indian Philosophy Department, university of Tokyo, Japan by Hon'ble President of India in a special ceremony organized at Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 27, 2017.



ii. **ICCR Distinguished Alumni Award** :

Distinguished Alumni Award was instituted to recognize ICCR Alumni who made significant achievements in his/her field and/or have made outstanding contribution to the promotion of understanding, goodwill and friendship between India and their country. Five ICCR alumni were – Ms. Rezwana Chaudhury Bannya (Bangladesh), Ms Aishath Safoora (Maldives), Dr. Saman Kelegama (Sri Lanka, posthumous), Prof. Dollaporn Phuakkhong (Thailand) and Dr. Sirojiddin S. Nurmatov (Uzbekistan) – were selected for 2017 distinguished alumni award.



iv. **Gisela Bonn Award**

Gisela Bonn Award was instituted in 1996 in the memory of Professor Dr. Gisela Bonn, an ardent friend of India and an eminent advocate of Indo-German Friendship. It is conferred annually to a German national who has made valuable contribution towards promotion of Indo-German cultural relations. Selection process of award involves screening in Germany. The selection process for Awards for year 2015-16 and 2016-17 was completed this year. Ms. Anja Bohnhof and Dr. Moritz Von Brescius were awarded for 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.



Gisela Bonn Awards

v. **ICCR World Sanskrit Award 2017**

ICCR World Sanskrit Award instituted to recognize eminent Sanskrit Scholars who made significant contribution to the study/ teaching/ research in Sanskrit language and literature. It was decided to confer the World Sanskrit Award for 2017 in financial year 2018-19.

PROMOTION OF HINDI AND SANSKRIT OVERSEAS

Promotion of Hindi and Sanskrit languages overseas is one of the important programmes in connecting people through language. There is a substantial interest in learning Sanskrit in Europe and some of the South East Asian countries. Council undertook following activities for promotion of Hindi and Sanskrit languages and literature overseas:

- Deployed six Hindi teachers (Netherlands, Russia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Suriname) and 27 Hindi Chairs (ref table no. 9) from its panel for teaching and promotion of Hindi overseas.



Turkmeni students learning Hindi in their country paid visit to Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra and ICCR

- Council deployed a full time editor and deputy editor for publication of its flagship Hindi magazine – *Gagananchal*.
- Council published three volumes of '*Gangnanchal*' as joint editions for four months each including Volume 40 No. 1-2 (January-April, 2017); Volume 40 No. 3-4 (May-August, 2017), and Volume 41 (Sept 2017-Feb 2018). Volume 40 No. 1-2 (January – April) 2017 was published as a special joint edition on Girmitiya and Overseas Indian's literature – *Girmitiya Evam Anya Pravasi Sahitya Visheshank*.
- On the initiative of the External Affairs Minister, Council tied up with Air India for distribution of *Gagananchal* in its lounges at airports.
- ICCR is a nodal organization for following up the implementation of recommendations/ decisions taken in the 10th World Hindi Conference (WHC) and ensuring coordination between the stake holders. Meetings of अनुशंसा अनुपालन Committee were held on 18 April and 21 December 2017. In addition to activities undertaken for promotion of Hindi overseas, ICCR undertakes activities for promotion of use of Hindi in day to day official work for which routinely organizes workshops and training for its employees. In 2017-18 ICCR organized two such workshops on (i) June 22, 2017 on use of Hindi through Unicode and (ii) Sept 14, 2017 on "*Rajbhasha Niti, Niyam/ Adhiniyam Vartni aur Voice Typing*".



- ICCR organized *Hindi Pakhwada* from 14 to 28 September 2017, during which various activities were carried out including competitions for Hindi essay writing, general knowledge of Hindi language, Hindi dictation and Hindi typing.

VIII. PROMOTION OF YOGA OVERSEAS

ICCR is a principal GOI organization in promotion of yoga overseas. It has been sending yoga teachers/ experts for teaching and promotion of yoga since 1980s when it started establishing Cultural Centres overseas. June 21 the longest day of the year was declared as the International Day of Yoga (IDY) in year 2015 when India won the resolution passed at the UN with a thumping majority for declaring June 21 as the IDY. As per the work distribution between the Government of India Ministries, responsibility of IDY celebrations overseas were entrusted to the Ministry of External Affairs, which in turn entrusted the same to ICCR. Since 2015, ICCR has been a key nodal agency in facilitating celebration of IDY overseas with the help of Indian missions and posts abroad. For IDY 2017 ICCR provided financial assistance of INR 6.15 Crores to 127 Indian Missions to organize yoga based events. It deployed 35 yoga teachers to various countries to lead large-scale Yoga events. In addition to yoga teachers eleven ayush teams comprising of Yoga, Ayurveda, Sidhha and Unani experts were sent to different countries.



IDY 2017
celebrations
overseas by Indian
Missions and Posts

New initiatives on IDY 2017

- i. In addition to celebrations overseas, Yoga lessons for one week were organized with the help of Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY, Delhi) for foreign diplomats stationed in Delhi who performed yoga in an event organized in collaboration with MEA for celebration of IDY on June 21 at the Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi. The event was inaugurated by the External Affairs Minister, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj and participated by over 100 diplomats representing various countries.



- ii. In compliance to PM's directives to the MEA, as a pilot initiative, 15000 Khadi Yoga Kits procured from Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) were sent to Indian Missions for presentation on IDY and other occasions. Khadi yoga kits were also distributed to the diplomats in the above-mentioned event.



IX. TRAVEL GRANTS

Travel Grants is yet another important programme of ICCR to promote exchange of artists and scholars by way of supporting the travel of such artists and scholars who have been invited by eminent foreign institutes/ organizations/ prestigious festivals/ museums/ local bodies & centres promoting Indian culture for presenting their art works/ performances/ research papers/ talks/ presentations. The programmes function as an important instrument for motivating the artists and scholars. ICCR provided travel grants to 30 performing art groups comprising of 131 Artists of different genres, 07 visual artists and 21 scholars from various field in year 2017-2018.

Table 11: Travel grants to performing artists

S. No.	Name of group	Country	Date
1	Ms. Ritu Beri, Delhi to participate in the Luxury Symposium 2017	France	1 – 9 April 2017
2	02 Travel grants to Shri Amit Chatterjee (Tabla), West Bengal	Germany	24 April – 12 May 2017
3	02 travel grants to Shri Ritesh and Rajnish Mishra (Hindustani Vocal), Delh	USA	13 April – 24 May 2017
4	Prof. Ashok Sagar Bhagat, Associate Professor Theatre Architecture and Prof. Tripurari Sharma, Professor Acting from National School of Drama, Delhi Akademi's Indo – British joint production "The Troth" (Usne Kaha Tha) – Year of Indian Culture	UK	23 April – 07 May 2017
5	11 travel grants to Shri Bhumikeshwar Singh "Pratibha Sanskritik Sansthan" - Theater, Delhi. To participate in the Tact International Theater Festival	Italy	21 – 28 May 2017
6	09 travel grants to Indian National Youth Orchestra (INYO) led by Ms. Sonia Khan, Delhi. To perform in the event at the Golden Hall	Austria	09-15 June 2017

7	09 Travel grants to Dr. Padma Subramaniam (Bharatnatyam), Tamil Nadu and her group	Singapore	16-17 June 2017
8	09 Travel grants to Guru Ratikant Mohapatra (Odissi), Odisha To participate in the annual event "Dance India Pacific 2017"		
9	05 travel grants to Ms, Laxmi Chandrashekhar "Kriyative Theatre Trust", Karnataka To present their play "Where the Shadow Ends"	Serbia	25 June – 05 July 2017
10	01 Travel grant to Dr. Anwesa Mahanta (Sattriya Dance), Assam. To present her work in the conference "Rasa: The Social Ecology of Arts"	Canada	23-29 July 2017
11	02 group led by Shri Naresh Kapuria (set designer To design the set of Stockholm Cultural Festival	Sweden	12 – 18 August 2017
12	01 Travel grant to Shri Atish Mukhopadhaya (Sarod), West Bengal, To give cultural performances and workshops	USA	8 – September – 7 November 2017
13	04 Travel grants to Ms. Sunayana Hazarilal (Kathak), Maharashtra, To give cultural performances, lecture demonstration and workshop at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Institute of Future Cities"	Hong Kong	19 – 27 September 2017
14	08 Travel grants to Shri Kulte Khan and his groups and 07 travel grants to Dr. L. Subramaniam, Karnataka and his group to participate in "Confluence" Festival of India, Australia 2017. (Teamwork)	Australia	26 September – 16 October 2017 30 September – 10 October 2017
15	15 Travel grants to Shri Ravi Shankar Vempati Chinna Satyam (Kuchipudi), Telangana , To present a Kuchipudi dance production titled "Vempati Nartanam"	Malaysia	01 – 06 November 2017
16	01 Travel grant to Ms. Anuradha Pal (Tabla), Maharashtra To participate in the India Week, Hamburg 2017	Germany	6 – 12 November 2017
17	11 Travel grants to Shri Tarit Kanti Mitra (Theatre group – Sansaptak), New Delhi	Bangladesh	03 – 10 January 2018
18	11 – member Rajasthani Folk group "Rajasthani Josh" led by Shri Chugge Khan, Rajasthan To participate in the ASEAN-India Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention	Singapore	06 - 08 January
19	10-member Theyyam group "Malabar Theyyam Samskarka" led by Shri Prajish R.M, Kerala, To participate in the "Symbols and Scripts – The Language of Craft"	Singapore	07 – 10 December 2017
20	10-member folk group "Karagam Kavadi - (Karagam Peacock Folk) led Shri T.N. Shivaji Rao, Tamil Nadu , to give cultural performances on the occasion of Republic Day celebration in Kenya and Tanzania	Kenya Tanzania Seychelles	18 – 28 January 2018
21	10-member Rajasthani Folk Dance and Music group "Sadiq Khan Langa Party" led Shri Sadiq Khan Langa, Rajasthan, To give cultural performances on the occasion of Republic Day celebration in Jordan and to give cultural performances in Syria	Jordan Syria	24 January – 05 February 2018

22	10 – member Manipuri Folk “Ibudhou Loyalakpa” group led by Shri Pradip Singh Chanambam, New Delhi To give cultural performances on the occasion of Republic Day celebrations	Tunisia	24 – 29 January 2018
23	10-member Bhangra and Gidda “Gagandeep Singh & Party” group led by Shri Gagandeep Singh, Punjab to give cultural performances on the occasion of Republic Day celebration in Egypt and Qatar	Egypt	24 – 28 January 2018
24	09-member group (Classical and Pung Cholom) led by Ms. Bina Devi Laishram, New Delhi To give cultural performances on the occasion of Republic Day celebrations in Cyprus and to give cultural performances in Spain	Cyprus Spain	25 January – 03 02 February 2018
25	07 – member Purulia Chhau group led by Shri Chitta Ranjan Mahato “Milan Sangha Chhau Nirtya Party”, West Bengal To give cultural performances on the occasion of Republic Day celebration	Taiwan	25 – 29 January 2018
26	08 travel grants to Bombay Symphony Orchestra, Maharashtra	Sri Lanka	1 – 8 February 2018
27	12 Travel grants to Shri Kalamandalam Gopi (Kathakali), Kerala	Singapore	2 – 5 February 2018
28	12-member Rajasthani group led by Shri Nek Mohammad, Rajasthani To participate in the Chiang Mai World Fair	Thailand	2 – 7 February 2018
29	02 Calligraphist – Shri Syed Tariq Azhar & Shri Ghulam Syedain Khwaja, Uttar Pradesh Shri Santosh Kumar Nair (Curator), Delhi 32 nd Saudi National Festival of Heritage and Culture “Janadriyah Festival”	Saudi Arabia	04 – 20 February 2018 05 – 25 February 2018
30	01 travel grant to Shri Shubham Kumar, Delhi To participate in the Chiletino 2018 Festival	Chile	5 – 25 February 2018

1	Visit of Ms. Dipali Saha	UK	September/October, 2017
2	Visit of Mr. Vibhor Sogani and Mrs. Navdeep Kaur Sogani to curate the exhibition 'Mahatma in Me, A tribute to Gandhi Ji'	Zimbabwe	September, 2017
3	Visit of Mr. Raghu Rai to participate in the International Photography Festival.	Israel	November, 2017
4	Visit of Mr. Syed Tariq Azhar and Shri Ghulam Syedain Khwaja, curators of the Calligraphy Exhibition to participate in the 'Janadriyah Festival'	Saudi Arabia	February, 2018
5	Visit of Shri Kashi Nath Das to curate the exhibition 'Monuments of India'	Tajikistan	March, 2018

X. ICCR LIBRARY AND GOSH-E-AZAD COLLECTION

ICCR has a library with a wide range of books on Indian Art, Culture, Literature, History, International Relations and other topics. The collection includes books in various Indian languages viz Hindi, Urdu, Persian, Arabic, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi and others and CDs and DVDs on Indian Art, Music, Dance. Main attraction of the ICCR's library is its *Gosha-e-Azad* collection, a collection of over 10,000 rare books donated by Maulana Azad, founder of ICCR.

Initiatives taken in 2017-2018:

- I. ICCR published replica of four Persian manuscripts for presentation by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Iranian President during his official visit to India in February 2018.
- II. Under special project ICCR produced a DVD on "*Lalan Shah Fakir ke Geet*" in Hindi translated by Shri Muchkund Dubey (former Foreign Secretary). The DVD was released by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India in June 2017 at an event organized at Rashtrapati Bhavan and the song were sung by renowned Bangladeshi singer Mrs. Farida Parveen.



- III. Maulana Azad donated his entire collection of about 10,000 rare and valuable books in Arabic, Persian, Urdu, English, Polish, German, French, Dari and Sanskrit and 196 rare manuscripts in Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Dari. The collection is called *Gosha-e-Azad*. Under its ongoing audio-visual-content-digitization programme commenced in 2016-2017 ICCR is in the process of preserving and digitizing 196 manuscripts in coordination with the National Manuscript Mission (NMM). These include manuscripts of Ameer Khusro, Maulana Rumi, Hafiz Shirazi and Sheikh Saadi beside a carefully curated collection of other rare books. Once well restored and preserved, the manuscripts will be digitized and made public on NMM's online library.

6

PERFORMING AND VISUAL ART EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

i. OUTGOING CULTURAL DELEGATION

Outgoing Cultural Delegation Programme is targeted to propagate Indian culture by sending performing art groups abroad to present their performances at the events organized by ICCR, or Missions or as part of Cultural Festival, or participating in the host country's cultural festivals all of which are the platforms for showcasing Indian culture through its strong tradition of performing arts. ICCR sends artists and groups empaneled with it for these performances. ICCR covers wide range of genres under its panel of artists including:

Dance and Theatre forms		Music forms	
1	Classical dance forms – Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, Mohiniattam, Odissi and Satriya	1	Classical vocal – both Hindustani and Carnatic
2	Folk dance forms – from all parts of India	2	Classical instrumental – both Hindustani and Carnatic
3	Contemporary dance forms	3	Folk vocal and instrumental music – from all parts of India
4	Theatre and mime	4	Contemporary music
5	Puppet artists	5	Choir groups
6	Popular cinema dance forms	6	Qawwali and Sufi music

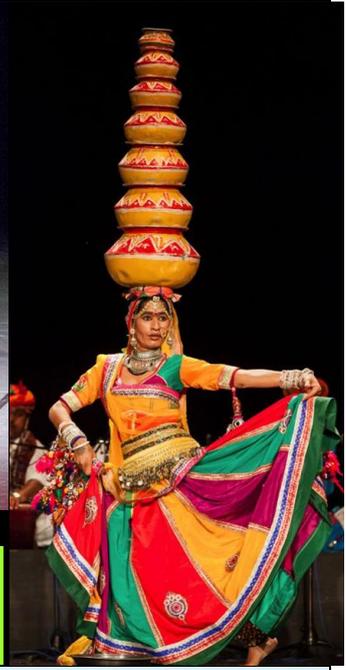
In 2017-2018 ICCR sponsored 165 groups to 93 countries from 22 States of India to participate in various prestigious international festivals and events. Council ensure participation of both young, emerging, talented artists and outstanding renowned masters. Groups representing all genres were sponsored Special efforts were made to sponsor cultural groups from North East Region.

S.no.	Event/ Festival	Country
1	International Jazz Festival	Uzbekistan
2	India by the Nile Festival	Egypt
3	International Shadow Festival	Hungary
4	Indian Classical Art Festival	Portugal
5	6 th Sufi Festival	
5	4 th edition of Harare International Festival of Arts, (HIFA)	Zimbabwe
6	Dance Xchange Festival	Philippines

8	Luth Festival of Tetouan	Morocco
9	Tact International Theater Festival (TACT)	Italy
10	Commemoration of 25 th anniversary of India-ASEAN dialogue	Malaysia
11	Busan International Dance Festival	South Korea
12	Concordia Ball event	Austria
13	Khanh Hoa Beach Festival	Vietnam
14	11 Rhythm of the Earth World Festival	Thailand
15	Dance India Pacific 2017	Singapore
16	Serenade Washington DC Choral Festival	USA
17	International Mask Festival	Thailand
18	Inauguration of Astana Expo 2017	Kazakhstan
19	Osijek Cultural Summer Festival (OLIK)	Croatia
20	Where the Shadow Ends	Serbia
21	The Ring of Sun – International Folk Festival	Lithuania
22	International Golden Karogoz Folk Dance event	Turkey
23	Bharatnatyam Festival	Malaysia
24	18 th Volubnilies International World Traditional Music Festival	Morocco
25	Rialto World Music Festival	Cyprus
26	India Arrival Day	Trinidad & Tobago
27	Versiliana Festival and Festival of Loano	Italy
28	Rasa: The Social Ecology of Arts	Canada
29	Erau & Tebrru International Folk Dance Art Festival	Indonesia
30	Lotus Festival	Hungary
31	Salalah Festival	Oman
32	Nallur Mahotsav 2017	Sri Lanka
33	International Burgas Folklore Festival	Bulgaria
34	Karmiel Dance Festival	Israel
35	18 th edition of Ismailia International Festival of Culture & Arts	Egypt
36	Rouhanyet Festival	Tunisia
37	9 th International Music Festival “Sharq Taronalari”	Uzbekistan
38	Folklore Festival in Liptal	Czech Republic
39	Copenhagen World Music Festival	Denmark
40	Gastronomy Festival	Colombia
41	Namaste India	Japan
42	BRICS Cultural Festival	China
43	10 th International Samma Festival of Chanting & Spiritual Music	Egypt
44	3 rd edition of Religious forum	Egypt
45	Confluence” Festival of India	Australia 2017
46	Indian Cultural Festival – Nirmalanjali	Romania
47	Cerventino Festival	Mexico
48	Sarang Festival	South Korea
49	Creole Festival	Seychelles
50	Hamburg Festival	Germany
51	Carnival of Tunisia – Festival	Tunis
52	Lamu Festival	Kenya
53	16 th Edition of Kala Utsavam Festival	Singapore
54	Milapfest-Liverpool 2017	



02-member Chhau group led by Shri Rakesh Sai Babu to Portugal to participate in the first Indian Art Festival from 27 April to 04 May 2017



10-member Rajasthani group "Suramnath Kalbeliya" led by Shri Suramnath Kalbeliya, Rajasthan presented cultural performances on the opening ceremony of Astana Expo from 23 June to 1st July 2017 Kazakhstan and Osijek Cultural Summer Festival (OLIK) in Croatia from 01-04 July 2017



12-member Mizoram folk group led by F. Lalthanmawia participated in the International Folk Dance festival in Lithuania, 30th June to 7th July 2017. The group won third prize.



15-member folk group from Nagaland "Kuyingpong Culture Society" led by Shiromong Sangtam participated in Deepavali Light Festival in Singapore, 1-6 September 2017

10-member Theyyam group "Malabar Theyyam Samskarka" led by Shri Prajish R.M to Singapore to participate in the "Symbols and Scripts – The Language of Craft" from 07-10 September 2017



ii. CULTURAL FESTIVALS ABROAD

Genesis of organizing Festivals of India was in 1980s when ICCR took large-scale cultural festivals to Russia and Europe to show most of the aspects of India's performing, visual and other art forms, which included Indian dances, music, handicrafts, exhibitions, gastronomy, fashion and films. Most of the large-scale cultural Festivals are now fall under Ministry of Culture's domain, however ICCR continues organizing medium to small scale cultural festivals, as also collaborates with Ministry of Culture in organizing large-scale festivals. In 2017-2018 ICCR sent its artists to eight important festivals.

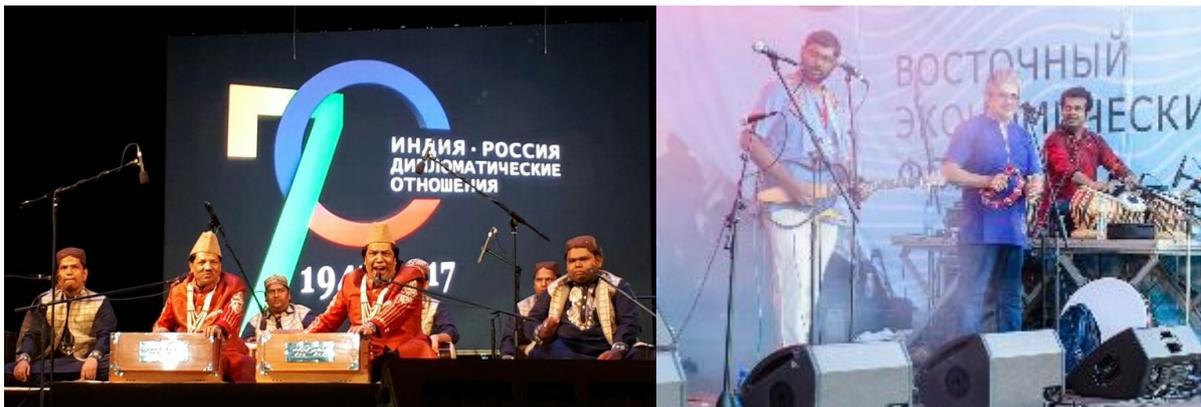
a) Colors of India Festival, China (15-26 May, 2017): ICCR and China Federation of Literary Art Circles (CFLAC) signed an MOU in August, 2016 for cultural cooperation. The first cultural festival under the MOU called *Colors of India Festival* was organized in Beijing and Nanjing from 15-26 May, 2017. The festival culminated in gala performance in each of the city by a delegation of 65 artists sent by ICCR. The performances included (i) Fusion choreography of dance, martial and percussion arts called 'Charishnu' choreographed by Leela Samson, (ii) Kathak by Aditi Mangaldas, (iii) Odissi by Aruna Mohanty, (iv) Martial arts of Thangta and Manipur dance by Priti Patel in Manipuri, (v) Percussions by Uma Mahesh Vihayakarm, (vi) Bharatnatyam by Leela Samson and (vii) Love Story- A Bollywood musical'.



b) India-UK year: This festival was organized by the Ministry of Culture. ICCR supported participation of five groups for the festival. ICCR sponsored artists and groups for participation at (i) Last Opera composition “Sukanya”, (ii) Glasgow Mela, (iii) Tribal India Festival, (iv) Darbar Festival. One of the highlights was the Indo – British joint production of a play – “The Troth” (*Usne Kaha Tha*), where the India artists were sponsored by ICCR to visit UK for production of this play.



- c) Stockholm cultural festival, Sweden: India country of honour:** India was country of honour at the Stockholm cultural festival, an annual festival organized by the city of Stockholm. ICCR sponsored the artists for participation at Stockholm Cultural Festival and Stockholm Sangeet Festival.
- d) Festival of India in Ottawa:** Festival of India was organized in Canada from 9 – 21 August 2017. Council sponsored three cultural groups namely, (i) Fusion band group “Mrigya” led by Shri Rajat Kakkar, (ii) Bharatnatyam dance group led by Ms. Rama Vaidyanathan and (iii) Chhau group “Purulia” led by Shri Dilip Chandra Mahato.
- e) Namaste Russia – A Festival of Indian Culture:** “Namaste Russia – Festival of Indian Culture” was organized in Russia from April to November 2017 commemorating 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Russia. Council has sponsored 05 cultural groups – (i) Sitar group led by Shri Shujaat Khan, (ii) Shillong Chamber Choir group led by Shri Demon, (iii) Qawwali group “Nizami Brothers” led by Ghulam Sabir and Ghulam Waris, (iv) Fusion Band group “Indian Ocean” led by Shri Dhruv Jagasia and (v) Bollywood group led by Ms. Shubhra Bhardwaj.





Namaste Russia 2017

f) Janadriyah Festival, Saudi Arabia, India Country of Honour:

India was country of honour at the prestigious Janadriyah Festival, an annual cultural festival organized in Saudi Arabia from 6 -28 February 2018. The festival inaugurated by External Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj and President ICCR, Shri Vinay Saharabudde participated at the closing of the festival. Council sponsored eight cultural groups – (i) Bollywood & Bhangra led by Sukhvinder Singh, (ii) Garbha, folk dance from Gujarat led by Ashok Hansdev Sagathia, (iii) Kalariyattu led by Ranjan Mullaratt, (iv) Kathakali led by Padinhare Kizhikkilot Kunhi Raman (C.K. Marar), (v) Manipuri led by Maisnam Ibochouba, (vi) folk dance from Rajasthan led by Hansraj Bhaat, (vi) Kathak led by Rajendra Gangani, (vii) Purulia Chhau led by Jodharam Kumar, (viii) two Calligraphist. The performing arts section of the Festival was curated by Santosh Kumar Nair, ICCR empaneled artist.



Janadriyah Festival, February 2018

- g) In addition to the above-mentioned festivals, ICCR sponsored groups for participation at **India Week- Hamburg 2017 in Germany, India week Turkemenistan**



India Week Hamburg 2017

iii. **INCOMING CULTURAL DELEGATIONS (from foreign countries to India)**

Under the bilateral cultural exchanges and commitments under CEP ICCR receives incoming cultural delegations from all over the world, which it brings to the Indian audiences through stand-alone events or the cultural festivals it organizes on an annual basis. In 2017-18, ICCR hosted 66 international cultural groups from various countries across the globe to perform in various cities of India including international festivals, in which Indian groups also participated.

iv. **INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL FESTIVAL**

ICCR organized following major international festivals in India:

a) **Africa Festival 2017:** The Council organized Africa Festival from 25-26 May, 2017 at Azad Bhavan Auditorium, New Delhi. Groups from South Africa, Congo, Botswana, Mauritius and Ethiopia participated in the Festival. Each group gave performances in two/three cities of India, beyond Delhi. One cultural show was organized by one of the group from Africa in 13 cities of India, beyond Delhi.

b) **3rd International Ramayana Festival 2017 :** The Council organized 3rd International Ramayana Festival 2017 in which groups from Indonesia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Nepal and one Indian group from Bangalore performed in Delhi & other cities of India from 11-13 September 2017. Each group gave performances in two/three cities of India, beyond Delhi. The Ramayana groups were given performances in 11 cities of India, beyond Delhi.



c) **7th Delhi International Jazz Festival 2017:** The Council organized the 7th Delhi International Jazz Festival 2017 from 23-25 September 2017 in New Delhi. The international groups from France, Spain, Mexico, Israel, South Africa, Korea, Taiwan, Israel and three Indian groups participated in the Festival. Each group gave performances in two/three cities of India, beyond Delhi. Groups were performed in 9 cities of India, beyond Delhi.



d) **4th International Folk Dance and Music Festival 2017:** The Council organized the 4th International Folk Dance and Music Festival 2017 from 9-11 October 2017 in New Delhi. The international groups from Spain, Egypt, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Russia and one Indian group participated in the Festival. Each group gave performances in two/three cities of India, beyond Delhi. The groups were given performances in 10 cities of India, beyond Delhi.



e) **Ramayana Festival by ASEAN Countries 2018:** The Council organized Ramayana Festival from 20-24 January 2018 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi participated 10 ASEAN members Countries. The groups from Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Singapore, Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, Philippines and Brunei participated in the festival. Each group gave performances in two/three cities of India, beyond Delhi. Groups were given performances in 5 cities of India, beyond Delhi.





f) 2nd Latin America Festival 2017: The Council organized 2nd Latin America Festival 2017 from 22-23 November 2017 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi. The international groups from Gautemala, Mexico, Panama and Colombia participated. Each group gave performances in two/three cities of India, beyond Delhi. Groups were performed in 5 cities of India, beyond Delhi.

g) 8th International Dance & Music Festival 2018: The Council organized the 8th International Dance & Music Festival from 13-15 January 2018 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi. The international groups from Kazakhstan, Syria Sri Lanka, Lithuania, South Africa, Germany, Mongolia and Israel performed in Delhi & different cities of India. Each group gave performances in two/three cities of India, beyond Delhi. The groups were given performances in 14 cities of India, beyond Delhi.



Group from Mongolia participating in International Folk Dance Festival in Delhi and other cities

h) Girmitiya Cultural Festival 2018: The Council organized Girmitiya Cultural Festival on 7 February 2018 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi. The international groups from Fiji and Trinidad & Tobago performed in Delhi, IGNCA and Faridabad Surajkund Mela.

In addition to receiving and introducing artists from world over of different genre in ICCR's International festivals it organized in Delhi and other cities of country, in 2017-2018, ICCR also organized events inviting the following groups:

a) The Troth - Usne kaha tha: The Troth – Usne kaha tha, unique India-UK joint production was created during the celebration of India-UK year in 2017. ICCR collaborated in by supporting the travel of the Indian artists. The play was first showcased in UK and then presented in Delhi at Kamani auditorium on January 29, 2018.

INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS
cordially invites you to
(A Story of love, loss and sacrifice in World War I)
THE TROTH
Usne Kaha Tha
presented by Akademi UK, London
Monday, 29 January 2018
from 6.30 pm onwards
Kamani Auditorium, Copernicus Marg,
New Delhi - 110001
*Please be seated by 6.15 pm. *Seating on first come first served basis.
*Children below 5 years not allowed.
*Food and drinks not permitted. *Right of Admission reserved.
RSVP : 23379309 Admit : Two

b) Battery Dance: In collaboration with the U.S. Department of State ICCR presented on January 31, 2018 “Shakti: A Return to the Source,” by a New York-based contemporary dance group – the Battery Dance Company. The performance was directed by international award-winning choreographer Jonathan Hollander, co-founder of the Indo-American Arts Council. The performances were collaboration between the American dancers of Battery Dance and Indian classical dancer Unnath Hassan Rathnaraju, for which music was provided by Hindustani vocalists Rajan and Sajan Mishra and a tabla performance by Samir Chatterjee. “Shakti: A Return to the Source” was first performed as “The Durga Project” in New York to mark the 40th anniversary of the Battery Dance Company in 2016. Performance by Battery Dance Compay was introduced to audiences in Delhi, Mumbai, Mumbai, Pune, Bengaluru and Kolkata.

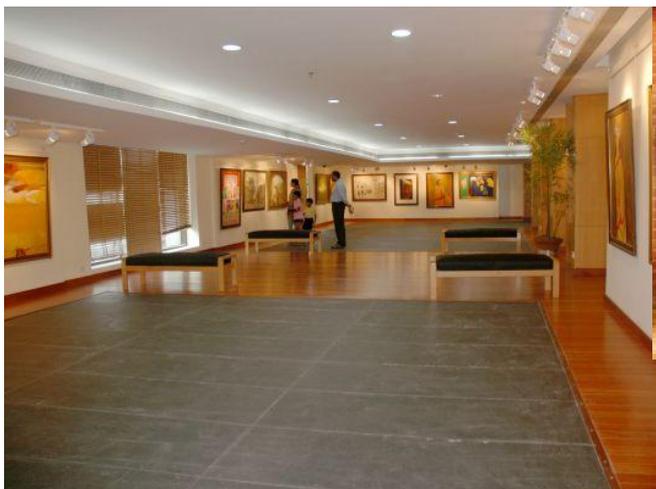


c) Guangzhou (Chinese) ballet group: ICCR, along with Embassy of China co-hosted Guangzhou Ballet brought by China Federation of Literary and Art Circles on February 1, 2018 at Siri Fort Auditorium. This was the first time Chinese ballet was introduced to the Indian audience.



d) Programmes organized for MEA: Apart from above, the Council organized performances of 27 Indian artistes/groups organized in the honour of visiting VVIPs.

e) Indian Horizons: In addition to receiving and introducing the foreign cultural groups to Indian audience, ICCR also organizes programmes for the young and emerging Indian artists under its Indian Horizon series. The programme is implemented at regional level by ICCR's regional offices, wherein the provision is made for supporting the local artist to provide them platform, exposure and experience.



Activities organized under Indian Horizon series at ICCR's regional offices

V. EXHIBITIONS – Incoming and Outgoing

Under the bilateral Cultural Exchange Programmes with other countries and under its own programme of activities, the Council sponsors exhibitions of Indian art and crafts to foreign countries and receives exhibitions from abroad for expositions in India. In addition, exhibitions are also organized for display as part of ICCR's various Festivals of Indian Culture abroad. ICCR owns a rich collection of 27 exhibitions of paintings, photographs and textile, which are sent for display during art events abroad. ICCR houses an Art Gallery and organizes exhibitions by Indian and foreign artists. In 2017-18, the Council organized 09 exhibitions (including 4 of ICCR's own collection) abroad covering various subjects such as Buddhist sites/heritage, paintings, photographs and calligraphy. In addition, Council extended support to the publication of the PIX's 14th issue on photography and photographic art in Myanmar and sponsored the visit of 8 eminent artists/curators to curate exhibitions/deliver lecture etc. in Brazil, Colombia, UK, Zimbabwe, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Tajikistan. The Council hosted the 12 painting/ photographic/ mask/ calligraphic exhibitions in Delhi and Kolkata.



S.no.	Exhibition	Country	Dates
1.	Buddhist Sites/Heritage	Vietnam	April, 2017
2.	Mahatma in Me curated by Shri Vibhor Sogani to Harare to participate in the 'India in Sunshine Festival'.	Zimbabwe	August, 2017
3.	Painting exhibition of Ms. Dipali Saha	UK	August, 2017
4.	Painting exhibition 'India at 70' curated by Ms. Gargi Seth to participate in 'Festival of India' and for display at Chulalongkorn University	Thailand	September/October, 2017
5.	Painting exhibition 'Rhythm of Colors'	Venezuela Curacao	September/October, 2017
6.	Painting exhibition 'Conflict of Zone between War and Peace' curated by Ms. Hemavathy Guha.	Jerusalem	October/November, 2017
7.	Photo exhibition of Shri Raghu Rai	Israel	November, 2017
8.	Calligraphy exhibition curated by Rampur Raza Library	Saudi Arabia	February, 2018
9.	Painting exhibition 'Monument of India' by Shri Kashi Nath Das	Tajikistan	March, 2018

s.no	Exhibition	Date	Place
1.	Painting Exhibition of Shri Kailash Chand Kumawat	April, 2017	Delhi
2-6	Exhibition 'Cross Roads' curated by Ms. Gargi Seth at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra in collaboration with External Affairs Spouse Association and Spouses of Head of Missions in India	May, 2017	Delhi
	Photo Exhibition of Shri Achin Biswas		Delhi
	Painting Exhibition 'Desh Bhakt Sanyasi – Swami Vivekanand' by Shri Manjit Singh		Delhi
	Painting Exhibition 'New Takes' by Shri Gyanendra Kumar		Delhi
	Painting Exhibition of Dr. Sangeeta Singh		Delhi
7-8.	Painting Exhibition 'Vandevta' by Shri Dhananjay Mukherjee to coincide with World environment Day.	June, 2017	Delhi
	Painting Exhibition of Shri Om Pandey		Delhi
9.	Mask Exhibition from Mexico in Kolkata during September, 2017	September, 2017	Kolkata
10.	photographic Exhibition 'Neruda : Absence and Presence' from Chile	October, 2017	Kolkata
11.	Painting Exhibition of spouse of the Head of the Mission of Paraguay	November, 2017	Delhi
12.	Exhibition of Moroccan Calligraphy and visit of 3-member delegation	March, 2018	Delhi

s.no	Exhibition	Country	dates
1	Support extended for publication of the PIX's 14 th issue on photography & photographic art.	Myanmar	April, 2017
2	Lecture tour of Shri Benoy K. Behl and Ms. Sujata Chatterjee	Brazil, Colombia	May – June, 2017

vi. BUST AND STATUES

The Council has an ongoing programme of presenting busts and statues of Indian leaders and thinkers or sculptures of historical significance for the ceremonial installation in other countries. During the year 2017-18, following six busts, two statues and replica of Ashoka Chakra were sent abroad.

1. Two 42” Bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Shanghai, China (June 2017)
2. 42” Bronze Bust of Rabindernath Tagore sent to Nicosia, Cyprus (Sept 2017)
3. 42” Bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Lilongwe, Malawi (Sept 2017)
4. 42” Bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Bogota, Colombia (Oct 2017)
5. 6”.6’ Bronze Statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Padyatra pose sent to EOI, Athens Greece (Nov 2017)
6. 42” Bronze Bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Trinidad Beni, Bolivia (Jan 2018)
7. One 6’ 6” (6 feet and 6 inches) bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain (Feb 2018)



7

ICCR'S ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

ICCR's functioning at Head Quarters:

ICCR deliver its functions through its sections: (i) Administration & Establishment, (ii) Finance, Accounts & Accounts, (iii) Indian Culture Centres, (iv) Regional Offices, (v) Scholarship, (vi) Chair, (vii) Conference & Seminar, (viii) Hindi Promotion, (ix) Outgoing Cultural Delegation (OCD), (x) Incoming Cultural Delegation (ICD), (xi) Exhibition, Bust & Statues, (xii) Visitors' Programmes, (xiii) ICCR Awards and (xiv) Publications & Library. With important digitization drive initiated in 2016-2017, a new section to look after all matters related to E-Governance & Information Technology in ICCR called EG&IT Section was formed in April 2017. Similarly to attend to General Coordination & Parliamentary matters a dedication section for the purpose was also established. With this ICCR now has a total of 16 Sections.

Finance Section was strengthened and modified into Finance, Accounts, Planning and Audit Section to give emphasis on the Planning process, streamline internal audit mechanisms and ensure timely follow up on compliance on external audit conducted.

Digitization in ICCR

In order to make its delivery systems transparent and efficient, in 2016-2017 ICCR initiated digitization of its offices and delivery systems in a mission. Some of the important projects were completed in year 2017-2018 are as follows:

- I. **Admissions to Alumni (A2A) Scholarship Portal:** In order to streamline management of scholarships ICCR was administering, entre processing was digitized and A2A portal was launched on January 17, 2018.

- II. **Direct Benefit Transfer Portal:** ICCR onboarded nine of its programmes identified by the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Mission as DBT Applicable on DBT – Bharat Portal in targeted time on 23 May 2017. These programmes are : (i) Chairs for Promotion of Indian Studies in the University Abroad, (ii) Festival of India abroad, (iii) Horizon Series, (iv) Installation of Statues and Busts, (v) Outgoing Cultural Programmes, (vi) Outgoing Exhibitions, (vii) Promotion of Hindi and Sanskrit Language Overseas, (viii) Promotion of Yoga, (ix) Publications (*Gaganchal*).
- III. **Moving from cash & cheques payments to Electronic payments:** In compliance of Ministry of Finance's on dated December 05, 2016, ICCR ensured all payments were made through NEFT/RTGS/bank transfer only and not by cheque. ICCR is currently in the process of implementing all payments through PFMS platform.

Training/ Workshop

One area that was weak in ICCR and needed urgent attention was the capacity building of its personnel. Initiative was taken in year 2016-2017 and talks were initiated with the Foreign Service Institute (FSI) to design training programmes for ICCR personnel or include ICCR personnel in the training programmes conducted for similar functionaries in MEA. As a result of this initiative ICCR could conduct training programme for many of its officers both from Head Quarters and Regions. In addition to the training programmes with FSI, ICCR organized customized programmes for its personnel for their orientation and capacity building in the area of use of electronic platforms for administrative and financial functions. The training programmes conducted this were as follows:

- (i) A workshop on use of Hindi by using Unicode was organized for ICCR officials on June 22, 2017 to learn use of Hindi fonts while typing.
- (ii) With the onboarding of ICCR's nine schemes on DBT portal, workshop on "Seeding authentication of aadhar was conducted in collaboration with UIDAI for ICCR officials in June, 2017. A total of 24 ICCR officials attended the workshop.
- (iii) Workshop on "*Rajbhasha Niti, Niyam/ Adhinyam Vartni*" and Voice Typing was organized for ICCR officials on September 14, 2017.

- (iv) Training for Assistant Programme Officers of ICCR Cadre was organized in Foreign Service Institute on September 26, 2017.
- (v) Training for Programme Officers of ICCR Cadre was organized in Foreign Service Institute from October 09-16, 2017.



- (vi) Training for ICCR officials on EAT/ DBT module of PFMS was organized in December, 2017 organised with the help of Institute of Government Accounts and Finance.
- (vii) During the year, three rounds of workshops were organized for functionaries at ICCR Head Quarters and Regional Offices for learning the use and operationalizing of A2A Portal.

Annual Accounts and Audit

I. Annual Accounts of ICCR and laying of the same in the Parliament:

Due to end of tenure of ICCR's statutory bodies in September 2015 and reconstitution of the same by March 2016 the Annual Accounts for financial years 2014-15, 2015-16 were approved in 2016. Subsequently certification audit of these financial years was ensured in 2016-17 and 2017-18. The audited Annual Accounts along with the Annual Reports for years 2014-15 and 2015-16 were laid in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on December 12, 2017 and December 28, 2017 respectively.

Simultaneously, in the current financial year, ICCR ensured timely preparation of Annual Accounts of previous financial year 2016-2017, their approval by its statutory bodies and completion of certification audit. This was the first year when the audited Annual Accounts and Annual Report for previous financial year were prepared, approved, audited and laid in the Parliament in time. Annual Accounts and Annual Report 2016-2017 were laid in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on March 21, 2018 and March 22, 2018 respectively. With this Annual Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports pending for previous years (2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17) were streamlined and laid in the Parliament.

II. Audit:

In an endeavour to improve ICCR's internal financial and regulatory management internal Audit of ICCR's Regional Offices was undertaken by the team of officers from ICCR HeadQuarters. Regional offices of Mumbai, Chandigarh, Bhubneswar, Sholling, Guwahti, Bangalore and Hyderabad were covered during the period of this Annual Report.

As regards the external audits, ICCR ensured responding to the following external audits in time:

- A. Thematic audit on the functioning of ICC's at mission and posts was conducted by DGACE in June/July, 2017.
- B. Transaction audit of ICCR's Annual Accounts for 2016-17 was conduct of by DGACE from August 1 to November 8, 2017.
- C. Certification audit of ICCR accounts was done by office of DGACE from November 27 to December 8, 2017.

In addition to the above, a four member Performance Audit team led by Ambassador (Retd.) Veena Sikri submitted its report in April 2017. ICCR had in December 2015 commissioned Performance Audit by an external team to review functioning of its ICCs and Chairs overseas. The report was shared with the Ministry and the Missions.



8

Initiatives taken for 2018-2019

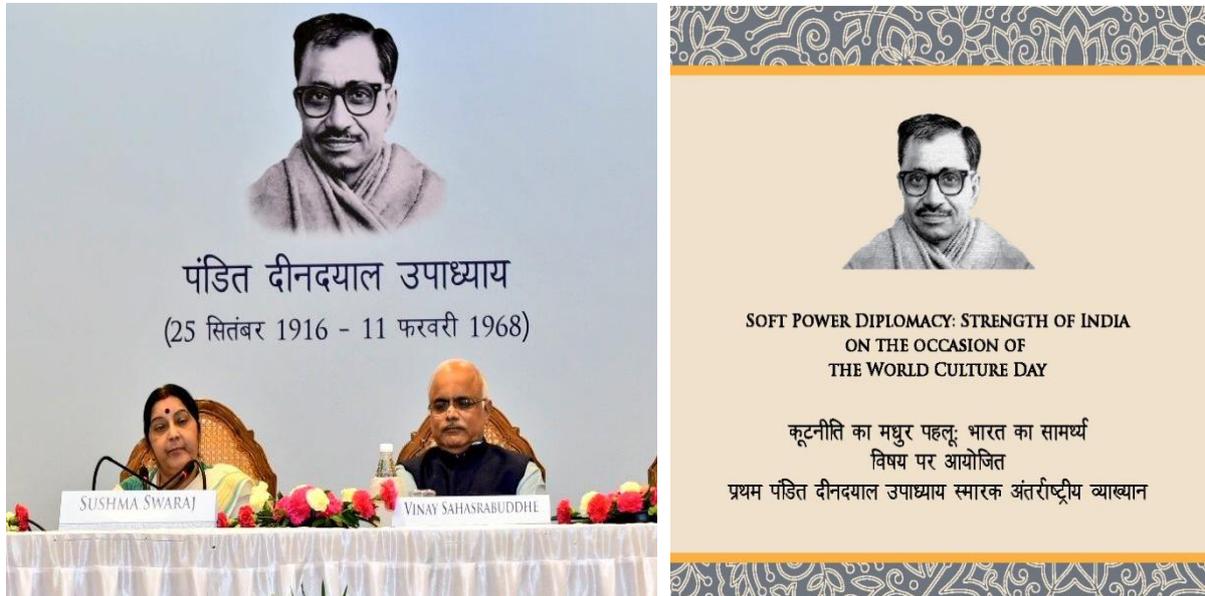
With the beginning of the new financial year, under the guidance of President ICCR, ICCR following initiatives were taken:

- i. In compliance to the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs which undertook a detailed study in 2016 on “India’s soft power projection and role of ICCR and Overseas Affairs Division, ICCR initiated work on developing “Soft Power Matrix” for measuring the outcome of the efforts put in by all the agencies working for projection of India’s soft power overseas. Meetings were held with the External Affairs Minister, Niti Aayog and all the departments involved in projection and promotion of India’s soft power. A session was also dedicated on Soft Power Projection overseas in MEA’s annual Heads of Missions conference. ICCR initiated talks with Reaserch and Information Systems (RIS) for Developing Countries on developing the “Soft Power Matrix”.
- ii. ICCR’s Cultural Centres overseas were named after Swami Vivekanand.

EAM Sushma Swaraj presenting bust of Swami Vivekanand to ICC, Paris



- iii. Deen Dayal Upadhaya commemoration lecture series was initiated on the occasion of the World Culture Day. First lecture was delivered by the External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on “India’s Soft Power”. The lecture will be organized annually on the World Culture Day.



Members of General Assembly

S. No	Name
1	Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, ICCR
2	Shri S. Jaishankar Shri Vijay Gokhale January, 2018 onwards
3	Prof. Sunaina Singh, Vice-President, ICCR and Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University, Nalanda, Bihar
5	Smt. Riva Ganguly Das, Director General, ICCR
6	Dr. Sumeet Jerath, Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of External Affairs
7	Shri Kewal Kumar Sharma, Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of HRD
8	Shri Raghvendra Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Culture
9	Smt. Rashmi Verma, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism
10	Ms Rita Teotia, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
11	Representative of Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA)
12	Smt. Kirron Kher, <i>MP (Lok Sabha)</i>
13	Dr. Sidhant Mohapatra, <i>MP (Lok Sabha)</i>
14	Shri Satish Chandra Misra, <i>MP (Rajya Sabha)</i>
15	Dr. Rita Swami Chaudhary, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi
16	Shri C S Krishna Shetty, Administrator of Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi
17	Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi
18	Dr. Ashok Gajanan Modak, Mumbai
19	Dr. Chinmay Pandya, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dev Sanskriti University, Haridwar
20	Prof. Girish Chandra Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
21	Dr. Milind Kamble, Founder Chairman, Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Pune
22	Prof. Nirmala Sharma, Art Historian, New Delhi
23	Dr. Padma Subramaniam, Bharatnatyam Dancer
24	Shri Sultan Shahin, Editor & Publisher, New Age Islam, New Delhi
25	Dr. Varun Veer, National Secretary of Manu Sanskriti Sansthan
26	Shri Ashoke Pandit, Indian filmmaker
27	Shri Manoj Joshi, Indian Film and Television Actor
29	Dr. Kapil Tiwari, former Director of Madhya Pradesh Lok Kala, Academy, Bhopal

30	Ms. G. Padmaja Reddy, Kuchipudi Dancer
31	Shri Prasoon Joshi, Lyricist, Screen writer
32	Ms. Nandini Ramani, Theatre Actor
33	Pandit Shivkumar Sharma, Santoor Maestro
34	Dr. Sonal Mansingh, Odissi Dance Maestro
35	Ustad Zakir Hussain, Tabla player Maestro
36	Prof. Errol D'Souza, Director in-charge, IIM, Ahmedabad
37	Prof. Devang V. Khakhar, Director of IIT, Mumbai
38	Prof. Girishwar Misra, Vice-Chancellor of the Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University, Wardha
39	Prof. (Dr.) Bhagirath Singh, Vice Chancellor, Maharaja Ganga Singh University, Bikaner
40	Dr. Kamal Kishore Goenka, Vice Chairman, Central Institute of Hindi, Agra
41	Prof. Yogesh Tyagi, Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi
42	Prof. Piyush Kant Dixit, Vice-Chancellor, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University, Haridwar
43	Prof. M Jagdeesh Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
44	Prof. Mehraj-Ud-Din Mir, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir
45	Dr. P. Venkat Rangan, Vice Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore
46	Prof. Parameshwara Narayana Shastry, Vice Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi
47	Prof. Ashok Aima, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Jammu (CUJ), Jammu
48	Professor Nand Kumar Yadav 'Indu', Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jharkhand
49	Prof. D P Singh, Chairman, University Grants Commission
50	Prof. Yogesh Singh, Director, Netaji Subhash Institute of Technology (NSIT), New Delhi
51	Prof. Anil D Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE, New Delhi
52	Shri K Sivan, Secretary, Indian Space Research Organization, Bengaluru
53	Dr. BN Gangadhar, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru
54	Dr. Rakesh K. Misra, Director, Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad
55	Dr. Girish Sahni, Director General, Council for Scientific & Industrial Research
56	Dr. H R Nagendra, Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana, Bengaluru
57	Prof. Makarand R Paranjape, Centre for Study of Regional Development ,

	Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
58	Dr. K N Dikshit, Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi
59	Dr. Saroj Bala, Director, Institute of Scientific Research on Vedas, Gurugram
59	Prof. S R Bhatt, Member Secretary, Indian Council for Philosophical Research, New Delhi
61	Vacant Due to sudden demise of Shri Anil Madhav Dave, Founder Secretary, Narmada Samagra, Bhopal
62	Shri Hari Kiran Vadlamani, Advaita Foundation
63	Prof. Dinesh Singh, Ex-Vice Chancellor University of Delhi
64	Shri Shaurya Doval, Director, India Foundation, New Delhi
65	Prof. Veena Sikri, Vice Chairperson, South Asia Foundation (SAF-INDIA)

List of Members of Governing Body

S. No.	Name
1	Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddue, President, ICCR
2	Shri S. Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary, MEA & Ex-officio Vice-President, ICCR Shri Vijay Gokhale (January, 2018 onwards)
3	Prof. Sunaina Singh, Vice President, ICCR & VC, Nalanda University
4	Smt. Riva Ganguly Das, Director General, ICCR
5	Dr. Sumeet Jerath, Special Secretary & Financial Advisor, MEA & ICCR
6	Shri Kewal Kumar Sharma, Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of HRD
7	Shri Raghvendra Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
8	Smt. Kirron Kher, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
9	Dr. Sidhant Mohapatra, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
10	Shri Satish Chandra Misra, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
11	Dr. Ashok Modak, Scholar, Indologist
12	Dr. Chinmay Pandya, Pro VC, Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar
13	Dr. Milind Kamble, Founder Chairman – DICCI, Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce
18	Prof. Nirmala Sharma, J-22, Hauz Khas Enclave, New Delhi
15	Shri Sultan Shahin, Editor and Publisher, New Age Islam
16	Dr. Varun Veer, Yoga Entrepreneur

List of Members of Finance Committee

S. No.	Name
1	Prof. Veena Sikri, Chairperson
2	Smt. Riva Ganguly Das, Director General, ICCR
3	Dr. Sumeet Jerath, Special Secretary & Financial Advisor MEA & ICCR
4	Shri Raghvendra, Secretary, Ministry of Culture
5	Dr. Milind Kamble, Founder Chairman – DICCI
6	Prof. Errol D'Souza, Director incharge, IIM Ahmedabad
