



ICCR

Indian Council for
Cultural Relations

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

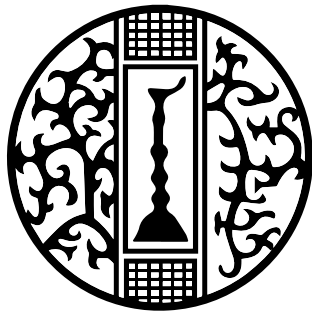


Cultural Connections, Global Impact



ANNUAL REPORT

2 0 2 3 - 2 4



Indian Council for Cultural Relations



ICCR

Indian Council for Cultural Relations

भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद



Annual Report
2023-24



India's rich cultural heritage is not just our pride but a gift to the world. Our traditions, from yoga to Ayurveda, reflect the wisdom of our ancestors and their contributions to global well-being.

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

India's rise as a global power is not just an opportunity for its people, but also a promise for the world. We bring a perspective that is unique, rooted in a civilizational ethos that values harmony and diversity.

Dr. S. Jaishankar
Hon'ble External Affairs Minister







Foreword

Last year's activities took ICCR to unprecedented heights.

ICCR coordinated an impressive array of over 300 cultural programs, engaging 17,000 artists across 60 locations nationwide showcasing India's vibrant arts, heritage and traditions during its G20 presidency. For the first time, G20 events were hosted in every state and union territory, offering each an opportunity to present its cultural heritage on a global stage. Hon'ble Prime Minister released the book 'Showcasing Indian Culture at G20' to commemorate these cultural achievements under India's G20 presidency.

Institutional capacity-building efforts were accelerated with the launch of ICCR's Activity and Information Management System (AIMS), which streamlines communication between Missions, ICCs and ICCR. Together with other digital initiatives started two years ago like e-office, Gyan Setu and online programs in Indian classical dances, ICCR's transformation into a paperless office is nearly complete.

ICCR's engagement with global Indologists reached a high with the Knowledge India Visitors Programme (KIVP) in December 2023, which saw 87 scholars brainstorming on strengthening India studies abroad. ICCR also reinforced the message of India as 'mother of democracy' through organization of "Vaishali Festival of Democracy" in September 2023 at Nalanda University, publishing of "India": The Mainspring of Democratic Traditions", and hosting three batches of young leaders from democracies around the world under the GenNext Democracy Network Programme. An International Conference on "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" was held at the UN Headquarters in New York on 10 October 2023.

Cultural exchanges flourished with 77 outgoing delegations and several incoming international troupes participating in festivals such as India-Latin America Festival, India International Dance and Music Festival, India International Folk Festival as well as in events held under the theme of 'Connecting the World through Ramayana Tradition'.

The Exit Engagement Evening (E3) initiative was launched this year to engage ICCR's foreign students as ambassadors of India's culture, while 'Hindi Vishwa' programme brought delegates from 13 countries in May 2023 on a cultural immersion journey. A round table conference in June 2023 on "India's spirituality as Soft Power" and the Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial Oration in May 2023 on "Indian Dance Traditions as Soft Power" further explored the contours of cultural diplomacy.

These accomplishments reflect ICCR's high global impact and profile during the year spreading the message समानो मन्त्रः समितिः समानी समानं मनः सह चित्तमेषाम् । समानं मन्त्रमभिमन्त्रये वः समानेन वो हविषा जुहोमि (ऋग्वेद १०/१९१/३) - Let our speech be in harmony; united our voices! May our minds be in union with the thoughts of the Wise, sharing a common purpose!

With best regards,

Shri Kumar Tuhin

Director General, (ICCR)

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| Introduction | 12 |
| Organizational Structure | 13 |
| Indian Cultural Centres Abroad | 18 |
| Zonal/Sub-Zonal Offices | 58 |
| Outgoing Cultural Delegations | 71 |
| Incoming Cultural Delegations | 90 |
| Exhibitions | 104 |
| Busts & Statues | 106 |
| Chairs of Indian Studies | 108 |
| Conference and Seminars | 112 |
| Visitors Programme | 119 |
| Scholarships and Welfare of International Students | 128 |
| Promotion of Hindi | 132 |
| Awards | 135 |
| Important Annual Events | 140 |
| Special Projects | 142 |
| Finance and Accounts | 143 |
| Annexure | 146 |
| i. Governing Body | 146 |
| ii. List of Members of General Assembly | 147 |
| iii. List of Scholarship Schemes | 150 |









Indian Council for Cultural Relations
भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद

Introduction

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is an autonomous organization which was set up in 1950 with the overall mandate of promoting Indian culture abroad and furthering cultural ties with the rest of the world. Its activities encompass cultural, academic and intellectual exchanges and promotion of Indian culture abroad through various outreach activities on subjects like Indian art, history, oral traditions, dance, music, yoga, languages, food, festivals and contemporary issues.

ICCR is registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act 1860. It operates as an independent body under the administrative control of the Ministry of External Affairs. ICCR works towards creating an understanding of Indian culture with the Global community through its 37 Indian Cultural Centres and 5 Zonal Offices, 4 Sub Zonal Offices and 2 offices under RPO, Jammu and Patna. During the last seven decades, the functioning of ICCR as an institution has acquired new dimensions towards promotion of India's cultural heritage and it has emerged as the "soft power" arm of the Ministry of External Affairs through an array of well-designed and targeted programmes.

All of ICCR's activities are aimed at reaching out to the hearts and minds of the people through the dissemination of its heritage, values and philosophy to create an endearing and everlasting image of India and promote India's soft power overseas. ICCR facilitates exchanges/visits by scholars, academicians, opinion-makers, artists & writers along with the facilitation of seminars and symposia abroad, exchanges of visits by performing arts groups, exhibitions, commissioning of busts and statues of Indian leaders for installation abroad, etc. ICCR also administers scholarship schemes for foreign students for studies in India and is also instrumental in organizing seminars and symposia in India on various subjects of interests. It also establishes & maintains Chairs of Indian Studies in Universities abroad and administers awards for various academic schemes.

The Council takes pride in being a pre-eminent institution engaged in cultural diplomacy and the sponsor of intellectual exchanges between India and partner countries and symbolizes India's great cultural and educational strengths.



Organization Structure

At the organizational level, ICCR is headed by the President. Executive head of the Council is the Director General, who is a Secretary or Additional Secretary level officer from the Indian Foreign Service, deputed by the Ministry of External Affairs. The Director General is assisted by Deputy Director Generals (officers from the Indian Foreign Service), Officers from the ICCR cadre and functionaries engaged by the organization as consultants and outsourced staff. The Headquarters in Delhi has sections dedicated to various programmes and overall administration, planning and financial management of the Council. These sections are headed by Directors, Senior Programme Directors and Programme Directors. These sections include: i)

Administration, ii) Indian Cultural Centres Abroad (ICCs), iii) Scholarships iv) Exhibitions, Busts & Statues, v) Chairs, vi) Parliament & Coordination, vii) Finance, Planning & Accounts, viii) EGIT & Media, ix) Outgoing Cultural Delegations (OCD), x) Incoming Cultural Delegations (ICD), xi) Agreement & Exchanges, xii) Conference, Research & Special Projects, xiii) Visitors Programme, xiv) Hindi, Library & Publications. ICCR also delivers through its 5 Zonal Offices, 4 Sub Zonal Offices and 2 offices under RPO (Jammu and Patna) in various States in India and 37 Indian Cultural Centres overseas.



Statutory Bodies

ICCR is governed by its Constitution. The Council's activities are overseen by its three statutory bodies - General Assembly, Governing Body and Finance Committee. These bodies provide overall guidance and direction at periodical intervals; approve ICCR's budget and Annual Plan of Action. These bodies meet regularly to monitor the implementation of programmes and functioning of the Council. The tenure of the members of these statutory bodies is

three years. The members of the General Assembly are nominated from various fields. Individuals which include governmental ministries/ departments, Institutions of repute from the field of Art, culture, literature and academics and renowned artists and others. The term of its Statutory Bodies i.e. Governing Body, General Assembly and Finance Committee has expired in July.

Meetings of Governing Body (GB) & General Assembly (GA)

During the report period, meetings of GB & GA in hybrid mode were held on April 12, 2023.

In the year 2023-24, President ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe also held the post of the President. The Assembly has three Vice Presidents. In the year 2023-24, the three vice Presidents were: Shri Vinay Kwatra, Foreign Secretary, MEA, New Delhi (Ex

Officio), Shri Hans Raj Hans, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and Shri Adwaita Charan Gadanayak, Director General, National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi.

The list of the members of the General Body and Governing Assembly is placed at **Annexure-I. (Pg.146) and Annexure-II. (Pg.147)**

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee consists of the following members:

- (i) Chairperson is elected by the Finance Committee,
- (ii) Director General, ICCR
- (iii) Financial Adviser, MEA

(iv) One nominee of the Government of India

(v) Two representatives of the General Assembly and

(vi) One representative of the Governing Body.

Shri Deepak Karanjikar was the Chairperson of the Finance Committee of ICCR in the Year 2023-24.

Programme Committee

Under Clause 3(iv) of the Constitution of ICCR, President ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe constituted a Programme Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Vivek Srivastava, along with Shri Karan Singh Chetri, Shri Dnyanand Deshpande, Smt. Ruchi Sood, Shri Mukesh Aggarwal, Deputy

Director General (Culture) and Deputy Director General (Special Projects). The Committee prepared outlines of all the vents/programmes with the help of concerned sections of ICCR, which helped in implementing events/programmes in a better way.



Celebration of Foundation Day

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) celebrated its Foundation Day on April 12, 2023. The cultural evening, marking ICCR's 74th Foundation Day, commenced with the lighting of the lamp by Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs & Culture, Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, President of ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Director General

of ICCR, Shri Kumar Tuhin and other dignitaries at ICCR Headquarters. On this occasion, the Director General of ICCR, Shri Kumar Tuhin highlighted significant initiatives and achievements of the year aimed at promoting Indian culture and fostering mutual understanding with our foreign partners.





Training for IFS probationers batch – 2022

One day training for IFS probationers’ batch – 2022 and two Bhutanese Diplomats (total 37 + 2 candidates) was organized on May 15, 2023.



Training for IFS probationers batch – 2023

One day training for IFS probationers’ batch – 2023 and two Bhutanese Diplomats (total 36 + 2 candidates) for their “**Induction Training Programme**” was organized on February 15,

2024. ICCR Distinguished Alumni Awardee Dr. Constantino Xavier has delivered a lecture on the topic “**Role of ICCR and its Scholarship Programme**” during the above training programme.



Internship programme at ICCR

During the reported period, the 3rd round of Internship programme (from April 2023 to August 2023) was completed in ICCR. The Internship

Certificate was awarded to the interns who have successfully completed their internship in ICCR.



The Deployment of Directors at following Cultural Centres abroad was completed:

i. SVCC, Sao Paulo, ii. SVCC, Tehran, iii. TTC, Berlin, iv. ICC, Male, v. SVCC, Sydney, vi. SVCC, Tel Aviv, vii. SVCC, Suva, viii. SVCC, Yangon, ix. SVCC, Georgetown, x. ASCC, Budapest, xi. SVCC, Bangkok, xii. JNCC, Moscow and xiii. SVCC, Beijing.

Diwali Milan

“**Diwali Milan**” was organized on Monday, November 13, 2023 at the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi. The event featured a

cultural performance by Ustad Waheed Jeelani, a vocalist from Jammu & Kashmir, and was attended by foreign diplomats and distinguished guests.





Indian Cultural Centres Abroad

The primary objective of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is to establish, revive and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries. This effort aims to promote awareness and appreciation of India's soft power and cultural diplomacy.

The Council has been operating 37 full-fledged Indian Cultural Centres (ICCs) in different parts of the world. These centres serve as important cultural hubs and work closely with the Indian Mission in the country and facilitated the exchange of ideas, traditions and artistic expressions between India and the rest of the world, helping to strengthen cultural bonds and promote mutual understanding. Additionally, ICCR extends support to the Casa de la India in Valladolid, Spain established on the 'PPP' Model (Public-Private Partnership). ICCs organize a wide range of activities and events, including cultural performances, art exhibitions, lectures, workshops, film screenings and language dance and music classes. These events showcase the rich cultural heritage of India and facilitate cross-cultural interactions.

To promote Yoga, Veda and Sanskrit globally, the Council deployed 37 Teachers of Indian Culture (TICs) to various Missions/Posts/ICCs. The Council also deployed 31 India-based Performing Arts teachers in the disciplines of Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, Hindustani/Carnatic Vocal, Tabla in the Mission/Posts/ICCs. In addition, as per the directions of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to encourage the deployment of teachers from the local talent, the Council initiated and encouraged Missions/Post to hire Local Resources Persons (LRPs) as Teachers of Yoga, Indian Dance and Music. A total number of 95 LRPs are presently deployed at various Missions/Posts/ICCs.

The second batch of the three-month online basic Hindi awareness course was started from 15th April 2023 in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and same was concluded on 15th July 2023. The course saw participation from 141 students across 29 countries, reflecting the growing interest in learning Hindi globally.

ICCR in collaboration with Routes 2 Roots (R2R) and the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), signed a landmark agreement at ICCR Headquarters in New Delhi on October 4, 2023, to provide online classes in Indian classical dance forms. This first-of-its-kind initiative aims to cater to the Indian diaspora, foreign students and alumni of ICCR and foreign nationals, offering expert-led classes in Bharatnatyam, Kathak and Odissi. Several accomplished artists were selected to lead the classes, including Ms. Gaytri Deka and Ms. Madhura Bhrushundi for Bharatnatyam, Ms. Richa Jain and Ms. Ragini Maharaj for Kathak and Ms. Vrinda Chadha and Ms. Arunima Ghosh for Odissi. This initiative represents a significant step in promoting Indian culture and heritage globally by leveraging digital platforms, ensuring accessibility for enthusiasts worldwide.

Due to unavoidable circumstances in Afghanistan, Swami Vivekanand Cultural Centre (SVCC), Kabul, Afghanistan is non-operational.





List of Indian Cultural Centres Overseas

1. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Kabul, Afghanistan
2. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Sydney, Australia
3. Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC), Dhaka, Bangladesh
4. Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre (NWCC), Thimphu, Bhutan
5. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Sao Paulo, Brazil
6. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Beijing, China
7. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Prague, Czech Republic
8. Maulana Azad Centre for Indian Culture (MACIC), Cairo, Egypt
9. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Suva, Fiji
10. The Tagore Centre (TTC), Berlin, Germany
11. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Georgetown, Guyana
12. Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre (ASGCC), Budapest, Hungary
13. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Bali, Indonesia
14. Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre (JNICC), Jakarta, Indonesia
15. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Tehran, Iran
16. Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Tel Aviv, Israel
17. Vivekananda Cultural Centre (VCC), Tokyo, Japan
18. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Astana, Kazakhstan
19. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
20. Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Male, Maldives
21. Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture (IGCIC), Port Louis, Mauritius
22. Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre (GTICC), Mexico City, Mexico
23. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Yangon, Myanmar
24. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Kathmandu, Nepal
25. The Gandhi Centre (TGC), The Hague, Netherlands
26. Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Center (JNCC), Moscow, Russia
27. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Durban, South Africa
28. Swami Vivekananda Culture Centre (SVCC), Paramaribo, Suriname, South America
29. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Seoul, South Korea
30. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Colombo, Sri Lanka
31. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Dushanbe, Tajikistan
32. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centr (SVCC), Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania
33. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Bangkok, Thailand
34. Mahatma Gandhi Indian Cultural Centre (MGICC), Port of Spain Trinidad & Tobago
35. The Nehru Centre (TNC), London, United Kingdom
36. Lal Bahadur Shastri Centre For Indian Culture (LBSCIC), Tashkent, Uzbekistan
37. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Hanoi, Vietnam



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Sydney, Australia

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Sydney organized a series of vibrant cultural events, promoting Indian arts, music, dance and literature during the year 2023-24. The year commenced with **ICCR Foundation Day** on April 30, 2023, featuring Indian classical dance performances and a live telecast of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 100th episode of **"Mann Ki Baat."** The **International Day of Yoga** (June 21, 2023) was celebrated at prominent Sydney locations like Bradfield Park and St. Mary's Cathedral, attracting over 1,000 participants from diverse backgrounds. Additionally, the **77th Independence Day** of India (August 15, 2023) featured traditional music by the Australian Indian Orchestra during the flag hoisting ceremony.

SVCC highlighted India's cultural heritage through events like the **Tribal Art Workshop** (August-September 2023) on Gond and **Warli art & a Garba demonstration** (December 7, 2023) to mark Garba's

inclusion in UNESCO's intangible heritage list. The Centre also fostered academic engagement through panel discussions, such as the Building Cultural Bridges event on October 5, 2023 and masterclasses like the Hindustani music workshop by flutist Dr. Jayaprada Ramamurthy (October 17, 2023).

SVCC hosted cultural and educational programs like **Vishwa Hindi Diwas** (January 2024) and Exploring the Hidden Treasures of Sanskrit (February 8, 2024), promoting Indian language and literature. The celebration of **International Women's Day** (March 20, 2024) featured an inspiring panel discussion on women's achievements, while events such as the Svabhaav Kathak performance (March 22, 2024) and **World Poetry Day** (March 28, 2024) further showcased Indian artistic talent and cultural exchange. These events underscored SVCC's dedication to strengthening cultural ties between India and Australia.

Australia





Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC), Dhaka, Bangladesh

The Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC), Dhaka along with the Indian Cultural Centre in Gulshan, organized a diverse range of cultural and academic programs during the year 2023-24. The Centre continued to offer regular classes in Yoga, Classical Music, Bharatnatyam, Kathak, and Hindi attracted over 400 students, with the celebration of **International Day of Yoga (IDY)** on June 21 drawing more than 1,200 participants. Additionally, the **Ayurveda Day** celebrated on November 7, 2023 to the growing interest in Ayurveda among the local population and enhanced the popularity of traditional Indian practices in Bangladesh.

The IGCC's School Connect programme included quiz competitions on Indian geography, history, culture across various institutions and the establishment of new India Corners at the American University of Bangladesh & State University of Bangladesh fostering greater academic engagement.

The Centre hosted three ICCR-sponsored cultural groups, including Jaishalmer Beat, a **folk music group**, which performed in Chattogram in August 2023; a **puppet show** by Sikander Langa in Dhaka in October 2023; and the **D Siyam Group** from Meghalaya, which visited Dhaka and Chattogram in February 2024. The Centre also organized a programme to celebrate the **International Day of Millets**, attended by the Food Minister of Bangladesh and the Country Head of FAO, featuring an exhibition on Indian millet products. Overall, IGCC organized **52 cultural and academic events**, many in collaboration with other organizations in Bangladesh, further strengthening cultural ties between India and Bangladesh.





Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre (NWCC), Thimphu, Bhutan

The Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre (NWCC), Thimphu organized a diverse array of cultural and educational events throughout the year 2023-24 to promote cultural exchange and community engagement. The year began with the celebration of the NWCC's 73rd Foundation Day on April 13, 2023, which fostered India-Bhutan friendship through music, dance and yoga. The centre continued its vibrant activities with stage productions, yoga classes and workshops, and music concerts featuring Indian-Bhutanese artists. Notably, the Yoga Photography contest was launched on May 29, 2023.

The NWCC hosted significant events, including the **"Meri Maati Mera Desh"** celebration on August 14, 2023, which featured cultural performances in collaboration with local artists. The centre also organized a Swachhata Pakhwada cleaning drive and a run for unity in October, honoring Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Other highlights included Assamese folk dance performances, Ayurveda Day on November 10, 2023 and Diwali celebrations at the Chancery.

The year concluded with a range of activities, including International Women's Day celebrations and the live streaming of **"Priksha Pe Charcha 2024"** on January 29, 2024. Additionally, the NWCC hosted the screening of **"Banaras Gharana"** on February 29, 2024, and the live telecast of **"Chalo India-Global Diaspora Campaign"** on March 7, 2024. These events underscored the NWCC's dedication to cultural enrichment and community involvement throughout the year.

Bhutan





Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Sao Paulo, Brazil

Brazil

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Sao Paulo significantly advanced India's soft power diplomacy through a diverse range of cultural, academic, and intellectual initiatives. The **"Experience India Day"** launched on March 20, 2023, in partnership with universities, offered students an immersive experience in Indian culture and ICCR scholarships, with six additional universities requesting collaborations. The **"India Fest"** attracted over 1,000 participants in multiple cities, while the **"Amizade 'M' Band"** fused Indian classical music with Brazilian jazz, expanding cultural outreach.

SVCC launched multiple initiatives, such as the **"Campus Connect Program"** and "India in Your Library," to foster intellectual and academic exchanges with Brazilian universities and introduce Indian culture to Brazilian libraries. The center also organized several high-profile cultural events, including the **"Bloco Bollywood – Bahurangi**

Bharat" during the Brazilian Carnival, where over 6,000 attendees witnessed Indian folk dances performed by Brazilian students. Additionally, festivals such as Diwali, Makar Sankranti, and Republic Day were celebrated with great enthusiasm, strengthening cultural ties between India and Brazil. SVCC organized key events like World Hindi Day, the World Sanskrit Symposium, and Mahatma Gandhi's 76th Martyrs Day, fostering cultural and intellectual engagement. The **"Bahurangi Bharat"** event, launched by Ambassador H.E. Mr. Suresh K. Reddy, featured Indian folk dances at the Brazilian Carnival, broadening India's cultural footprint in Brazil.



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Beijing, China

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Beijing organized a series of impactful events that engaged the community and celebrated India's rich heritage throughout the year 2023-24. A special **Ayurveda Day** program was organized at a private venue, featuring panel discussions and stories illustrating the influence of Indian medicine on Chinese practices. Other notable events included Rakshabandhan celebrations, **Vishwa Hindi Diwas**, Unity Day cycling, **Garba workshop** and regional festival collaborations.

SVCC made significant strides in 2023-24, highlighted by several key achievements and improvements. The introduction of the newly deployed LRP for Odissi enriched the centre's cultural offerings, complementing the existing **Bharatanatyam** and **Yoga classes**. Additionally, the centre saw significant improvements in its physical infrastructure with the establishment of two new exhibition spaces - one located within the Embassy

premises and the other at the New Delhi Hall of the SCO Secretariat. These spaces have become regular venues for displaying paintings and hosting informative exhibitions, further expanding SVCC's cultural reach.

The year's highlight was the **Vasant Mela 2024**, which attracted 4,500 attendees and featured a six-hour cultural program, including a concert by Grammy-winning Tabla player Pandit Abhiman Kaushal. Additionally, the Embassy team staged three successful theatre productions- "**Unsung**" on Independence Day "**Nation in the Making**" for Republic Day, and "**When We Saw Him - Stories from Mahatma Gandhi's Life**" on Gandhi Jayanti. Regular monthly events, such as CinemaSCOpe, which screened Russian-dubbed films and ongoing Yoga workshops, further enriched the centre's cultural and educational offerings.

China





Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Prague, Czech Republic

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Prague organized a range of cultural events in collaboration with the Embassy of India in Czechia, the Indian diaspora, and local friends of India to bolster bilateral relations and celebrate Indian heritage throughout the year 2023-24. The Indian diaspora celebrated Ram Navami with classical dance performances and bhajans and the Gudi Padwa festival was marked by the Ambassador's participation on April 3, 2023. The Embassy also commemorated significant anniversaries, including the **70th Commemoration Day of Vincenc Lesny** on April 14, 2023, and the 132nd birth anniversary of **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**. Additionally, Baisakhi was celebrated on April 22, 2023, with cultural performances and a Langar.

The year featured several impactful events such as the **International Year of Millets** cooking contest on May 13, 2023, and the Festival of Embassies on June 10, 2023. The **International Day of Yoga (IDY)** was celebrated across Czechia on June 18,

2023 with a Yoga Workshop organized on June 22, 2023. Diwali was notably celebrated on November 18, 2023, with cultural performances and traditional festivities.

SVCC supported various cultural programs throughout the year, including a Madhubani Painting workshop on December 12, 2023, and the Vasantotsav event on March 4, 2024. The year concluded with **World Hindi Day** celebrations on January 10, 2024, Republic Day on January 26, 2024 and **International Women's Day** on March 8, 2024 with the theme of **"Inspire Inclusion"** showcasing diverse cultural performances by both Czech and Indian artists.





Maulana Azad Centre for Indian Culture (MACIC), Cairo, Egypt

The Maulana Azad Centre for Indian Culture (MACIC), Cairo hosted a range of events celebrating Indian culture and traditions while promoting cultural exchange during the year 2023-24. Notable highlights include the Ramadan Iftar celebration on April 3, 2023, featuring Indian dance performances, an exhibition on Indian culture, and a Yoga flash mob attended by about 250 people. The **“Ramadan Nights”** program from April 1 to 19, 2023, saw MACIC’s India stall at the Cultural Park for Children in Sayeda Zeinab attract over 1500 visitors. Independence Day celebrations included a **“Patriotic Song Competition”** on August 13, 2023 and an **“Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Quiz”** from July 31 to August 15, 2023, with winners honored on August 15, 2023.

MACIC inaugurated an **“Exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi”** by Ambassador Shri Ajit Gupte, commemorating Gandhiji’s 154th Birth Anniversary. This was followed by Gandhi Jayanti tributes and various cultural and educational activities, including Yoga and Meditation sessions, Kathak Dance workshops and Ayurveda Day sessions. The **“Bharatiyam”** School Connect Fortnight program engaged students with Indian culture through interactive sessions, while **“Glimpses of India”** painting competitions at Misr Public Library and Al-Horreya Park highlighted Egyptian students’ interest in Indian culture.

The centre celebrated Ayurveda Day, 13th Global Musical Conference and continued **“Bharatiyam”** School Connect activities. Cultural events included Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas and a Kathak Sandhya stage presentation. MACIC’s outreach extended to Hurghada with a Yoga workshop and another **“Glimpses of India”** competition, culminating in a cultural event at Future Pioneers School. MACIC organized a cultural day for the Military Attache Association in Cairo and a school visit program, concluding with the **27th “Glimpses of India”** painting competition awards.



Egypt





Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Suva, Fiji

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Suva organized a series of cultural and commemorative events to strengthen ties between India and Fiji during the year 2023-24. The centre celebrated the Birth Anniversary of Dr. BR Ambedkar and “**Easter Utsav**” at Sacred Heart Cathedral Church with student and orphanage performances. The 74th ICCR Foundation Day included cultural performances and Kathak dance, with Deputy Prime Minister Biman Prasad as the Chief Guest. The 9th International Day of Yoga celebrated on June 21 at Grand Pacific Hotel Suva, featuring a Yoga Protocol led by SVCC staff and a performance by yoga students. Similar events were organized in Tuvalu, Kiribati and Tonga, with significant participation from local communities. SVCC hosted cultural events like the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj’s Coronation Day, Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, Raksha Bandhan and initiated the 2nd round of the India-Fiji T-20 Rolling Trophy Cricket Tournament.

SVCC hosted India’s Independence Day celebrations, highlighted **Chandrayaan 3’s moon landing** achievement, National Sports Day, Father’s Day, Teacher’s Day and a Bollywood Night at the Tebara Carnival, Diwali celebration on October 23, 2023, which featured traditional performances & rangoli

displays and the observance of the 154th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2, 2023 with a tribute ceremony and peace march. Constitution Day of India was also commemorated on November 26, 2023, with a special seminar highlighting the shared democratic values of India and Fiji. These events were part of the “**Maitri Ka Amrit Mahotsav**” initiative and were attended by Fijian leaders, including the Prime Minister as well as members of the Indian diaspora. The celebrations not only showcased India’s rich cultural heritage but also played a crucial role in enhancing bilateral relations between the two nations.



Fiji



The Tagore Centre (TTC), Berlin, Germany

The Tagore Centre (TTC), Berlin organized a diverse array of over 50 live events promoting Indian culture through concerts, recitals, workshops, exhibitions during the year 2023-24. Key events included Rabindra Jayanti, the International Day of Yoga, and Hindi Divas, attracting audiences such as Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, German parliament members, diplomats, cultural dignitaries, and the press. TTC's Director, Ms. Trisha Sakhlecha and Ms. Soumya Gupta, Consul General of India, Hamburg, signed a MoU to establish the ICCR Chair of Indian Music at the University of Hildesheim.

The Centre's standout events, **"Namaste Berlin"** on August 5, 2023 and **"Days of Open Doors"** on August 19-20, 2023 showcased the strength of Indo-German cultural collaboration. These events featured Indian classical and contemporary music, folk

dances, yoga workshops and Indian film screenings, in partnership with Kultursommerfestival and the German Foreign Office. The events attracted over 20,000 visitors and engaged more than 150,000 unique social media accounts throughout August.

TTC hosted high-profile concerts, including a performance by Ustad Bahauddin Dagar, Aneesh Pradhan, and Uday Krishnakumar at the Berlin Philharmonie on May 3, 2023. Other significant events included a private concert by violin maestro Dr. L. Subramaniam on October 11, 2023 and a panel discussion with Bollywood actor Manoj Bajpayee and National Award-winning director Raam Reddy in February 2024, underscoring the relevance of Indian culture in a global context.



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Georgetown, Guyana

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Georgetown organized a series of significant cultural and national events, reinforcing the cultural bond between India and Guyana during the year 2023-24. The 185th Indian Arrival Day celebrated with vibrant performances by the Indo-Guyanese diaspora on May 5, 2023 and the 350th Coronation Day of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on June 6, 2023, featuring traditional Marathi performances. Raksha Bandhan was celebrated on August 31, 2023 with Guyanese leaders, while India's 77th Independence Day on August 15, 2023, showcased patriotic ceremonies and cultural performances. The **"Partition Horrors Remembrance Day"** on August 14, 2023 included a digital exhibition commemorating the Partition.

The centre organized **BHARATIYAM**, a school connect program, to introduce Indian culture to Guyanese students through performances and competitions. November 2023 featured Ayurveda Day, Deepotsav with a fashion show and fireworks and a Sanskrit examination. The High Commission hosted an interactive session with Indian and Guyanese business communities, leading to the launch of the **"India-Guyana Business Forum"** to boost trade relations and future cooperation. Other notable events included 75th Republic Day, Parakram Divas, World Hindi Day, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Shaheed Diwas and ITEC Day, alongside a Bhojpuri dance group's Holi performances, highlighting India's vibrant cultural and economic contributions.

Guyana





Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre (ASGCC), Budapest, Hungary

The Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre (ASCC), Budapest organized a diverse array of activities to introduce the multifaceted Indian culture, traditions, and heritage to the Hungarian public during the year 2023-24. These included the promotion of Hindi language, Yoga, Indian dance and music, lectures on Indian culture, outreach events, exhibitions and celebrations of Indian festivals such as Raksha Bandhan, Onam, Navaratri, Dussehra, Deepawali, Ayyappa Pooja, Garba, Christmas, Pongal, Makar Sankranti and Holi. The Centre also engaged in cooperation with local organizations and media.

Notable highlights included the launch of the Hindi edition of “**Daily News Hungary**” in February 2024, and cultural programs like “**समन्वय-Együttműködés**” celebrating 75 years of India-Hungary diplomatic relations, both graced by Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi. The release of the first Hungarian book on Classical Hindi, “**Nap s hold nélkül ragyog a**

fény, (रविसिबिनाउजास)” authored by Dr. Imre Bangha, and the felicitation of Shri Neeraj Chopra for his gold medal in Javelin at the World Athletics Championships, were also significant events.

The centre celebrated other activities included Dussehra celebrations attended by Hungarian dignitaries, an exhibition on Amrita Sher-Gil marking her 111th birth anniversary, the Indo-European Youth Orchestra, various cultural presentations “**मेरी माटी मेरा देश**” on Independence Day and “**चंदे भारत**” on Republic Day. The ASCC also conducted School/College/University Connect programs, **International Women’s Day celebrations** - “**Inspire Inclusion**”: celebrations of the passage of Women’s Reservation Bill - “**नारी शक्तिवन्दन अधिनियम**”, Hindi Diwas, World Hindi Day and screenings of Indian films with Hungarian subtitles under the “**Friday Film Club**” along with Yoga outreach for the elderly in Nagytarcsa Village.



Hungary



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Bali, Indonesia

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Bali, organized a diverse range of cultural events throughout 2023-24, engaging the local community and promoting Indian culture in Indonesia. The Centre’s activities included nine curtain raisers for the International Day of Yoga (IDY) across Bali, culminating in the main event on June 21, 2023 at the Bajra Sandhi Monument, which drew over 1,000 participants.

The Centre also participated in the **Lovina Festival**, conducted yoga sessions, and hosted the India Day at the Institute of Technology of Kalimantan, where various cultural activities, including yoga, meditation and Indian classical dance, were well received by students. SVCC Bali also emphasized the celebration of Indian festivals, engaging both

the local Indonesian community and the Indian diaspora. Events like Raksha Bandhan and Holi were celebrated with enthusiasm, featuring cultural performances that highlighted the rich traditions of India. The Holi festival, attended by around 500 people, was particularly notable for its vibrant atmosphere and communal spirit.

Moreover, SVCC Bali contributed to academic and cultural exchanges through **Seminars on Sanskrit and Vedic communication**, reflecting India’s intellectual heritage. Performances at the **Denpasar Festival** and a special Odissi dance event by Gunjan Dance Academy further showcased Indian culture, reinforcing the enduring cultural connections between India and Indonesia.

Indonesia





Indonesia

Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre (JNICC), Jakarta, Indonesia

Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre (JNICC), Jakarta engaged in significant cultural outreach and community engagement, strengthening ties with the Indian Diaspora through regular meetings with community leaders, students and ICCR alumni. The JNICC organized various cultural events during the year 2023-24 such as ICCR Day, Hindi Day, Yoga Day, Ayurveda Day, Bhartiya and World Hindi Diwas were organized, along with cultural troupes performing in Jakarta, Surabaya, Purwakarta, Bali, and Medan, promoting a vibrant cultural exchange.

The Embassy's activities highlighted the essence of India-Indonesia friendship, beginning with Utkal Divas in April, followed by diverse events like **Bolly D Sunday Fit** and the **Global Gathering Meet**

- **International Kavi Sammelan**, which enriched the cultural landscape. Celebrations like World Dance Day, Tamil Carnival, and the Maharashtra Mandal Talent Event Night in May fostered bonds of friendship and understanding across cultures and generations.

The year was marked by significant milestones, including the Coronation Day of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, International Day of Yoga, Ashadha Purnima, and Raksha Bandhan. The 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations was celebrated with Odissi dance performances by the Gunjan Dance Academy and Holi festivities featuring Pratibha Kala Kendra, encapsulating the shared cultural heritage and fostering joyous connections between communities.



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Tehran, Iran

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Tehran enhanced its outreach to Iranian institutions and individuals by organizing 12 scholarly lectures on Indo-Iranian relations and hosting 3 exhibitions throughout the year 2023-24. SVCC also revamped its Hindi language programs, rebooting Basic Hindi classes and introducing Intermediate Hindi classes with new syllabi and study materials from Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra. Given the popularity of Yoga in Iran, the center launched new Yoga classes, such as **“Health and Wellness through Yoga”** and an intermediate-level Yoga course. It also celebrated International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2023 and Ayurveda Day with a week-long program themed **“Preventive Care through Yoga.”**

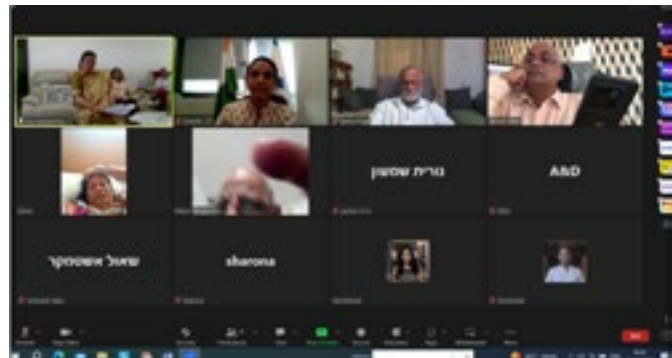
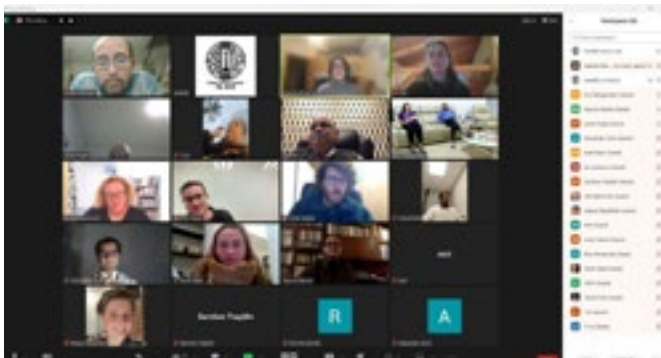
One of the most notable events was the poets’ meet organized by Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on April 5, 2023. Along with Persian poets from Iran and other Persian-speaking regions, the Director of SVCC, Tehran, recited a Persian poem,

which was highly appreciated by the Supreme Leader, who gifted him a ring as a token of appreciation. Another significant event was the International Seminar on **“Ghalib Dehlavi: Guardian of Persian Language in the Indian Subcontinent”** held on October 15, 2023, in collaboration with the Academy of Persian Language and Literature. Indian and Iranian scholars evaluated Ghalib’s contributions as a Persian poet, making the seminar a success.

SVCC organized the month-long **“Hindustan in Golestan”** exhibition of a Jade collection in collaboration with Golestan Palace (World Heritage Complex). Additionally, a program titled **“Reflection of Hakim Nizami in India”** was held at Iran Mall, Tehran, featuring a performance by the Qawwali group ‘Shahid Niazi & Party’, marking the first such visit by a Qawwali group since 2017. Their performances at four different venues were met with great enthusiasm and warmth by the Iranian audience.

Iran





Israel

Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Tel Aviv, Israel

The Indian Cultural Center (ICC), Tel Aviv organized a diverse range of events and activities that enriched cultural and educational exchanges during the year 2023-24. The center celebrated Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar's Birth Anniversary on April 21, 2023 and 9th International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2023. The ICC also commemorated significant milestones such as the Chandrayaan-3 mission landing on August 23, 2023 & broadcasting the 100th episode of **"Mann Ki Baat"** by Hon'ble Prime Minister and organized vibrant events including the Holi-Purim Festival at Jaffa Flea Market on March 24, 2024.

The ICC also emphasized educational and wellness programs with initiatives such as the four-day health workshop from May 30 to June 2, 2023 and a series of yoga sessions and workshops throughout the year.

These included workshops on Raj Yoga Chanting starting April 12, 2023, and a Yoga Certification Course beginning December 14, 2023. The center also conducted monthly and weekly yoga sessions, along with a one-month Patanjali Yog Sutra recitation from February 1-29, 2024.

Additionally, the ICC facilitated knowledge exchange programs like the Know India Programme from July 30 to August 19, 2023, and supported global conventions, exemplified by Dr. Itamar Theodor's participation in the Global India Knowledge Convention in December 2023. Weekly Marathi classes for the Indian Jewish community and collaboration with The Iyengar Yoga Association further demonstrate the center's commitment to cultural preservation and community service.



Vivekananda Cultural Centre (VCC), Tokyo, Japan

The Vivekananda Cultural Centre (VCC), Tokyo marked a significant enhancement in India-Japan cultural exchanges through a diverse range of activities during the year 2023-24. The centre organized over 148 events including Indian festivals, cultural performances, Yoga camps, workshops and lectures across academic institutions, with increased engagements involving Japanese artists, Indologists, Buddhist scholars and ICCR alumni. A key highlight included the inauguration of a Mahatma Gandhi bust at Hiroshima Peace Park by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Japan in May 2023.

VCC Tokyo organized significant events such as the **International Day of Yoga**, attracting over 1000 participants and facilitated Indian performances across more than 20 prefectures. Notable cultural

performances were showcased by ICCR-sponsored troupes, including those led by **Ustad Johar Ali Khan, Padmashree Meenakshi Chitharanjan,** and **Padmashree Datuk Ramli Ibrahim.** Additionally, the Centre hosted Indian Movie and Documentary Film Festivals, workshops on Indian arts, promoted Indian millets and Ayurveda through outreach activities.

VCC organized **India Day** at 29 Japanese schools and universities, engaging over 5000 students in interactive lectures, workshops, and cultural performances, while 33 Yoga camps were held in various prefectures, including military bases. Regular classes in Yoga, Kathak, Odissi, Tabla, Hindi and Sanskrit saw increased enrollment, with over 450 students per semester.

Japan





Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Astana, Kazakhstan

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Astana organized a range of cultural activities aimed at enhancing India-Kazakhstan cultural engagement during the year 2023-24. These activities included regular classes, concerts, and outreach events conducted by SVCC teachers across 12 cities. Additionally, the Centre facilitated academic cooperation through the signing of several (MoUs) between leading Indian institutions such as IIT Bombay, EFLU Hyderabad, and Lucknow University, with notable Kazakh universities. The SVCC also awarded Fellowships to support cultural studies and offered Grant-in-Aid to five Kazakh organizations to further strengthen ties in arts and culture.

The Centre also marked significant cultural celebrations and milestones, including the India-Kazakhstan Festival of Culture “**Ekta-Unity**” during Unity Day at the Kostanay Regional Philharmonic, and the Independence Day event titled “**Vande Bharat**”

in Astana. Other major performances included the cultural production “**Unity-एकता**” in collaboration with the Department of Culture in Petropavlovsk, “**Nari Vandan**” on International Women’s Day, and “**Swagatam 2024**” at the New Year celebrations. SVCC also organized “**Bharat Gatha**” for Republic Day in Astana and the “**Dhamaal**” Festival of Indian Culture at the Triathlon Park in Astana, showcasing vibrant Indian dance and music. The SVCC further facilitated Kazakh performing art groups for their performances in India. SVCC organized 264 activities across Kazakhstan, engaging local communities and fostering cultural dialogue. These events were widely promoted, generating substantial media coverage with over 2,233 social media posts, as well as significant print and electronic media attention. The SVCC’s efforts in cultural diplomacy significantly deepened the cultural and academic exchange between India and Kazakhstan.





Malaysia

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC), Kuala Lumpur organized numerous events to promote Indian culture, arts and traditions during the year 2023-24. Celebrations of Indian festivals such as Utkal Dibas, Chithirai, Puthandu, Baisakhi, Vishu, Sri Janaki Jayanti and Mahavir Jayanti fostered cultural understanding among diverse communities in Malaysia. Additionally, significant cultural days like Hindi Diwas, World Sanskrit Day and Ayurveda Day were marked, enhancing awareness of Indian heritage.

NSCBICC also conducted lecture demonstrations and workshops on Indian arts and music, such as Garba, Bharatanatyam, and Kathak. Notable events included the **“Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi”** lecture, which deepened understanding of his role

in India’s freedom struggle. The **“Bharatiyam”** school connect program, featuring audio-visual presentations on Indian culture, reached students in various schools across Kuala Lumpur, including special needs schools.

Additionally, NSCBICC facilitated ICCR-sponsored performances by the Sree Patel Raas Mandali and the Saraikela Chhau Dance Group, reaching audiences across Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh. The centre offered regular classes in Yoga and Carnatic Vocal music, along with the Yoga Day celebration at Batu Caves with over 1,000 participants, helping extend Indian cultural outreach to a wide audience, including Indian expats, diaspora, and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs).



Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Male, Maldives

The Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Male organized the various cultural activities and events during the year 2023-24, showcased a range of initiatives that bolstered the Indo-Maldivian friendship throughout the year 2023-24. Popular events included musical workshops, such as tabla percussion sessions, which promoted cultural exchange and learning. A Friendship musical evening, organized in collaboration with the Friendship Association of India and Maldives, celebrated ICC Male's 12th anniversary, reinforcing ties between the two nations through music.

A key highlight was **"Kaleidoscope,"** a cultural event marking 76 years of India's independence,

celebrated in collaboration with the National Centre for Arts at Olympus Theatre. Dignitaries like former Maldivian Minister HE Ms. Yumna Maumoon attended, celebrating the cultural heritage of both nations. The centre also conducted outreach programs, participated in local festivals and honored cultural icons, further deepening people-to-people connections. In addition, ICC marked International Women's Day by recognizing women who completed yoga courses and hosting handicraft workshops. Blood donation camps, sports tournaments and collaborations with the Indian diaspora emphasized the centre's focus on fostering community well-being and empowerment.



Maldives



Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture (IGCIC), Port Louis, Mauritius

The Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture (IGCIC), Port Louis organized numerous significant events during the year 2023-24. A key event was the **“Personality Development Camp for students”** held from April 7 to 15, 2023, featuring classes in theatre, painting, vocal music, dance, yoga, Sanskrit and tabla. The ICCR Foundation Day and International Dance Day were also celebrated, showcasing Indian classical and Bollywood dance forms.

IGCIC marked Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti with distinguished guests, including Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Vimarsh Aryan and Honorable Alan Ganoo on May 21, 2023. The centre also led

extensive celebrations for International Day of Yoga, promoting yoga across 17 locations in Mauritius and marking the day with a grand event at Port-Louis Harbor on June 21, 2023. The 77th Independence Day of India was celebrated in August with a flag-hoisting ceremony and cultural performances, attended by prominent dignitaries, including the President and Prime Minister of Mauritius.

IGCIC also celebrated Gandhi Jayanti, Navratri and the inauguration of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya with vibrant cultural programs. The year concluded with Republic Day celebrations and events marking Ratha Saptami and Basant Panchami, furthering cultural ties between India and Mauritius.

Mauritius





Mexico

Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre (GTICC), Mexico City, Mexico

The Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre (GTICC), Mexico played a pivotal role in strengthening cultural ties between India and Mexico during the year 202-24. The year saw the revival of full-fledged operations post-pandemic, marked by the hiring of five Local Resource Persons (LRPs) specializing in yoga, Odissi, Mohiniyattam, sitar and tabla. Along with an India-based Kathak teacher, GTICC now runs six regular classes, leading to an increasing number of students. This initiative also aligns with the Prime Minister's emphasis on nurturing local talent, as many LRPs are ICCR alumni.

GTICC hosted two ICCR-sponsored troupes from India, including the Purulia Chhau Dance Academy

in April 2023, presenting a UNESCO-listed Indian folk dance. In November 2023, **JHANU**, a Tamil rock band, performed at **CERVANTINO**, Latin America's largest cultural festival, with an unforgettable show at the Alhondiga de Granaditas, a UNESCO World Heritage site, attracting over 4,000 people.

The Centre organized over 100 events, from the inauguration of Mexico's first Hanuman Temple to hosting a food festival at the world's largest revolving restaurant. Other notable celebrations included Ganesh Utsava, the Pran Pratistha of Mexico's first Ram Temple, and India Day. GTICC also signed an MoU to revive an ICCR Chair at COLMEX, reinforcing its role in cultural diplomacy.



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Yangon, Myanmar

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Yangon is a vital hub for promoting Indian culture through various events and activities during the year 2023-24. The centre, staffed by an India-based Director and skilled teachers for classical dance, Hindi and yoga, offering regular classes for enthusiasts. The centre’s activities are aimed at fostering cultural ties and raising awareness of India’s rich heritage.

Throughout 2023, SVCC organized a variety of cultural events to engage both the Indian diaspora and local audiences. Notable among these was a captivating performance by the Natya STEM Dance Kampani on ICCR Foundation Day, as well as

vibrant celebrations for India’s 77th Independence Day on August 15, 2023. Additionally, the centre celebrated **9th International Day of Yoga (IDY)** at iconic locations such as Kandawgyi Lake, Bagan and the Naval Command at Thilawa.

SVCC’s collaboration with local organizations and Indian communities has been instrumental in building a strong cultural bridge between India and Myanmar. Through festivals like the **Ramayan Mahotsav** and **Hindi Diwas**, the centre continues to serve as a vibrant platform for cultural exchange, enhancing mutual understanding and appreciation.

Myanmar





Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Kathmandu, Nepal

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Kathmandu organized a variety of vibrant cultural and educational events throughout the year 2023-24. SVCC hosted several cultural and educational activities, including an interactive session with film director Dr. Chandraprakash Dwivedi, a lecture on Indian dance by Dr. Gowthami Kandrapeta, and a lecture on Indian epics by SVCC Director Dr. Asawari Bapat. The year saw the successful Janakpurdham Cultural and Food Festival and World Dance Day workshops, well-attended by students and the broader community. SVCC also continued its outreach with notable performances, including Bharatnatyam shows in Pokhara and Kathmandu and workshops on vocal music.

The Centre's activities in June featured a Fort Exhibition showcasing Indian and Nepali history, International Yoga Day celebrations across Lumbini and Pokhara and the inauguration of **"India Corner"** at the Nepal-Bharat Library. The centre featured a series of cultural performances and workshops, including the

commemoration of Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, Independence Day celebrations, the **"Aao Khel Khele"** traditional games event, and the observation of World Sanskrit Day in collaboration with Nepal Sanskrit University. The SVCC also initiated a monthly **"Kala Samvad"** series, celebrating prominent figures like Amrita Pritam and Sahir Ludhianvi. The celebration of Teej, World Tourism Day, and Gandhi Jayanti further highlighted the Centre's dedication to fostering cultural exchange and collaboration between India and Nepal.

SVCC organized events like Garba celebrations, the India-Nepal Lumbini Festival, and a Personality Development Camp. Key highlights included a seminar on the Bhagavad Gita, participation in the Pokhara Street Festival, and celebrations of Vivekananda Jayanti and Republic Day. Cultural performances and workshops, such as Vedic Mathematics and Mahashivaratri, were held across Nepal, further promoting Indo-Nepal cultural ties and community engagement.

Nepal



The Gandhi Centre (TGC), The Hague, Netherlands

The Gandhi Centre (TGC), The Hague orchestrated a series of exceptional cultural and diplomatic events throughout the year 2023-2024. The Yoga Day celebration in June 2023 featured yoga sessions across nine cities, promoting holistic well-being. Under **ICCR’s School Connect Fortnight**, Director Krish Gupta conducted interactive sessions and tabla workshops in various schools, immersing students in Indian culture. The India Day celebration at Eindhoven saw the ICCR-sponsored group, Rajeev Raja Combine, deliver an innovative and successful cross-cultural music performance.

A significant milestone was the unveiling of the first statue of Swami Vivekananda in the Netherlands on January 12, 2024 led by Ambassador Mrs. Reenat Sandhu and Utrecht’s Deputy Mayor, symbolizing shared cultural values. The Gandhi Centre also hosted a vibrant Holi celebration in March, bringing together the Indian community and strengthening bonds through traditional festivities. These events highlighted The Gandhi Centre’s role in promoting cultural exchange and diplomacy.





Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Center (JNCC), Moscow, Russia

The Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre (JNCC), Moscow hosted a rich array of cultural and educational activities during the year 2023-24. The year began with a reading session of **“Raj Kapoor: The Master at Work”** inaugurated by Ambassador Pavan Kapoor, which explored Raj Kapoor’s influence in Russia. The 9th International Day of Yoga (IDY) was marked by events like **“Yoga in the Parks”** and a grand celebration at the Tsaritsyno Museum-Reserve, attracting yoga enthusiasts of all ages.

The JNCC continued its cultural outreach with various festivals and performances. Notable events included the Bharatanatyam evening by SAI ARTS INTERNATIONAL, the **“Namaste Moscow”** festival, and the Mango Festival **“Aamrus 2023.”** The centre also engaged with Russian universities,

offering master classes in yoga and classical music and participating in international cultural exchanges, such as the **“Musical Eurasia”** Festival and the Festival of Indian Culture in Russia 2023.

JNCC celebrated Diwali with vibrant performances in Kathak, Yoga, and Hindustani music. The VIII Ayurveda Day highlighted Ayurveda’s significance, while a theatre workshop by experts from the National School of Drama enriched cultural ties. Events like India Day at the Russian State Children’s Library, a Garba master class and World Hindi Day celebrations further showcased Indian arts. The year concluded with Indian performances at **VOSTOKFEST** and exhibitions such as **“Oriental Shawl”** and **“Gleams of Joy”** enhancing cultural diplomacy between India and Russia.



Russia



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Durban, South Africa

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Durban organized a diverse range of activities during the year 2023-24. The Foundation Day was marked by a Bhojpuri musical concert and the first curtain-raiser event for IDY 2023 at the Aryan Benevolent Home in Chatsworth, along with a book donation drive. Pre-IDY activities continued with a notable Mega G20 Beach Clean-up in May, in collaboration with local partners, which saw 800 participants. June and August witnessed the docking of INS Trishul and INS Sunayana at Durban Port, celebrating 30 years of India-South Africa diplomatic relations. The ships welcomed over 350 members of the Indian diaspora and local schools for cultural exchanges.

Throughout the year, SVCC collaborated with local organizations to celebrate significant Indian cultural

and national events, including the birth anniversaries of Kasturba Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. National celebrations like Republic Day, Independence Day and International Day of Yoga were organized, while festivals such as Makar Sankranti, Holi and Diwali engaged the local community through performances. The Bharatiyam School Connect Programme successfully promoted cultural exchange among students.

Additionally, ICCR troupes Rajeev Raja Combine and Taal Chhandam visited Durban, delivered exceptional performances and workshops, enriching the cultural experience of local artists. Their contributions were well received, strengthening cultural ties and concluding the financial year with Pre-IDY 2024 events across provinces and schools.



Swami Vivekananda Culture Centre (SVCC), Paramaribo, Suriname, South America

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Paramaribo organized a series of impactful cultural and educational events throughout the year 2023-24. The year began with a Tratak meditation session and key cultural celebrations, including Rabindranath Tagore’s 162nd birth anniversary and International Dance Day, highlighted by Kathak performances. The centre played a significant role in commemorating the 150th Indian Arrival Day, with over 2500 attendees and hosted a week of Kathak performances led by Ms. Rani Khanum from India.

The centre welcomed Hon’ble President Mrs. Droupadi Murmu during her state visit, and later organized the 9th International Day of Yoga. Regular Surya Namaskar sessions, National Youth Day celebrations, and educational initiatives like the

International Gita Mahotsav further strengthened cultural ties. Additionally, the centre hosted unique events such as the **“Workshop of Happiness”** and Guru Nanak Jayanti celebrations, as well as educational initiatives like the International Gita Mahotsav Competition and National Youth Day celebrations, which promoted awareness of Indian culture and values among local youth.

The year concluded with notable events such as the 200th birth anniversary of Swami Dayanand Saraswati, International Women’s Day and Holi festivities, featuring Bhojpuri folk performances. These activities fostered deep cultural connections between India and Suriname while promoting Indian traditions locally.



South America



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Seoul, South Korea

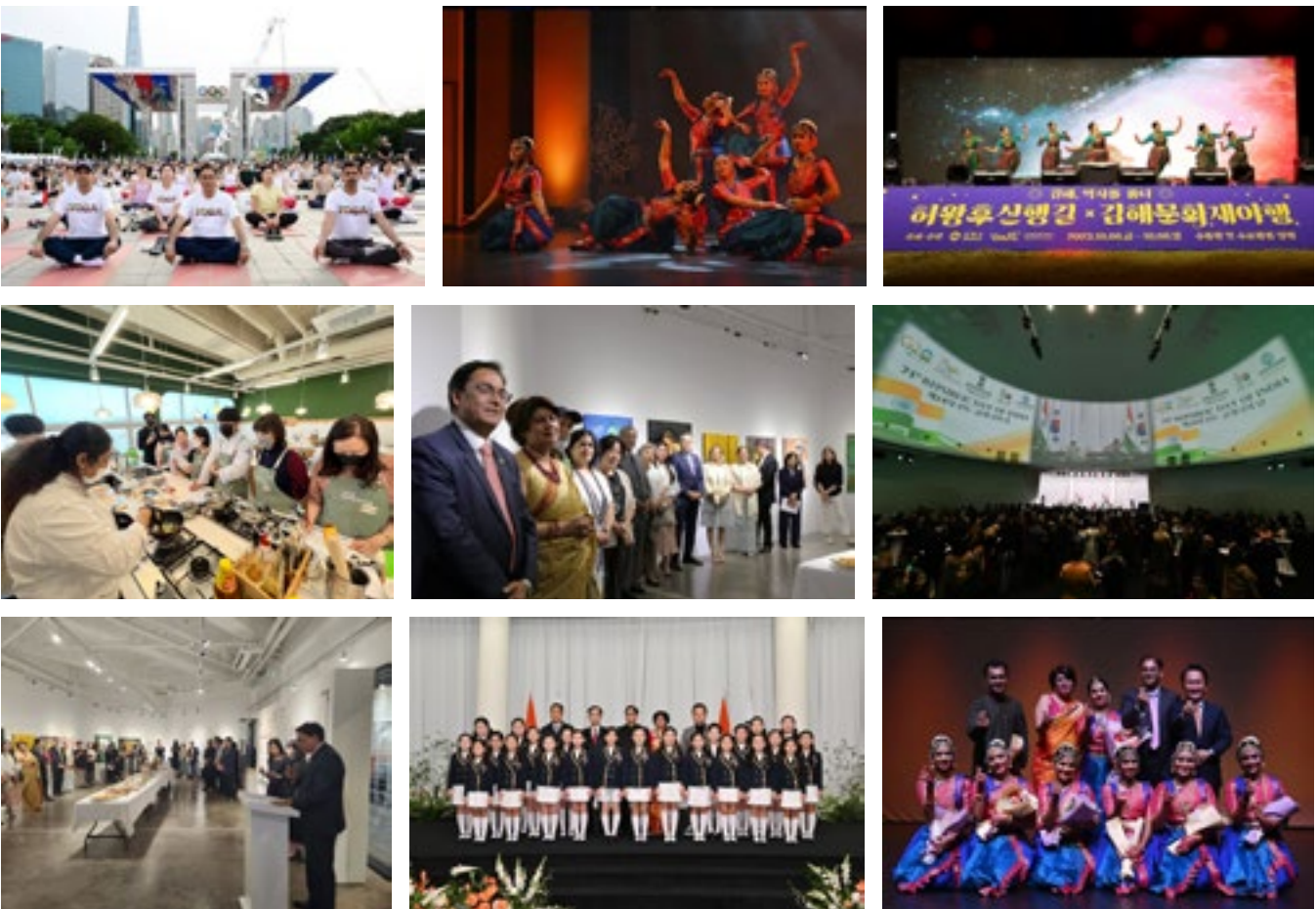
The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Center (SVCC), Seoul actively promoted Indian culture in the Republic of Korea (RoK) through a series of impactful events. Among the highlights was the celebration of the **9th International Day of Yoga (IDY)**, organized in five cities across RoK, including Seoul, Jeju, Busan, Gwangju and Gurye. The event at Seoul’s Olympic Peace Park saw over 1,500 participants, with Ambassador Amit Kumar and notable Korean figures sharing their insights on yoga. IDY 2023 were supported by local partners such as the Korea Yoga Association, Hwaecom Temple, and Busan University of Foreign Studies.

SVCC hosted the 9th edition of its flagship event, **“SARANG – The Festival of India in RoK”** which has been a significant cultural bridge since

its inception in 2015. SARANG 2023 showcased India’s vibrant heritage through Bharatanatyam performances in multiple cities, including Seoul, Gimhae, Gurye, Nami Island, Ansan and Suwon. The festival has grown in popularity, further deepening cultural ties between India and Korea.

The main SARANG event was held at Yonsei University’s Centennial Hall in Seoul on October 11, 2023 where an audience of 500, including diplomats, government officials, academics and the Indian diaspora, gave a standing ovation to Bharatanatyam dancer **Ms. Vidyashree Radhakrishna** and her troupe. These efforts underscore the SVCC’s commitment to fostering cultural exchange and strengthening bilateral relations between India and the Republic of Korea.

South Korea





Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Colombo, Sri Lanka

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Colombo organized over 350 diverse cultural and academic activities during the year 2023-24. These included 35 scholastic workshops, lectures and seminars, along with 130 events centered on yoga and wellness. The Centre resonated with the melodies of 12 Indian music performances, 35 Indian classical and folk dance spectacles, and 14 film screenings. The centre hosted 8 engaging events for children and 25 initiatives focused on promoting Hindi and Sanskrit language learning also celebrated 26 festivals, such as Diwali, Holi, Poya days and curated 10 exhibitions. Notably, the Centre undertook 34 outreach programmes across Sri Lanka, 15 collaborative projects and continued its regular classes on Indian music, classical dances, yoga and Hindi.

A highlight was the commemoration of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore with the unveiling of a bronze bust at Ruhuna University. SVCC also facilitated cultural exchanges by sending Indic studies students and faculty to India and celebrated World Sanskrit Day with 12 institutions, honoring six scholars.

To mark its silver jubilee year, the SVCC launched several special initiatives, including the Bharatiyam-ICCR's School Connect programme, which reached over 5,000 students across 20 schools in Colombo, alongside the **"India Re-imagined"** exhibition. The **Chitrlekha-India Alumni Art Exhibition**, held at the J D A Perera Gallery, featured works by seven legendary masters and 26 contemporary artists, displaying over 150 captivating artworks. In March 2024, the Centre celebrated the International Gita Mahotsav, a testament to the timeless wisdom of the Bhagawad Gita.



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Dushanbe, Tajikistan

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Dushanbe played a vital role in promoting Indian culture and heritage in Tajikistan throughout the year 2023-24. Key events included the 9th International Day of Yoga at the Ismaili Centre in Dushanbe, which saw significant local and diplomatic participation, along with yoga sessions across the city. The Centre also showcased Indian traditions at the National Museum of Tajikistan and displayed Indian books at the 11th International Book Exhibition.

The SVCC engaged in various cultural collaborations, including performances and exhibitions at events such as **“East-West: Eurasian Musical Traditions and Folk Art”** organized by the Ministry of Culture, and performances by its teachers and students at the Dushanbe International School. On Tajik television, Tabla teacher Shri Dhriti Gobinda Dutta performed and discussed the influence of Indian classical music, generating local interest.

The centre organized several academic and cultural events at Tajik National University, such as Hindi Divas, where two books by Padmashri Prof. Rajabov Habibullo were released and other occasions like

Rabindra Jayanti and National Unity Day, where students actively participated. The Centre also marked significant Indian festivals and national days, such as Independence Day, Republic Day, Diwali and Holi, featuring performances by teachers and students. These efforts reflect the Centre’s dedication to strengthening cultural ties between India and Tajikistan.



Tajikistan



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Dar es Salaam played a key role in promoting Indian culture through a wide range of events and activities during the year 2023-24. The 9th International Day of Yoga (IDY) celebrated on June 18 at the Gymkhana football ground and across eight cities in Tanzania. The Centre also conducted daily tabla and vocal music classes, with 86 students participating. SVCC teachers performed at numerous events organized in collaboration with Tanzanian & Indian diaspora organizations. Outreach programs and workshops were also conducted at universities and schools to introduce Indian music.

SVCC played a crucial role in promoting Hindi, with regular weekend Hindi classes attended by 50 Tanzanian children, who also took part in cultural events. **Hindi Diwas** and **World Hindi Day** were

celebrated with **Kavi Sammelans** and language competitions. Additionally, the Centre supported various diaspora organizations by providing performers and organizing cultural programs, lectures and seminars that aligned with cultural and social themes.

The Centre organized several major events, including a Food Festival in July with 20 stalls representing Indian states, attracting over 1,200 visitors. SVCC also participated in the **Swahili International Tourism Expo** in October and hosted screenings of Indian documentaries. The Centre also celebrated Indian festivals such as **Diwali**, **Holi**, **Onam** and **Republic Day**, in collaboration with diaspora groups, contributing to the vibrant cultural exchange between India and Tanzania.



Tanzania



Thailand

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Bangkok, Thailand

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Bangkok organized a rich array of events to celebrate Indian culture and foster bilateral relations during the year 2023-24. The year began with the **“Yoga for Unity and Wellbeing”** event and the ICCR Foundation Day celebrations, featuring cultural performances and lectures on India’s cultural diplomacy. Notable highlights included ICCR’s **“Natya Stem Dance Kampni”** workshops and performances, which promoted Indian dance forms like Bharatanatyam and Kathak across various Thai institutions.

The centre organized the 9th International Day of Yoga included sessions at Chulalongkorn University and aboard the Indian Navy’s INS Sumitra, reflecting the role of yoga in health and international goodwill. SVCC also celebrated cultural milestones like the 350th Coronation Anniversary of Chhatrapati

Shivaji Maharaj, Krishna Janmashtami, Hindi Diwas, featuring performances by ICCR scholars & Thai students, while the 59th ITEC Day included traditional performances like **“Khon Dance”** & **“Natyabharata.”**

SVCC continued its cultural programming with notable events like the International Day of Music and Yoga led by Mr. Sanjiv Chaturvedi, Ayurveda Day, Diwali Milan Utsav and classical music & dance performances. The year concluded with significant celebrations including World Hindi Day, International Women’s Day and the 75th Anniversary of India’s Republic Day. The Centre also hosted the **“Warp & Weft”** art exhibition, highlighting women’s contributions to art. These activities underscored SVCC’s commitment to cultural exchange and the promotion of Indian heritage in Thailand.





Mahatma Gandhi Indian Cultural Centre (MGICC), Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

The Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Cultural Cooperation (MGICC), Port of Spain played a key role in promoting cultural collaboration between India and Trinidad and Tobago through various significant events during the year 2023-24. On the occasion of **International Dance Day** MGICC organized an **Indian Dance Festival** in collaboration with local Indian dance institutions on April 29, 2023. This festival featured captivating performances from prominent groups such as the Samagama Foundation and Nrityanjali Theatre, highlighting the rich cultural heritage of Indian classical and contemporary dance forms.

The **Junior Noel Drum Festival** was another cultural milestone, co-organized by MGICC and the Ministry of Sport and Community Development on May 27, 2023. This one-day event celebrated the cultural importance of percussion instruments like **African drums**, **Tassa**, **Tabla**, and the **Steel Pan**,

Trinidad’s national instrument. The event included workshops for tutors and students, followed by a performance showcasing the integration of drumming with dance, vocal, and drama elements. This festival fostered cultural exchange and engaged the younger generation in the vibrant world of percussion.

MGICC also celebrated **Raksha Bandhan** on September 3, 2023, in collaboration with SEWA TT, emphasizing the festival’s message of universal brotherhood. The year was marked by the visit of **ICCR Director General Shri Kumar Tuhin** on October 12, 2023, which featured a tree planting ceremony and a cultural showcase. The **75th Republic Day of India** on January 26, 2024, was celebrated with a grand reception hosted by High Commissioner Dr. Pradeep Rajpurohit, where Indian music, dance and cuisine took center stage, strengthening diplomatic and cultural ties between India and Trinidad and Tobago.



Trinidad & Tobago



The Nehru Centre (TNC), London, United Kingdom

The Nehru Centre (TNC), London has solidified its reputation as a key institution fostering India’s cultural engagement with the UK during the year 2023-24. TNC hosted an impressive array of cultural events, including 27 cultural performances, 27 book launches, 4 film screenings, 5 panel discussions, 8 lecture demonstrations and talks and 27 Indian exhibitions. Additionally, 8 cultural troupes visited the Centre at their own expense. As part of the countdown to the International Day of Yoga 2023, TNC conducted free weekly yoga classes from April 2 to May 30, 2023. TNC inaugurated its first Indian Culinary Week, which showcased different Indian cuisines and featured tasting sessions.

The Nehru Centre played a vital role in hosting several distinguished authors and cultural icons throughout the year, including Rajiv Malhotra, Sri

M, Deepak Chopra, Malini Awasthi, and Kumar Vishwas. The year also marked the start of regular Kathak, Bharatnatyam and yoga classes at TNC. In November, TNC collaborated with the High Commission of India, the Aga Khan Development Network, and The Ismaili Centre to present the exhibition **Delhi and Hyderabad: A Green Renaissance**. The centre celebrated International Women’s Day, focused on showcasing women’s contributions through exhibitions, book launches and discussions. Highlights included exhibition of “**Six Yards of Elegance**” by Parul Baliyan, a celebration of the saree and the book launch of **Good Innings: The Extraordinary, Ordinary Life of Lily Tharoor** by Shobha and Smita Tharoor. TNC also hosted a book launch by Manjiri Prabhu in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture.





Lal Bahadur Shastri Centre for Indian Culture (LBSCIC), Tashkent, Uzbekistan

The Lal Bahadur Shastri Centre for Indian Culture (LBSCIC), Tashkent organized a wide range of activities during the year 2023-24. It includes yoga sessions, dance performances, seminars and workshops. Yoga was a key focus, with several events held both in Tashkent and other cities across Uzbekistan. In celebration of the International Day of Yoga, events were conducted in over ten cities, with the main celebrations held simultaneously in Tashkent and Samarkand on June 21, drawing the participation of 3,000 people.

In alignment with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM), LBSCIC marked the occasion with numerous events. The grand finale of these celebrations took place in Samarkand on August 8, 2023 and in Tashkent on August 15, 2023, in honor of India’s 75th Republic Day. A Kathak troupe led by Ms. Prajakta Atre, sponsored by ICCR, visited

Uzbekistan and performed in four cities, offering a rich cultural experience to local audiences.

As part of its special initiatives, LBSCIC introduced the **“Yoga Wellness Instructor Certification Course”** for yoga enthusiasts. A total of 21 students completed the course, passed the certification examination and received certificates issued by the Ministry of AYUSH. This initiative aims to enhance the spread of yoga in Uzbekistan, as these trained instructors are now equipped to establish and operate their own yoga institutes. Additionally, during the visit of ICCR President Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, three MoUs were signed with universities in Uzbekistan, leading to the establishment of three ICCR Chairs. Two of these Chairs were activated recently, with Professor Arindam Banik joining Samarkand State University and Professor Manish Mishra joining Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies.



Uzbekistan



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Hanoi, Vietnam

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Hanoi organized a diverse range of events and activities during the year 2023-24. On April 13, 2023, the “74th ICCR Foundation Day” was celebrated with a video message from ICCR President Dr. Vinay Sahasrabudhe, local performances of Indian folk dances and a quiz on Indian culture. The birth anniversaries of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Rabindranath Tagore were commemorated with tributes and cultural performances. Additionally, an “Interactive Session on Promoting Tourism” was conducted to boost tourism between India and Vietnam, emphasizing opportunities for cultural exchange.

The “9th International Day of Yoga” was celebrated with mass yoga demonstrations, workshops & cultural exchanges in Hanoi, Bac Giang, Quang Ninh and Danang, emphasizing yoga’s growing popularity in Vietnam. SVCC also organized several cultural events, including performances by the **Tetseo Sisters** across Hai Duong, Lao Cai, Bac Ninh & Hanoi and a film screening of **Baahubali - The Conclusion**.

Other notable celebrations like “**Raksha Bandhan**,” “**Vietnam-India Cultural Friendship Day**” and “**Hindi Month**” activities, including a Video Making Competition & the e-book release **Hindarshika**, which further strengthened cultural ties.

SVCC organized numerous events such as “**Tet Reception**”, included remarks by the Ambassador, performances, a fashion show and Tet cuisine. The “**Lunar Festival 2024**” featured Indian Kathak dance and cuisine at Reigate Grammar School. The “**Yoga Workshop on Traditional and Scientific Aspects of Yoga**”, highlighted yoga’s benefits with experts Dr. R.S. Bhogal & Dr. B.R. Ramakrishna. The other events “**Dance of Peace-Friendship Festival**”, Kathak performance at the “**UNIS Hanoi Go Green Spring Fair 2024**” & an “**Evening of Culture, Music, Wisdom and Meditation**” led by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar on March 21, 2024. A series of “**Holi Folk Performances**” by Pratibha Kala Kendra from March 26 to 31, 2024 across various cities in Vietnam with traditional Indian dances.

Vietnam







Zonal/Sub Zonal Offices

ICCR's Regional Offices were reorganized/restructured under 5 Zonal Offices, 4 Sub Zonal Offices and 2 offices (Jammu and Patna) under RPO by the statutory bodies of ICCR. Seven Regional Offices were merged, namely (i) Bhopal (ii) Bhubaneswar (iii) Chennai (iv) Goa (v) Hyderabad (vi) Trivandrum and (vii) Varanasi with respective Zonal Offices which became operational w.e.f 1st July, 2022. These zonal/sub-zonal offices undertake

outreach activities at the state level for both cultural and academic work. They oversee scholarship programmes for foreign students studying in their respective zones and play a significant role in organizing inbound cultural programmes, exhibitions, conferences, seminars, visits and lectures. They also liaise with State Governments, cultural institutions, local artists, scholars and universities.

| S. No | Zonal Offices | S. No | Sub-Zonal Offices |
|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------|
| 1. | Bengaluru | 1. | Ahmedabad |
| 2. | Delhi (NCR) | 2. | Jammu |
| 3. | Guwahati | 3. | Lucknow |
| 4. | Kolkata | 4. | Patna |
| 5. | Mumbai | 5. | Pune |
| | | 6. | Shillong |





Ahmedabad

The Sub-Zonal Office (SZO), Ahmedabad actively promoted cultural exchange and the arts through a series of vibrant events during the year 2023-24. The celebrations began with the 74th Foundation Day on April 12, 2023 in collaboration with the Upasana School of Performing Arts, emphasizing the promotion of music and dance. On June 21, 2023, a Folk Dance Performance featuring various cultural groups was organized under the Horizon Series in collaboration with local municipal bodies. Another notable event was the **Exit Engagement Evening (E-3)** on July 20, 2023 aimed at grooming passing-out students as cultural ambassadors of India.

The office coordinated the participation of 150 international students at the Megh Malhar Festival on July 29-30, 2023. Independence Day was celebrated on August 15, 2023 with a patriotic cultural performance at the Regional Passport Office.

Additionally, the program “**Sarhad Ke Soor**” was held on October 7, 2023, at IIT Gandhi Nagar and a concert-cum-lecture by Shri Santosh Nahar took place on October 13, 2023.

The year also featured a cultural evening for the **12th INTERPA Conference** on November 22-23, 2023 and a performance by a 20-member cultural group from Kazakhstan during the 7th India-International Folk Festival on November 24, 2023 and the 7th National Dance Festival “**Nrutyotsavam 2023**” on December 9-10, 2023, in collaboration with Kalalayam Nartan Academy. The activities culminated with the 22nd Pandit Sundarlal Gangani Kathak Mahotsav on March 1, 2024, organized with the Kathak Darshan Charitable Trust. These events collectively underscore ICCR SZO-Ahmedabad’s commitment to cultural promotion and international understanding.



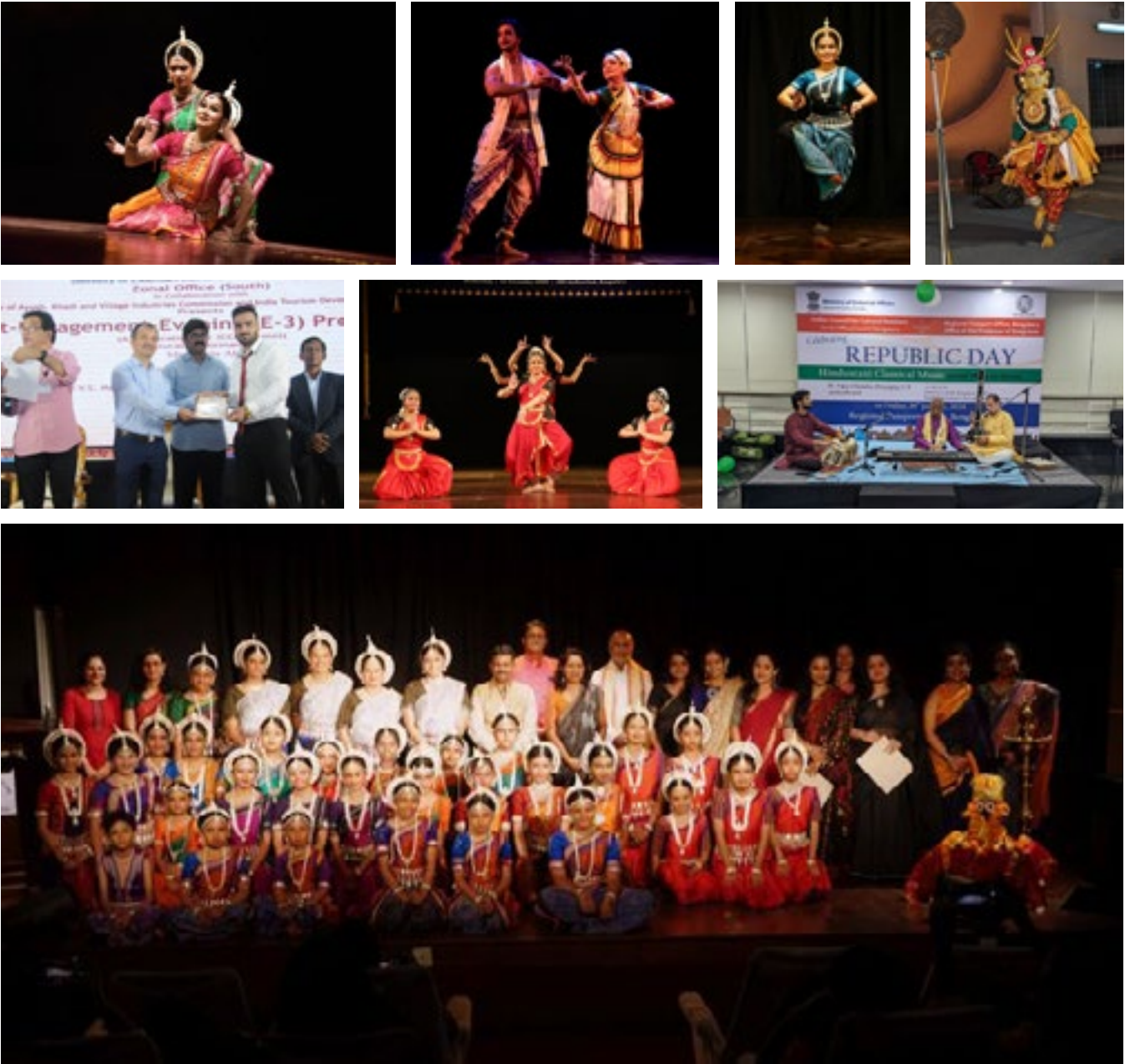


Bengaluru

The Zonal Office, Bengaluru handled scholarships for approximately 2,400 students, Agency schemes and non-Agency schemes during the year 2023-24 .

The Horizon series featured 36 empanelled artists across four states and continued it’s unique **“Every Friday Cultural Evening Programme (EFCEP),”** which has been running successfully for the last 41 years. This year, 52 young and upcoming artists were

showcased, with support from the State Government Departments and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan. The office also hosted three international folk dance and music groups from Chile, Kyrgyzstan, and Ethiopia, all of which drew large audiences. Additionally, it also successfully handled the visit of four Distinguished Visitors and seven Academic Visitors to Bengaluru, Chennai, Cochin, Hyderabad and Tirupati.



Bengaluru



Delhi

Delhi (NCR)

The Zonal Office (North), Delhi NCR organized a series of vibrant cultural performances during the year 2023-24 under ICCR’s Horizon Series Programme showcasing a diverse array of artistic expressions. The year began with captivating performances in June, including a Bharatanatyam dance by Ms. Purvadhanashree and a Kathak performance by Ms. Nilakhshi Khandkar, followed by a Tabla recital by Shri Gurpreet Singh and Hindustani classical vocal by Ms. Shobha Choudhary. Throughout the year, the office featured traditional Indian folk dances by Shri Vishnu Dutt Sharma & Group and Shri Parwinder Singh & Group, as well as vocal music by Shri Rajab Ali Bharati. The audience was further delighted by Odissi, Kuchipudi, and Manipuri dance performances, reflecting the richness of India’s cultural heritage.

The year culminated in March 2024 with devotional music by Shri Anjul Sharma and a Holi Mahotsav featuring Sitar recitals and folk dances. Additionally, the Zonal Office (North) highlighted international cultural exchange by organizing performances of folk dance groups from Congo in July and Cuba in November. The office also celebrated the achievements of ICCR scholars during the E-3 event, which included the distribution of alumni certificates, cultural dance performances by ICCR scholars and a special Bhangra performance by Shri Rajinder Tonk & Group. These events, hosted at prestigious institutions across the Northern region, underscored ICCR’s commitment to nurturing cultural exchange and collaboration.



Guwahati

The Zonal Office (North East), Guwahati organized a series of vibrant and culturally enriching events to celebrate and promote cultural exchange and international cooperation during the year 2023-24. The year began with the Foundation Day celebration which brought together ICCR international students from various universities within the jurisdiction of ZO (NE). The event, held in the presence of the Hon’ble Governor of Meghalaya, featured a North East Indian indigenous cultural performance and a sports tournament organized between local students and ICCR Foreign students playing football, volleyball and basketball.

In June 2023, the E3 programme was launched by the Hon’ble DG, ICCR in Shillong and Guwahati including an interactive session with foreign students. The year also saw the introduction of the India

International Folk Festival Shillong in November 2023, with performances by artists from eight countries. Additionally, Zonal Office (NE) organized the **Japanese Caravan** in collaboration with the Japan Foundation in November 2023.

A significant highlight of the year was the Horizon Series Programme **“Folk Dances and Music of Meghalaya”** on January 16, 2024. The event held at Raj Bhavan, Shillong and was graced by Hon’ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, along with the Hon’ble Governor of Meghalaya, Shri Phagu Chauhan and Hon’ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri Conrad Sangma. The Horizon Series Programmes continued across all eight states in North East India, featuring performances by incoming cultural delegates from Croatia and the Kurdistan Troupe from Iraq in Guwahati and Shillong.



Guwahati



Jammu

The Sub Zonal Office, Jammu and Kashmir organized 13 Horizon Series programmes featuring a diverse range of cultural events, including dance, singing, drama and Kavi-sammelan. These initiatives aimed to promote local art and culture, providing valuable opportunities for artists in Jammu and Kashmir. Additionally, the office hosted two foreign troupes: a Sri Lankan group in October 2023, which showcased traditional folk dances and a Cyprus group in November 2023, presenting a unique music and dance performance.

These events not only enriched the cultural landscape of Jammu and Kashmir but also fostered intercultural exchange. ICCR's efforts in organizing these programmes align with its objective to strengthen cultural bonds and enhance mutual understanding between India and other countries. The SZO Jammu remains committed to providing a platform for artistic recognition and continues to contribute to India's cultural exchange initiatives, ultimately supporting diplomatic relations and global cultural connections.

Jammu





Kolkata

Kolkata

The Zonal Office (East), Kolkata successfully organized various significant cultural and academic events during the year 2023-24. The **Foundation Day** on April 12, 2023, marked ICCR's 74th anniversary with notable dignitaries and cultural performances, showcasing the rich heritage of Bengal and international student talent. Additionally, the **Exit-Engagement-Evening (E-3) Event** on July 5, 2023 provided a platform for ICCR-sponsored foreign students to engage with Indian culture through performances and presentations.

The office hosted several international cultural events, including the **Indo-Latin American Cultural Festival** on September 26, 2023 and the **7th India-International Folk Festival** from November 24-26, 2023 featuring performances from Vietnam, Russia, Ethiopia, and Cuba. The **Incoming Cultural Delegation** programme was further enriched

by these events. Additionally, three visitors were facilitated under the Academic and Distinguished Visitors Programmes (AVP/DVP), including visits by international dignitaries to Bhubaneswar and Kolkata.

Under the **Horizon Series Programme**, ICCR Kolkata organized 27 events, with 19 held at the Satyajit Ray Auditorium and others through collaborations. These included the **International Day of Yoga** on June 21, 2023, the **Kavi Sammelon** on September 27, 2023 and various collaboration events like the **Kalinga and Southeast Asia: The Civilization Linkages** on July 27, 2023. Other notable programmes included the **Sufiana & Devotional Musical Festival – SAMARPAN** on February 20, 2024 and the **PHAG Mahotsav** on March 3, 2024.



Lucknow

The Sub Zonal Office, Lucknow orchestrated a series of impactful initiatives and organized a diverse range of cultural programs throughout the year. The office conducted 19 cultural programmes under the Horizon Series - 13 in Lucknow and 6 in Varanasi - providing a platform for artists and groups across Uttar Pradesh to showcase their talents. Noteworthy events included hosting of a **“23-member Ballet Folkloric de Chile Bafochi group from Chile on September 25-26, 2023”** and the **“6-member Selas Dance Company from Cyprus on November 24-26, 2023.”** Additionally, the office organized the **“Exit-Engagement-Evening (E3)”** on July 6, 2023 for 100 ICCR scholars from 10 universities, with Shri Kumar Tuhin, DG ICCR, as the chief guest. A Meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), chaired by the President of ICCR, was held on April 14, 2023.

The office also played a crucial role in coordinating with the State Government for performances by foreign groups from Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Mauritius, Cambodia, Vietnam and Singapore during the **“7th India-International Ramayana Mela in January 2024”** at Lucknow, Ayodhya and Varanasi. In addition, the Sub-Zonal Office hosted visits under the Distinguished and Academic Visitors Programmes, including Ambassador Prof. Anil Sooklal from South Africa on October 18-20, 2023 and Professors Balpreet Singh Ahluwalia and Olav G. Helleso from Norway, October 20-24, 2023 in Varanasi. The office also coordinated cultural programmes for G-20 events in Varanasi and facilitated the enrollment of 224 new students in various regional universities under ICCR’s scholarship schemes.

Lucknow





Mumbai

The Zonal Office, Mumbai organized a series of cultural events in Mumbai and Goa, showcasing India's rich culture alongside the cultural heritage of various countries during the year 2023-24. The activities began with the **"ICCR Foundation Day"** celebration on April 9, 2024 in Goa, featuring performances by local groups and international students under ICCR scholarships. International cultural exchanges included **"9th India-International Dance and Music performances from Panama (October 21-22, 2023), Vietnam (October 21, 2023), Croatia and Kazakhstan (November 26, 2023) and a Lecture Demonstration on Buddhist Dance by Yi Chuljin from South Korea (February 7, 2024).** The Horizon Series further highlighted classical Indian dance and music, featuring 21 accomplished artists in various disciplines.

The Zonal Office also hosted several significant visits under the Distinguished Visitors and Academic Visitors Programmes, including Ambassador Anil Sooklal from South Africa (October 22-24, 2023), Ms. Natalia Gavrilita, former Prime Minister of Moldova (January 29 - February 1, 2024), Prof. Tomasz Witkorsi from Norway (December 10-13, 2023)" and a Delegation from Kazakhstan led by Prof. Shyryn Kurmanbayeva (March 10-13, 2024). Notable events included a **Book Release** function on December 24, 2024 for ICCR's publication **"India: Mainspring of Democratic Traditions"** and an **"Exit-Engagement-Evening (E3)"** on July 4, 2023, celebrating ICCR scholars. The office also conducted two Regional Advisory Committee Meetings and a Youtuber Meeting to enhance social media engagement.

Mumbai





Patna

Patna

The Sub Zonal Office, Patna curated a vibrant array of cultural events, celebrating both traditional and contemporary art forms during the year 2023-24. The Horizon Series Programmes featured a diverse lineup, including classical music by Pt. Indra Kishor Mishra, folk performances by Surangan Patna and Sony Kala Kendra and Mohan Veena by Sh. Ajay P. Jha showcases at events like the **Sitamadhi Mahotsav** and **Jehanabad Mahotsav**. Highlights also included patriotic songs performed as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign. These events, held in collaboration with district administrations and local institutions, underscored ICCR's commitment to showcasing regional and national artistic talent.

The office also celebrated its Foundation Day on April 12, 2023 with light music and Odissi dance performances in collaboration with the Bihar

government's Department of Art, Culture, and Youth. Additionally, the zonal office helped ICCR headquarters in organizing the 1st edition of "**Vaishali Festival of Democracy**" at Nalanda University in September 2023. The "**Buddha Bhoomi Vandan Yatra**" from October 25 to November 3, 2023 welcomed 26 delegates from 13 Buddhist countries, facilitating cultural exchanges and exploring the rich heritage of Bodhgaya and Nalanda.

The year also saw engaging international cultural interactions, such as the Thai delegation's participation in the International Dance and Music Festival and a Russian troupe's performances at Sonpur Mela and Jehanabad. These events highlighted ICCR Patna's role in fostering cross-cultural dialogue and enhancing global cultural ties through dynamic and diverse programming.



Pune

The Sub Zonal Office (SZO), Pune not only facilitated academic excellence by awarding 81 scholarships to foreign students for higher studies across various disciplines but also played a pivotal role in enriching cultural exchange during the year 2023-24. A standout event was the **ICCR Foundation Day** celebration, featuring a vibrant **Maharashtrian Mini Tamasha** by students of Lalit Kala Kendra, Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), alongside performances by ICCR's foreign students. A significant milestone was the **6th Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial International Oration**, delivered by the esteemed **Dr. Sonal Mansingh**, renowned Odissi and Bharatnatyam dancer on May 21, 2023.

Throughout the year, SZO Pune organized a diverse array of cultural programs, including a **Warli-Painting Workshop** and **Lecture-cum-Demonstrations** in classical Indian dance forms such as Kathak, Odissi, Kathakali as well as Sarod and Tabla performances under its Horizon Series. Traditional performances of Hindustani Classical Vocal, Kathak, Bharatanatyam and Satriya dance added to cultural vibrancy. Notably, the office hosted a performance by Zhen Yun Lin Ge Group, **"Puppet Theatre"** from TAIWAN on 22nd October 2023 at Symbiosis International University and organized key events such as the **Exit-Engagement Evening (E-3)** for final-year ICCR scholars, Diwali celebrations and International Yoga Day (IDY) in collaboration with SPPU, furthering cultural diplomacy and academic engagement.



Pune



Shillong

Shillong

The Sub-Zonal Office (SZO), Shillong organized a series of cultural events across the Khasi, Jaintia, and Garo Hills in collaboration with the Department of Arts and Culture, Government of Meghalaya. One of the key highlights was the launch of the E3 Programme by Director General of ICCR, which included an interactive session and certificate distribution to outgoing foreign students. Additionally, a sports meet was organized on **ICCR Foundation Day**, featuring football, volleyball and basketball tournaments between ICCR foreign scholars and local students, showcasing a spirit of camaraderie and cultural exchange.

A significant event was the installation of a statue of Khasi freedom fighter U Tirot Sing at the IGCC in

Dhaka, Bangladesh with performances by a cultural team from Meghalaya, commemorating the fighter's sacrifice during India's freedom struggle. This event highlighted the historical and cultural connections between Meghalaya and Bangladesh.

The office also hosted a G-20 Cultural Programme in collaboration with the Government of Meghalaya and North East Space Application Centre. Additionally, the office welcomed a 16-member cultural team from Croatia in October, who performed across Meghalaya, contributing to a vibrant cultural exchange. The India-International Folk Festival, featuring participants from eight countries and local artists, was another highlight, celebrating global folk traditions in Shillong.





Outgoing Cultural Delegations

The primary mandate of the Council is to foster international understanding through culture. To achieve this objective, the Council showcases high-quality performing artists and groups in countries worldwide, allowing people to experience and appreciate the diversity and vibrancy of India's performing arts, including classical, folk, theatre, modern dance, and music. These groups are sent as part of India's Cultural Exchange Programme with various countries and also independently. Over the

past six decades, the ICCR has facilitated the travel of thousands of cultural troupes from all corners of India across the globe, organizing Cultural Weeks and Festivals dedicated to specific countries or regions. On average, more than 100 groups have traveled abroad annually in recent years. The Council takes pride in having sent great masters, living legends, as well as young and promising artists, showcasing India's enduring and vibrant culture and its incredible diversity.

Netherlands and Spain: The Light music group led by Malini Awasthi from Uttar Pradesh participated in the year-long 150th anniversary celebrations of Aprawasi Divas by the Sarnami Hindustani community from June 3-10, 2023.





Russia: The Sai Venkatesh Contemporary Dance group led by Dr. Suparna Venkatesh from Karnataka, showcased their performance at the Dobrovision event and the 25th edition of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum from June 7-16, 2023.



Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan: “Gandharba Kala Kendra,” led by Ms. Dreamly Gogoi from Assam showcased cultural performances at the International Dance & Folklore Festival “Avaza” from June 11-22, 2023.





Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador: The Sankalp Odissi Dance group led by Kasturi Pattanaik gave cultural performances from June 24-July 4, 2023.



Canada: The Abhimanyu Lal Kathak group from Delhi performed in Toronto at the Italian Contemporary Film Festival and the Rhythms of Canada event organized by the Aga Khan Foundation from July 1-10, 2023.





Thailand: The contemporary dance troupe “**Baruipara Nrityalok**” led by Sutapa Awon Pradhan performed in the Candle Festival from July 29-August 4, 2023.



Scotland: The Bharatnatyam group led by Anwesha Das from Tamil Nadu showcased performances in Edinburgh from August 14-17, 2023 during the 75th Independence Day Anniversary.



Vietnam: The Sabri and Party Qawwali group led by Shadab Hussain from Delhi delivered art performances in Ho Chi Minh City from August 11-20, 2023 on the occasion of Namaste Vietnam Indian Cultural Week.



Vietnam: The Tetseo Sisters group from Nagaland performed in Hanoi from August 10-16, 2023 during the Independence Day celebrations.





Brazil: A Hindi cinema dance and music group led by Rishi Sharma performed from August 14-19, 2023 on the occasion of 75th Anniversary celebrations of diplomatic relations between India and Brazil.



Bulgaria and Romania: A Kathak group led by Leena Malakar from Haryana performed in Bulgaria from August 14-20, 2023 at the Independence Day celebration and in Romania from August 20-25, 2023 at the 28th edition of the International Folklore Festival.





Russia: A 15-member Bharatanatyam group led by Tanya Saxena performed at the Festival of India in Russia from September 6-12, 2023.



Russia: The Classicool Group led by Purbayan Chatterjee performed at the Festival of India in Russia from September 6-12, 2023.





Italy: The Senhri Folk and Culture Troupe from the Mizoram State Government performed at North East India at Milan from September 8-13, 2023.



Russia: An Odissi dance group led by Aniruddha Das performed at the Festival of India in Russia from September 25 - October 7, 2023.





Republic of Korea: A Bharatanatyam group led by Vidya Shree Radhakrishnan performed at the 9th edition of the Annual Festival “SARANG” in the Republic of Korea from October 1-15, 2023.



Bahrain: A 4-member flute group led by Sunil Bhagwan Avachat performed at the Bahrain International Music Festival organized by the Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities (BACA) from October 17-20, 2023.





Malaysia: A Seraikella Chhau group led by Shashadhar Acharya from Jharkhand staged a performance at the Living Arts Cultural Festival from October 18-26, 2023.



Seychelles: A 6-member contemporary dance group participated in the Creole Festival from October 26-30, 2023 to exhibit their art performances.





Reunion Island: An 8-member Bharatanatyam dance group led by Sneha Devanandan performed at Diwali celebrations from November 14-20, 2023.



Fiji: A 4-member group led by Bhai Avtar Singh performed at the Centennial celebration of Samabula Gurudwara Sahib from November 18-30, 2023.





Indonesia: An 8-member Odissi Dance group from Gunjan Das Academy led by Meera Das, showcased performances during the Republic Day Celebrations from January 23-29, 2024.



Sri Lanka: An 8-member Odissi Dance Group led by Namrata Mehta performed during the Republic Day Celebrations from January 23-29, 2024.





Peru: A 5-member Odissi Dance Group led by Leema Bhol from Odisha performed to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of India-Peru Diplomatic Relations from January 25-30, 2024.



Bhutan: An 8-member Manipuri group led by Poushali Chatterjee from West Bengal performed at the Republic Day celebrations from January 25-30, 2024.





Poland: The Kathak Group “**Kadambh**” performed during the Republic Day Celebrations from January 23-28, 2024.



New Zealand: A Rajasthani group led by Mehboob Khan Langa delivered a cultural performance from January 25 - February 1, 2024.



Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: An 8-member Kathak Dance group led by Prajakta Atre performed during the Republic Day Celebrations from January 20-28, 2024.





Slovenia: A Kathak Group led by Kavita Thakur performed during the Republic Day Celebrations from January 24-28, 2024.



Russia and Kyrgyzstan: A Contemporary Dance group led by Ms. Rekha Mehra, performed during the Indian Republic Day Celebrations in Russia from January 23-31, 2024 and in Kyrgyzstan from January 31-February 5, 2024.





Croatia: The Asian Punjabi Folk Dance Club led by Ashwani Kumar performed during the International Rijeka Carnival 2024 from February 9-15, 2024.



Iran and Qatar: The Qawwali group “Shahid Niazi & Party” led by Shahid Niazi performed at the event “Hindustan in Golestan” in collaboration with the Golestan Palace authorities in Tehran from March 3-7, 2024 and in Qatar from March 8-10, 2024.



Spain: The Hindustani Fusion group “Soul of Benaras” led by Deobrat Mishra performed at the India in Concert Festival from March 13-18, 2024.





Turkey: The Hengerabari Assam Kala Kendra led by Shri Kalyan Jit Dutta showcased Bihu Dance performances from March 4-9, 2024.



Indonesia: Travel Grant was accorded to Radhika Creations for showcasing a cultural performance based on the Ramayana from March 23-31, 2024.



Incoming Cultural Delegations

The ICCR showcases performances by foreign cultural artists and troupes, allowing the people of India to experience and appreciate diverse cultures from across the globe. A key part of this effort is the Incoming Cultural Delegations, which promote international cultural presentations in India, both through Cultural Exchange Programmes and independent events like cultural weeks and festivals. These initiatives enhance the understanding of global

cultures among Indian audiences.

In addition, the ICCR implements cultural projects for various government ministries and facilitates performances by artists from its panel for events organized by NGOs in Delhi/NCR. The Council also supports cultural organizations financially and organizes the monthly **“Horizon Series”** performances across its Regional Offices in India.

International Ramayana Performances at Ayodhya

The ICCR supported the Ayodhya Research Institute, Deptt. of Culture, Govt. of UP in inviting international Ramayana performing art groups for the **“Ram-Janmotsav”** celebrations in Ayodhya from March 30 to April 1, 2023. The event featured performances by an 11-member Balinese

Ramayana group **“GEOKS”** from Indonesia led by Dr. I Wayan Dibia and 11-member group from **“Apsaras Art”** of Singapore. Additionally, the Indonesian Ramayana group performed at Parul University, Vadodara, Gujarat on April 3, 2023.



74th Foundation Day Celebrations

The ICCR celebrated its **74th Foundation Day** at its Headquarters in New Delhi on April 12, 2023 and across its Regional Offices from April 11-20, 2023. The headquarters event featured a cultural evening with a 10-member Rajasthani folk group **“Bassant”** led by Smt. Begum Batool. The cultural evening was inaugurated by Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs & Culture, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, in the presence of ICCR President, Dr. Vinay

Sahasrabudde. Regional Offices celebrated the Foundation Day by organizing cultural performances and activities featuring local artist groups and ICCR scholarship students.



SCO Foreign Ministers Meeting Cultural Performance

ICCR presented a gala cultural performance for the SCO Foreign Ministers meet at Hotel Taj Exotica, Goa on May 3, 2023. The event featured a specially curated dance-music performance choreographed by

Ms. Maitreyee Pahari themed around SCO-2023, including a medley of popular songs from India and SCO member countries. The event was hosted by Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Dr. S Jaishankar.



World Culture Day Celebration

In collaboration with Rotary District (Delhi-NCR), ICCR organized a cultural performance celebrating **"World Culture Day"** on May 20, 2023 at the Auditorium of PHD Chamber of Commerce, New Delhi. Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs & Culture, Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, graced the event

as Chief Guest, while ICCR President, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, was the Guest of Honor. The cultural performance choreographed by Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra (SBKK) was themed **"Samavesh" (Unity in Diversity)** and featured the participation of Indian and foreign performing art students.



Africa Day Celebration

ICCR in collaboration with the Embassy of Democratic Republic of the Congo in New Delhi, organized a cultural performance by the folk group of Md. Rafiq Langa, showcasing traditional folk dance and music from different Indian states during the **"Africa Day"** celebration at Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi on May 26, 2023. The event was

jointly conducted by the African Heads of Missions (AHOMs) in Delhi and the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India. Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs & Culture, Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi attended the celebration which was also graced by Heads of resident foreign missions in Delhi and foreign diplomats.



India-Africa Conclave Cultural Performance

The ICCR supported the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) in organizing a cultural performance that showcased Indian folk dance and music forms

from different states at the 18th CII-EXIM India-Africa Conclave held at Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi on June 15, 2023.



National Ramayana Mahotsav

The ICCR supported the Chhattisgarh State Govt. in organizing International Ramayana cultural performances at the “**National Ramayana Mahotsav**” held in Raigarh, Chhattisgarh, from 1-3 June 2023. The festival was inaugurated by Hon’ble

Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Shri Bhupesh Baghel. Ramayana cultural troupes from Indonesia and Cambodia facilitated by ICCR, presented dance-drama recitals depicting the episodic highlights of the Ramayana.

Brainstorming session on Accreditation of Education of Indian Classical Dances Abroad

ICCR organized a Brainstorm meeting on “**Accreditation of Education of Indian Classical Dances Abroad**” at ICCR Conference Hall, New Delhi on June 26, 2023. The session hosted by

ICCR President, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe brought together eminent personalities from the field of arts and culture to discuss the accreditation process.



Cultural Exchange with DR Congo

The ICCR in collaboration with the Embassy of Democratic Republic of the Congo in New Delhi hosted a 10-member folk performing art group “Mbali Ngbaka du Congo” from DR Congo for cultural performances in India from July 2-6,

2023. The group performed at North Campus, Delhi University on July 2, 2023 and later at Parul University, Vadodara on July 4, 2023 where they engaged in an interactive session with the performing arts faculty and students.



International Conference on Kalinga & Southeast Asia

The ICCR presented a cultural performance during the inaugural day of the 3-day International Conference on “**Kalinga & Southeast Asia: The Civilization Linkages**” held in Bhubaneswar from July 27-29, 2023 in collaboration with the Institute of Media Studies (IMS), Utkal University. ICCR

President, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe attended the event on July 27, 2023 interacting with Odisha-based ICCR empanelled artists who had previously represented India in international cultural performances.

Bihar Museum Biennale

The ICCR in collaboration with the Bihar Museum, Dept. of Youth, Art & Culture, Govt. of Bihar, organized a cultural performance during the opening ceremony of the 2nd edition of the “**Bihar Museum Biennale**” on August 7, 2023 in Patna. The event

featured traditional dance and music performances by ICCR’s international scholarship students from India, CIS and Latin American countries with participation from G-20 and nine guest countries.





Hindi Kavi Sammelan

The ICCR in collaboration with Sevagya Sansthanam (Varanasi), hosted international Hindi poets from Mauritius, Thailand, Nepal and the Russian

Federation for the “**Hindi Kavi Sammelan**” held at Vrindavan, Mathura from September 16-17, 2023 as part of the “**Hindi Week Celebration**”.

Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Right Institutions

The ICCR supported the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in organizing a cultural performance showcasing traditional folk dance and music from various Indian states in honor of the

visiting foreign delegates at the 28th Conference of the “**Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Right Institutions**” held at Hotel Hyatt Regency, New Delhi on 20 September, 2023.

India-Latin America Cultural Festival

The ICCR organized the 4th edition of the “**India-Latin America Cultural Festival**” at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi from September 28-29, 2023. The festival featured cultural troupes from Chile (23-member **Ballet Folklorico de Chile - “Bafochi”**), Ecuador (**Musical duo Jorge Saade & Juan Carlos Escudero**) and **Colombia (8-member “Abakorao” Latin band)**. The festival was inaugurated by ICCR President, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe on September 28, 2023. The Chilean

troupe also performed at Christ University, Bengaluru on September 24, 2023 and at Sant Gadgeji Maharaj Auditorium, UPSNA, Lucknow on September 26, 2023. The Ecuadorian troupes performed at Satyajit Ray Auditorium, RTC, Kolkata on September 26, 2023. Additionally, the Chilean troupe participated in a cultural workshop with Indian performing art students at Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi on September 30, 2023.





G-20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit (P-20)

ICCR supported the Parliament of India in organizing cultural performances during the welcoming of foreign delegates for the 9th G-20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit (P-20) in New Delhi from October

10-14, 2023. Traditional folk dance performances from Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat by **“Anshu Arts & Group”** were showcased at Delhi Airport.

India International Dance & Music Festival

The 9th edition of the **“India International Dance & Music Festival”** was organized at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi from October 18-20, 2023. The festival was inaugurated by ICCR President Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe and showcased a vibrant array of performances by 12 international cultural groups. Notably, the festival featured a special performance by Ms. Priya Venkataraman’s Indian group, adding to the event’s diverse cultural offerings. International groups

from Russia, Kazakhstan, Taiwan, Vietnam, Croatia, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Panama, Romania and Iraq captivated audiences with their performances across various Indian cities. Five groups also performed at Chandigarh University from October 22-23, 2023. This segment was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, further enriching the festival’s outreach and impact.



Folk Festival Kullu Dussehra – 2023

ICCR in collaboration with the District Kullu Authority and Himachal Pradesh State Government, organized cultural performances as part of the **“Folk Festival Kullu Dussehra – 2023”** in Kullu Valley from October 24-30, 2023. The festival inaugurated

by Hon’ble Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla, featured performances by international groups from Russia, Kazakhstan, Taiwan, Vietnam, Kenya, Malaysia, South Africa, Kyrgyz Republic, Sri Lanka, Romania and Iraq.



Virasat Festival-2023

ICCR in collaboration with ONGC-REACH, organized **“Virasat Festival-2023”** at B R Ambedkar Stadium, Dehradun from October 30 to

November 1, 2023. The festival showcased cultural performances by international groups from Russia and South Africa.

International Cultural Event at Jaisalmer Fort Museum

ICCR in collaboration with the Deptt. of Tourism, Rajasthan State Government and Panorama Editions, organized an **“International Cultural Event”** at Jaisalmer Fort Museum from November 3-4, 2023.

The event featured performances by international groups from Denmark, Hungary and one Indian group **“Rajasthani Strings.”**

Diwali Milan Reception

During the **“Diwali Milan”** reception at NGMA Lawn, New Delhi on November 13, 2023, ICCR organized a cultural performance by **“Kashmir Music Club”** of Shri Waheed Jeelani, hosted

by ICCR President Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe in honor of foreign ambassadors, diplomatic corps and distinguished dignitaries.

Stories of India-Hungary Friendship

ICCR in collaboration with the Hungarian Cultural Centre in Delhi, organized a Kathak dance performance by Shri Abhishek Khichi at

Muktaangan, Brijwasan, New Delhi on November 16, 2023 as part of the event **“Stories of India-Hungary Friendship.”**

India-International Folk Festival in Shillong

The 7th **“India-International Folk Festival”** was organized in Shillong from November 22-24, 2023, featuring international groups from Russia, Kazakhstan, Croatia, Vietnam, Cuba, Ethiopia and Cyprus. The Festival was inaugurated by Hon’ble Governor of Meghalaya, Shri Phagu Chauhan and attended by Hon’ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri Conrad Sangma on the closing day. The Festival also took place in Kolkata from November 24-26, 2023 with performances from international groups from Vietnam, Russia, Cuba and Ethiopia. Hon’ble Governor of West Bengal, Dr. C V Ananda Bose, attended on November 25, 2023. Additionally, foreign groups performed in cities including Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Jammu, Patna, Bengaluru and Delhi.





Cultural Performance at Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University

ICCR in collaboration with Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University organized a cultural performance by the “Naz” State Dance ensemble

from Kazakhstan at the GGSIPU campus, Dwarka, New Delhi on November 28, 2023.



Russian and Cuban Cultural Performances

ICCR in collaboration with the Embassy of the Russian Federation in New Delhi, organized a performance by the State-honored Russian folk dance ensemble “Severnye Zori” at the Russian Cultural Centre, New Delhi on November 29,

2023. Additionally, ICCR in collaboration with the Embassy of Cuba organized a cultural performance by the Cuban folk dance ensemble “**Conjunto Folklorico Nacional de Cuba**” at the Lotus Temple Auditorium, New Delhi on the same day.





Cultural Performance by Ethiopian Folk Group

ICCR in collaboration with Chandigarh University organized a cultural performance by a 16-member folk performing art group from the Muluaem Cultural Centre, Ethiopia on December 2, 2023

at the Chandigarh University campus. The event was graced by H.E. Mr. Demeke Atnafu Ambulo, Ambassador of Ethiopia to India.



Knowledge India Visitors Programme

ICCR organized a cultural performance by Dr. Rekha Mehra & group, showcasing Indian classical and folk dance-music of different genres during the “**Knowledge India Visitors Programme**” at Park Hotel, New Delhi, on December 4, 2023. The event

was inaugurated by Hon’ble Minister of Ayush, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal and graced by Hon’ble EAM, Dr. S Jaishankar and President, ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe.





United Consciousness Conclave-2023

ICCR sponsored a cultural performance showcasing folk dance-music from different Indian states by “Pratikalpa Sanskritik Sanstha (Ujjain)” during

the closing day of the “**United Consciousness Conclave - 2023**” at Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh on December 17, 2023.

India-Kazakh Joint Musical Concert

ICCR in collaboration with Dr. L Subramaniam Foundation organized **India-Kazakh joint musical concert** at **Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi** on **5 January, 2024** under ‘**Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival**’. The event featured joint

musical performance by Indian musical group of Dr. L Subramaniam & Ms. Kavita Krishnamurthy with Symphony orchestra of Northern Kazakhstan & Erkegali Rakhmadiyev academic chamber choir from Kazakhstan.



USA-based ‘Kalanidhi’ Dance Troupe Performance

ICCR sponsored a cultural performance by the USA-based “**Kalanidhi**” dance troupe of Ms. Anuradha Nehru on January 12, 2024 at Alliance Francaise, New

Delhi where they performed “**Sundari Charitam - The Ballad of Belle**”.



Turkish Sufi Music Ensemble Performance

ICCR in collaboration with the Turkish Embassy in New Delhi, organized a cultural performance titled **“Whirling Dervishes of Rumi”** by the 23-member

“Konya” Turkish Sufi Music ensemble at the Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on January 15, 2024.



7th India International Ramayana Mela

ICCR organized the 7th India International Ramayana Mela at Purana Qila, New Delhi from January 18-21, 2024. The event was part of ICCR’s yearlong celebration **“Connecting the World through Ramayana - 2024”** inaugurated by Hon’ble

Minister Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi. The event featured cultural performances, exhibitions and sessions by Ramayana performing art groups from India and seven other countries.





Korean Traditional Dance Workshop

ICCR sponsored a cultural workshop and lecture-demonstration by Korean traditional dancer Mr.

Yi Chul-Jin at Nalanda Dance Research Centre (NDRC), Mumbai on February 7, 2024.

Sonar Bangla Dance Performance

ICCR sponsored a specially curated cultural performance on the theme “**Sonar Bangla**” choreographed by Ms. Tanya Saxena during the

“**International Mother Language Day**” celebration at the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi on February 21, 2024.



Bharat Tex-2024 Inaugural Performance

ICCR supported the Ministry of Textiles in organizing a classical musical instruments performance by Sitar maestro Shri Subrat De and his accompanists during

the inauguration of “**Bharat Tex-2024**” by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on February 26, 2024.



Vikram Utsav - 2024

ICCR in collaboration with Maharaja Vikramaditya Shodhpeeth, Dept. of Culture, State Govt. of MP, organized a performance by the Ramayana cultural

troupe from Fiji “**Shree Satsang Ramayana Mandali**” at Ujjain on March 9, 2024 as part of “**Vikram Utsav - 2024**”.



Ramayana Cultural Performance at Ayodhya Ramotsav

ICCR in collaboration with the International Ramayana and Vedic Research Institute, Dept. of Culture, UP State Govt., organized performances by the “**Shree Satsang Ramayana Mandali**” from Fiji at “**Ayodhya Ramotsav**”.





Ramayana Cultural Troupe from Fiji at GGSIPU

ICCR in collaboration with Guru Govind Singh Indraprastha University, organized a performance by the 10-member “Shree Satsang Ramayana

Mandali” from Fiji at the GGSIPU campus, Dwarka as part of the year long celebration of “**Connecting the World through Ramayana - 2024**”.



9th International Day of Yoga (IDY)

ICCR facilitated the celebration of the 9th International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2023 in 190 countries through Indian Missions. Over 800 IDY events were organized worldwide. ICCR also

supported the “**Yoga My Pride**” photography contest launched by the Ministry of Ayush with participants from 75 countries.

Horizon Series Programmes at Zonal/Sub-Zonal Offices

ICCR organized monthly Horizon Series cultural programmes at its Zonal/Sub-Zonal offices in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Delhi, Guwahati, Jammu, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Patna, Pune and

Shillong throughout the year. Local artists and artisans from different genres participated in these cultural presentations.

Exhibitions

ICCR organized three exhibitions and provided two travel grants during the year 2023-24.

The Photographic Exhibition “**Central American Indigenous People: Cultural Heritage**” showcasing the Indigenous Art of four Central American countries: Costa Rica, El- Salvador, Guatemala and Panama was organized by ICCR along with embassies



of Costa Rica, El- Salvador, Guatemala and Panama at Indira National Centre for the Arts. The exhibition was inaugurated by Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi (Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture) on October 13, 2023 and remained open for public viewing until October 22, 2023.



7th India International Ramayana Mela-2024

The 7th India International Ramayana Mela-2024 was organized by ICCR as part of inauguration of the year long festival “**Year of Connecting the World through Ramayana-2024**” at Purana Qila, New Delhi. The exhibition was inaugurated by Smt.

Meenakashi Lekhi (Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture) on January 18, 2024 and remained open for public viewing until January 21, 2024.





Outgoing Exhibition Narasimha and the Avatars – the Incarnation of God

ICCR in collaboration with Museum of Sacred Art (MOSA) showcased artistic offerings on the ten avatars of Vishnu, with a specific emphasis on Lord Narasimhadeva. The exhibition titled “**Narasimha**

and the Avatars – the Incarnation of God” was inaugurated on May 6, 2023 at the MOSA Radadesh Museum, Belgium and remained open for public viewing till April, 2024.



Travel Grants

In 2023, the ICCR awarded travel grants to support the international participation of Indian artists. Renowned artist Shri Rahul Vyas received a grant to showcase his work at the exhibition ‘**Narasimha and the Avatars - the Incarnation of God**’ at the MOSA Radadesh Museum in Belgium from 4th to May 11, 2023.

Additionally, a travel grant was provided to a group of four distinguished artists - Shri Narendra Pal Singh, Prof. Harsh Vardhan Singh, Ms. Reena Kumari and Ms. Sangeeta Goel-enabling them to participate and display their artworks at the exhibition “**India, Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow**” held at The Nehru Centre in London from August 21-25, 2023.



Shri Rahul Vyas at MOSA Radadesh Museum





Bust and Statues

ICCR gifts busts and statues of Indian icons and national leaders for ceremonial installation in other countries through Indian Missions and Posts there. These busts and statues have been installed at iconic locations in various countries to showcase India’s national leaders in a prominent way. Indian Missions

and Posts organize ceremonial functions regularly at such venues to apprise the local audience about the significant contributions of these icons and national leaders to global heritage. Details of such busts and statues sent during the 2023-24 are as under:

| S. No. | Name of Country | Description of Bust/Statue |
|--------|--------------------|---|
| 1. | Brazil | Statue of Mahatma Gandhi |
| 2. | Canada | Two bust of Mahatma Gandhi |
| 3. | Dominican Republic | Statue of Mahatma Gandhi |
| 4. | Indonesia | Statue of Mahatma Gandhi |
| 5. | Japan | Bust and Statue of Mahatma Gandhi |
| 6. | Myanmar | Portrait of Bal Gangadhar Tilak |
| 7. | Nigeria | Two bust of Mahatma Gandhi |
| 8. | Scotland | Bust of Rabindranath Tagore |
| 9. | Sri Lanka | Bust of Rabindranath Tagore |
| 10. | Switzerland | Statue of Dr. B R Ambedkar and Bust of Hansa Jivraj Mehta |
| 11. | Tanzania | Bust of Swami Vivekananda |
| 12. | Uzbekistan | Bust of Rabindranath Tagore, Swami Vivekananda, Prem Chand, Maulana Azad and Dr. B R Ambedkar |



Chairs of Indian Studies

To promote Indian studies and Indian languages abroad, ICCR in consultation with Indian Missions abroad, establishes Chairs of Indian Studies and Indian languages such as Political Science, Philosophy, History, Sociology, Economics, Buddhist Studies, Dance & Music, Sanskrit, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil and Bengali in different foreign universities across the world at their request. The purpose of these Chairs, apart from familiarizing students about Indian

history and culture is to become a local hub around which Indian Studies and Indian Languages can be promoted in academic institutions abroad. The Chairs not only teach courses on various aspects of India but also undertake other academic activities like research guidance, seminars, publication, public lectures etc. to assist the selected to Country create awareness about India and facilitating a better appreciation of various India related issues.

(a) List of operational Chairs:

Occupied Chairs of ICCR in this period i.e. from April 2023 to March 2024

| S/N | Country | University | Chair | Chair Tenure | Visiting Professor | Tenure Ends In (Tentative Month) |
|-----|-----------|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Mauritius | Mauritius Santana Dharma Temple Federation | Purohit Course | Three Months | Dr. Shailendra Prasad Uniyal Joined In June 2023 | Dec 2023 |
| 2 | Mauritius | Mauritius Santana Dharma Temple Federation | Purohit Course | Three Months | Dr D. Dayanath Joined In July 2023 | Oct 2023 |
| 3 | USA | University of Houston, Texas | Tamil | One Academic Year | Dr. T. Viajaylakshmi Joined On Aug 2023 | Aug 2025 |
| 4 | Nepal | Lumbini Buddhisht University, Lumbini | Ambedkar Chair of Buddhist Studies | One Academic Year | Dr. Bimalendra Kumar Joined On Sep 2023 | Sep 2024 |
| 5 | Nepal | Cnas, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu | Indian Studies (Political Science) | One Academic Year | Dr. Kaushikee Departed On Sep 2023 | Sep 2024 |
| 6 | Nepal | Kathmandu University, Kathmandu | Indian Studies (Political Science) | Two Academic Years | Dr. Sangeeta Thapliyal Joined On Sep 2023 | Sep 2025 |
| 7 | Mauritius | Mahatama Gandhi Institute, Moka | Hindi | One Academic Year | Prof. Raj Shekhar Joined In Nov 2023 | Nov 2024 |



| | | | | | | |
|----|------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|----------|
| 8 | UK | Birmingham City University, Birmingham | Traditional Music | One Academic Year | Ustad Johar Ali Khan Joined In Jan 2024 | Dec 2024 |
| 9 | Uzbekistan | Samarkand State University, Samarkand | Indian Studies (Economics) | One Academic Year | Dr. Arindam Banik Joined On Jan 2024 | Dec 2024 |
| 10 | Uzbekistan | Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies, Tashkent | Indian Studies- Hindi Language | One Academic Year | Dr. Manish Kumar Mishra Joined On Jan 2024 | Dec 2024 |
| 11 | Russia | St. Petersburg State University. St. Petersburg | Indian Studies (Philosophy) | One Semester | Dr. Devendra Nath Tiwari Joined On Mar 2024 | Jun 2024 |

(b) MoU signed/renewed with various Universities from April 2023 onwards till March 2024

| S.No. | University | Discipline | MoU Signed On |
|-------|--|---|---------------|
| 1. | University of Zambia, Zambia | Indian Studies (Economics) | 03-04-2023 |
| 2. | Silpakorn University, Thailand | Sanskrit | 11-04-2023 |
| 3. | University of Guelph, Canada | Indian Studies (History) | 25-05-2023 |
| 4. | Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China | Indian Studies (Economics) | 01-08-2023 |
| 5. | University of Valladolid, Spain | Hindi | 29-09-2023 |
| 6. | University of Valladolid, Spain | Indian Studies (Economics) | 21.01.2023 |
| 7. | Jageillonian University, Poland | Indian Studies (History) | 30-09-2023 |
| 8. | Sofia University, Sofia, Bulgaria | Hindi | 04-09-2023 |
| 9. | University of North Sumatra, Medan, Indonesia | Indian Studies (Political Science) | 20-11-2023 |
| 10. | Syiah Kuala University, Medan, Indonesia | Indian Studies (Economics) | 06-12-2023 |
| 11. | El Colegio De México, A.C. (El Colegio) College De Mexico (Colmex) | Octavio Paz Chair On Indian Studies (Contemporary Indian History) | 23-02-2024 |
| 12. | Cwm, University of Hildesheim, Germany | Tyagraja Chair of South Indian Music | 14-03-2024 |



MoU signing between ICCR and University of Zambia, Zambia

The MoU was signed between the University of Zambia (UNZA) and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) on April 3, 2023. The signatories were Prof. Anne Sikwibele, Acting Vice Chancellor of UNZA and the High Commissioner of India to Zambia, representing ICCR.

The High Commissioner emphasized the historically close and long-standing relations between India and Zambia, highlighting the desire to further strengthen this mutually beneficial relationship. He stressed the commitment of both parties to enhance cooperation and understanding on issues of mutual interest at bilateral and multilateral levels, with a particular focus on education. He also provided an overview of ICCR's scholarships and other programs available to Zambians, encouraging widespread dissemination of this information.

Prof. Anne Sikwibele welcomed the MoU, expressing confidence that it would facilitate bilateral educational partnerships and promote Indian culture and contemporary philosophies in Zambia. She underscored the importance of intercultural development for fostering social cohesion, global development, peace, and security. She praised the UNZA School of Humanities and Social Sciences for hosting the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies and expressed hope for flourishing collaboration in various academic and non-academic fields, such as Information Technology, Environmental Protection, and sports and recreation.



Signing of MoU between University of Zambia , Zambia and ICCR for setting up a Chair of India Studies (Economics)



MoU signing between ICCR and EL COLEGIO DE MÉXICO, A.C. (EL COLEGIO) College de Mexico (COLMEX)



Signing of MoU between EL COLEGIO DE MÉXICO, A.C. (EL COLEGIO) College de Mexico (COLMEX) and ICCR for setting up of Octavio Paz Chair on Indian Studies (Contemporary Indian History)

On February 23, 2024, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) established the Octavio Paz Chair on Indian Studies (Contemporary Indian History) at El Colegio de México, A.C. (COLMEX). The memorandum of understanding (MoU) for this initiative was signed by Prof. Silvia E.

Giorguli Saucedo, President of COLMEX, and the Ambassador of India to Mexico on behalf of ICCR. This chair aims to foster academic and cultural exchanges, focusing on contemporary Indian history, and strengthen the educational ties between India and Mexico.

MoU signing between ICCR and University of Guelph, Canada



On May 25, the University of Guelph took a significant step towards strengthening research and teaching ties between Canada and India by announcing the establishment of a new visiting chair in Indian studies. This initiative was unveiled during a campus visit by Sanjay Kumar Verma, High Commissioner of India to Canada, and Apoorva Srivastava, Consul General of India (Toronto).

The MoU to launch the new position was signed by CGI Apoorva Srivastava and University of Guelph president Dr. Charlotte Yates on behalf of ICCR. This partnership signifies a commitment to enhancing educational and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Conference and Seminars

ICCR facilitated the participation of the world in the Global Buddhist Summit in 2023 and the annual Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial International Oration, focused on India's rich dance traditions as a form of India's soft power.

Additionally, ICCR facilitated international conferences and workshops that highlighted India's spiritual and cultural assets. Events such as the Round

Table Conference on India's Spirituality, the Global Conference on Holistic Yoga in Germany and the Vaishali Festival of Democracy and Knowledge India Visitor Programme (KIVP) brought together global thought leaders to discuss India's role in promoting peace, unity & cultural exchange, reinforcing India's position as a leader in cultural soft power.

Global Buddhist Summit (GBS 2023)

In a significant effort to promote and preserve Buddhist heritage globally, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) organized the **Global Buddhist Summit (GBS)** from April 20-21, 2023 on ensured of 17 prominent Buddhist dignitaries and scholars from across the world in it. ICCR showcased its initiatives to promote Buddhism through Indian Missions and posts abroad at an exhibition held at the Ashok Hotel, the event venue. The exhibit displayed

ICCR's Activities during the Summit i.e (i) Coffee Table E- Book (ii) Setting up of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Chair for Buddhist Studies at Lumbini University, Nepal (iii) Scholarship on Buddhism. (iv) Translation of Jataka Tales in 5 foreign languages i.e Thai, Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese and Singalese. (v) International Buddhist Award and (vi) Distinguished Buddhist Visitor's Programme – wherein a 20 member Buddhist delegation from Osaka - Kobe, Japan visited various prominent Buddhist sites in India from November 6-15, 2022.





6th Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial International Oration

On May 21, 2023, ICCR organized the 6th edition of the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial International Oration on **“Indian Dance Traditions as Soft Power”** at the Viswa Bhawan Auditorium, Symbiosis International University, Pune. The event, held at the occasion of World Cultural Day, featured

a keynote address by Dr. Sonal Mansingh, MP, Rajya Sabha and renowned classical dancer and Guru of Bharatnatyam & Odissi. The oration aimed to promote India’s rich cultural heritage and position India as a global hub for cultural soft power.



Round Table Conference on India’s Spirituality as Soft Power

ICCR In collaboration with United Consciousness Global (UCG), organized a two-day Round Table Conference on **‘India’s Spirituality as Soft Power: भारत का अध्यात्म: भारत की सौम्य संपदा’** from May 31 to June 1, 2023 at The Lalit Hotel, New Delhi.

The conference saw the participation of over 16 prominent spiritual organizations including Isha Foundation, Art of Living, Patanjali Yogpeeth and Ramakrishna Mission. The objective was to promote India’s culture abroad through spirituality.





Coronation Day Celebration of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

ICCR commemorated the 349th Birth Anniversary of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on June 6, 2023, with a special lecture at the ICCR auditorium. Prof. Raghuvendra Tanwar, Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), delivered a

lecture on **“Contribution of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in the History of India.”** The event was attended by the Hon’ble President ICCR, DG ICCR, Secretary MoYAS, foreign scholars, and various think tanks.

Global Conference on Holistic Yoga Beyond Physiology

ICCR in association with United Consciousness had organized a Global Conference on shaping the future world by **“Holistic Yoga Beyond Physiology”** at Yoga Vidya, Bad Meinberg, Germany from June 19-

20, 2023. The conference brought together delegates and dignitaries from 20 countries from Europe and focused on the broader implications of Yoga beyond physical practices.





Vaishali Festival of Democracy 2023

“**Vaishali Festival of Democracy 2023**” was organized at Nalanda University, Rajgir, Bihar from September 15-16, 2023 on the occasion of UN International Day of Democracy. The festival was inaugurated by Hon’ble Sh. Ram Nath Kovind, Former President of India in the august presence of Shri. Rajendra Arlekar, Hon’ble Governor Bihar, Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma, Hon’ble CM of Assam, Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, Hon’ble MoS Culture &

External Affairs, Hon’ble President ICCR and DG ICCR. The festival witnessed the participation of Ambassadors from Argentina, Chile, Egypt, Nepal, Sri Lanka and others in panel discussions on Implementation of Democracy or Culture of Democracy. Prof. Santishree Pandit, VC JNU and Prof. Sunaina Singh, Former VC Nalanda University chaired the two panel discussions.





Soft Launch of UTIKS Portal

ICCR in partnership with Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) organized the soft launch of an e-learning portal “**Universalization of Traditional Indian Knowledge System**” (UTIKS) on October 5, 2023 at the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Manipal Karnataka. The

UTIKS portal was soft launched by Dr. Vinay Sahasrabudde, Hon’ble President ICCR in the presence of dignitaries and officials from ICCR and the state Government of Karnataka and International students from MAHE.





International Conference on Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

ICCR and Permanent Mission of India organized an International Conference on **“Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”** on October 10, 2023 at UN General Assembly, New York which was attended by President ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, DG ICCR, Kumar Tuhin, DDG ICCR, Abhay Kumar which brought together global leaders, thinkers, and expert to unity, cooperation and ancient Indian

philosophy of oneness. Apart from this, President ICCR and PR of India to UN Ms. Ruchira Kamboj also unveiled **“Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”** plaque at Permanent Mission of India to UN in New York. The plaque stands as a testament to signify unity, cooperation and shared responsibility in addressing global challenges.



Film Preservation Workshop

ICCR supported the Film Heritage Foundation in organizing a **“Film Preservation Workshop”** from October 10-19, 2023 at India International Centre, New Delhi. The workshop aimed to train individuals in digital preservation, restoration, film-

related paper, photograph conservation and archive management with participation from delegates, including representatives from 12 African countries in the workshop.



Knowledge India Visitors Programme (KIVP)

ICCR in association with Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidhyalaya organized **Knowledge India Visitors Programme, (KIVP)** from December 4-6, 2023. 87 International Delegates/Head of the departments (HoDs) and senior academics from 36 countries specializing in Indology, Hindi, Sanskrit, Ayurveda, Yoga, Buddhist Studies and Indian Classical Dance and Music participated in the Programme. The event was inaugurated by Sh.

Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ayush and Smt Meenakashi Lekhi, Hon'ble MoS Culture and External Affairs. The event also witnessed a special session with Sh. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs on **“Building a Bharat Narrative”**. The event concluded with a special address and Q&A session by Sh. Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education and vote of thanks by DG, ICCR.



Visit of Prof. Salvatore Jason Babones to the UK

ICCR in association with The Nehru Centre, High Commission of India, London organized the visit of Prof. Salvatore Jason Babones to attend an event at **“India Global Forum”** and deliver a series of lectures/interactions on the topic **“Democracy and development”** at various universities including Kings College, University of London from June 25-

30, 2023 in United Kingdom. The visit included an event at the UK, House of Lords, in Parliament at Westminster. The event involved discussions and a dinner reception with 25-30 British parliamentarians, providing an opportunity to exchange ideas on critical issues with an aim to build a fresh narrative challenge the biases against Indian.

Visitors Programme

The ICCR administers various programmes under which it hosts eminent personalities from abroad for a certain period. These programmes promote India's cultural relations with other countries through various instruments that involve people to people contact.

These programmes include a variety of sessions such as lectures, round table discussions, call on/meetings with Ministers, senior government officials, NGOs, leading intellectuals etc.

Gen- Next Democracy Network Programme

The **Gen-Next Democracy Network Programme** is a flagship initiative of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), to bring together young emerging leaders from democracies and global forums, providing them with an opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of India's rich democratic traditions, cultural heritage and developmental initiatives. The programme is meticulously structured to offer insights into India's democratic practices at both

the Union and State levels. During their visit, the delegates are briefed on India's remarkable progress in various sectors, including politics, economics and science and technology. This is achieved through interactions with key organizations and institutions that play a pivotal role in India's development. The programme is divided into various groups with each group consisting of about seven to eight countries with two to five delegates from each country.

GenNext Democracy Network Programme – 9th Batch

ICCR organized the **9th Batch** of the GenNext Democracy Network Programme from April 10-19, 2023 where 26 delegates visited India as part

of this programme and explored India's democratic institutions, including a visit to the Parliament of India.





GenNext Democracy Network Programme – 10th Batch

ICCR organized the **10th Batch** of the GenNext Democracy Network Programme from May 15-24, 2023. The delegates of this batch visited the

Parliament of India and the Election Commission of India.





GenNext Democracy Network Programme – 11th Batch

The **11th Batch** of the GenNext Democracy Network Programme, consisting of young delegates from Albania, Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Moldova, Namibia, and the United

States of America, visited India from August 17-26, 2023. The Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir welcomed the delegates at Raj Bhavan.



Global GenNext Buddhist Leaders Network Programme

ICCR organized the **Global GenNext Buddhist Leaders Network Programme** from October 25 to November 3, 2023. The delegates from Bhutan, Cambodia, Japan, Laos, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Nepal and South Korea participated in this event. The Buddhist delegates

visited the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies in Varanasi, where they were welcomed by the Registrar and toured the institution, including visits to both the old and digital libraries, followed by lunch.





Distinguished Visitors Programme

Under this programme, the council facilitates visits of Nobel Laureates, Members of Parliament, former Prime Ministers, bureaucrats, think-tanks, well-known personalities in the field of politics, Arts & culture from countries abroad to India to experience Indian culture and interact with institutions and audiences

in India. Leading representatives of think-tanks and cultural institutions are also invited to share their insight and experiences and to meet Indian leaders in their area of expertise, as well as obtain a first-hand view of developments in India.

Visit of the Grand Mufti of Egypt

H.E. Dr. Shawki Alam, the Grand Mufti of the Arab Republic of Egypt, visited India under the Distinguished Visitors Programme (DVP) from May

1 to 6, 2023. During his visit, Prof. Najma Akhtar, Vice Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), welcomed him to the University.



The Hon'ble President of ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, hosted a lunch in his honor.





H.E. Dr. Shawki Alam also met Secretary (CPV & OIA), Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, at Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan, MEA, where they were joined by the Ambassador

of Egypt to India, H.E. Shri W M Awad Hamed, to discuss excellent bilateral, cultural, and people-to-people relations between India and Egypt.



Additionally, the Grand Mufti visited Aligarh Muslim University, held talks with Vice Chancellor Mohammad Gulrez, addressed the university community at the Kennedy Auditorium, and visited

the historical buildings, including the mausoleum of the University founder, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. Grand Mufti also visited the Taj mahal.





Visit of Former President of Mongolia

H.E. Mr. N. Enkhbayar, former President of Mongolia, visited India under ICCR’s Distinguished Visitors Programme (DVP) from August 4-13, 2023. During this visit, he engaged in a discussion

on “**Buddhism in Mongolia**” at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), where he shared insights on “**spiritual neighbour**” relations and the evolution from “**Strategic Partnership to Strategic Alliance.**”



Visit of Ambassador of South Africa

ICCR hosted the visit of H.E. Prof. Anil Sooklal, Ambassador of South Africa to India, under the Distinguished Visitors Programme from October

18-27, 2023. During his visit, he visited the Kashi Vishwanath Temple and witnessed the divine Ganga Aarti on October 19, 2023.





Visit of Former Foreign Minister of Nigeria

Prof. Ibrahim A. Gambari, former Foreign Minister and Chief of Staff to the Nigerian President, visited the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore under the Distinguished Visitors Programme. During

his visit, he engaged with Heads of Departments and senior faculty, gaining insights into the diverse departments.



Visit of Former Prime Minister of Moldova

H.E. Ms. Natalia Gavrilita, former Prime Minister of Moldova, visited India under ICCR's Distinguished Visitors Programme. During her visit to Mumbai,

she engaged with the IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, discussing future partnerships between India and Moldova.





Visit of Nobel Laureate of Denmark

ICCR hosted the visit of Prof. Morten Meldal, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry from Denmark, under the Distinguished Visitors Programme from January

31 to February 9, 2024. During his visit, Prof. Meldal delivered a scientific lecture on his Nobel Prize-winning research.



Visit of Former Cabinet Minister of St. Vincent and Grenadines

Ms. Rene Baptiste Mercedes, former Cabinet Minister of the Government of St. Vincent and Grenadines and Speaker of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), visited India

under the Distinguished Visitors Programme from March 19-27, 2024. During her visit, she visited St. Paul's Cathedral Church and Victoria Memorial Hall in Kolkata.





Hindi Vishwa

The “**Hindi Vishwa**” initiated by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is a programme that recognizes the importance of Hindi as a bridge connecting the past, present and future. Its aim is to promote Hindi globally and facilitate cultural and academic exchange among international students.

ICCR hosted 31 Hindi-speaking delegates from 13 countries like South Africa, Russia, Mauritius, Fiji, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Japan,

Australia, Poland, Kazakhstan and Italy, under the Hindi Vishwa Yatra Programme from May 20-29, 2023. These young scholars, hailing from nations where Hindi is taught, embarked on a journey to India to delve into its rich traditions, cultural heritage, and developmental initiatives. During their visit, the delegates explored the Prime Ministers’ Museum (Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya) as part of their cultural immersion.



Scholarships and Welfare of International Students

ICCR's Role in International Education and Scholarships

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has been instrumental in promoting international education in India, pioneering the internationalization of the Indian education system. In 1989, ICCR was entrusted with the responsibility of awarding scholarships to foreign students interested in pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate, and Ph.D. courses in Arts, Commerce, and Sciences (excluding medical, paramedical, fashion, and law courses) at various state and central universities in India. Since then, approximately one lakh students from all over the world have had the benefit of availing ICCR scholarships.

In the Academic Year 2023-24, 3775 scholarships were offered to students from all over the world under 20 Scholarship schemes, out of which 6 are administered by ICCR from its own fund, 11 on behalf of Ministry of External Affairs and remaining 3 on behalf of Ministry of AYUSH. The detailed bifurcation is at **Annexure-III (Pg.150)**.

Recently, few of the schemes have been renamed after renowned personalities of India who have contributed significantly in the field of Art, Culture and Education. The rechristened schemes are as under:-

| S. No | Earlier Scholarship Scheme Name | New Nomenclature |
|-------|--|---|
| ii | Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme for Nepal Nationals | Sushma Swaraj Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme for Nepal Nationals |
| iii | Aid to Mongolia Scholarship Scheme for Mongolian Nationals | Kushok Bakula Rinpoche Scholarship Scheme for Mongolian Nationals |
| iiii | Aid to Bhutan Scholarship Scheme for Bhutanese Nationals | Dr. B. R Ambedkar Scholarship Scheme for Bhutanese Nationals |
| iiv | Africa Scholarship Scheme | The India-Africa Maitri Scholarship Scheme |

From the AY 2023-24, the ICCR has also commenced scholarships for online UG/PG level courses through the ilearn portal (under e-Vidya Bharati Network Project) developed by Ministry of External Affairs

(MEA). Initially, the ICCR has offered 1000 scholarships to Afghan Nationals including 300 for women students to pursue UG/PG level courses in online mode.

A2A Portal / GYAN_SETU Application

The Scholarships which were being administered manually, were digitized by introducing, **Admissions to Alumni (A2A)** portal in 2018 <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in/> To further simplify and automate the scholarship process, ICCR launched a new application named GYAN_SETU – “Connecting

Culture through Knowledge” on February 6, 2023. This application provides a unified platform for ICCR, universities/institutions, and foreign students to access essential information, thus catalyzing ‘**New India’s Techade.**’



Selection Procedure

In recent years, ICCR has revised the selection procedure for scholarship beneficiaries. Applicants can now select up to five preferred Indian universities or institutes, an increase from the previous limit of three. After choosing their preferred institutions, applicants are required to upload their credentials. Once this online process is completed, the applications are automatically made accessible to

the selected universities or institutes. Concerned Universities/ Institutes then scrutinize the application of the applicant based on their eligibility criteria and, if accepted, upload 'Provisional Admission Confirmation' of the applicant on the portal. This confirmation is subsequently visible to the concerned Mission, ICCR Headquarters and Zonal/Sub-Zonal Offices, streamlining the entire selection process.

Orientation Programme

The Orientation programme is organized at ICCR Headquarters in New Delhi and its Zonal/Sub-Zonal offices across India. These programmes introduce ICCR foreign scholars to Indian art, culture, heritage, tradition, ayurveda, yoga, law, economy, climate, dance, music, cuisine, rituals etc.

in order to make their stay comfortable, meaningful and holistic by adding value to their institutional education programme. This initiative fosters a sense of appreciation and gratitude towards India among the scholars.

Welfare Activities

Since the inception of Scholarship programme, ICCR utilizes the vacation periods by arranging Summer/Winter Camps for foreign students studying in India. Additionally, ICCR also organizes various cultural activities including festivals celebration for foreign students in Headquarters as well as its Zonal/

Sub Zonal/RPO offices. The biggest festival is the International Students' Festival which is organized every year coinciding with the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Founder-President of ICCR.

Activities performed by Scholarship Division during A.Y 2023-24

Exit Engagement Evening (E3)

To leverage the potential of foreign students as brand ambassadors of India's heritage, culture, tourist destinations, textiles, yoga, ayurveda, and crafts, ICCR organized the Exit Engagement Evening program from June 4, 2023, to July 20, 2023, across its zonal/sub-zonal/RPO offices. This event was held in collaboration with the Ministry of AYUSH, Khadi, Village Industries Commission and India Tourism Development Corporation, featured presentations for the benefit of international students. Ayurvedic

medicine kits were also distributed to students on the occasion as well as Cultural programs presented by different international students.

The Exit Engagement Evening program aims to spread the story of India globally as students return to their home countries. The Ministry of AYUSH, Khadi and Village Industries Commission and India Tourism Development Corporation through this program can also leverage the presence of 'India Alumni' abroad for enhancing their global footprint.



President, ICCR felicitating foreign students at the Exit-Engagement-Evening (E3) held at Savitribai Phule University, Pune on 8th July, 2023.



DG, ICCR felicitating foreign students at the Exit-Engagement-Evening (E3) held at Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam on 4 July, 2023.



DDG, ICCR felicitating foreign students at the Exit-Engagement-Evening (E3) held at Satyajit Ray Auditorium, Kolkata on 5 July, 2023.

Hindi Training Programme for Foreign Academicians

ICCR successfully organized a Hindi training programme for 34 academicians from 22 countries who teach Hindi in their respective countries. This programme was held in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya (MGAHV), Wardha, from August 7 to August 19, 2023. During the training, a total of 26 educational sessions were conducted where the possibilities, problems and their solutions for teaching Hindi

in their countries were discussed with various participants.

In addition to the language lessons, the participants were taken on a cultural tour to Ajanta and Ellora, as well as Ramtek, Bapu Kuti, and Vinoba Bhave Ashram. The programme concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony, chaired by the Director General of ICCR.

Fellowship

ICCR awards Junior and Senior research fellowships to international scholars specializing in Indian studies in the fields of culture and social sciences. Under this fellowship programme, selected fellows are affiliated with academic or cultural institutes in India for a period ranging from 3 to 12 months maximum. Eminent musicians/artists/scholars with the proven knowledge in the specific field with at least 10 year of practical/research experience and above the age of 35 years are considered for award of these fellowships.

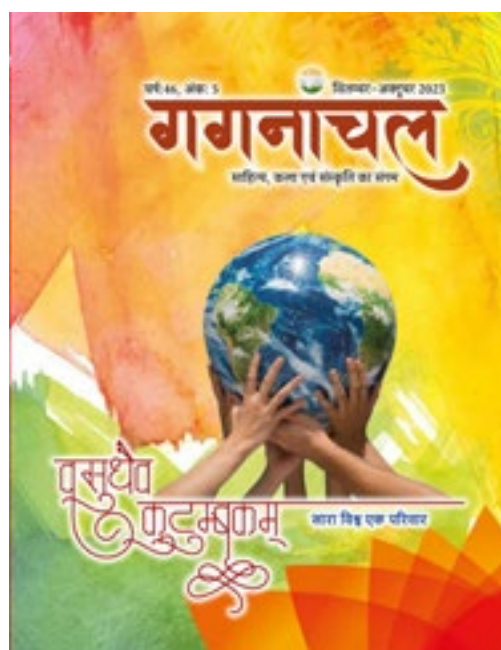
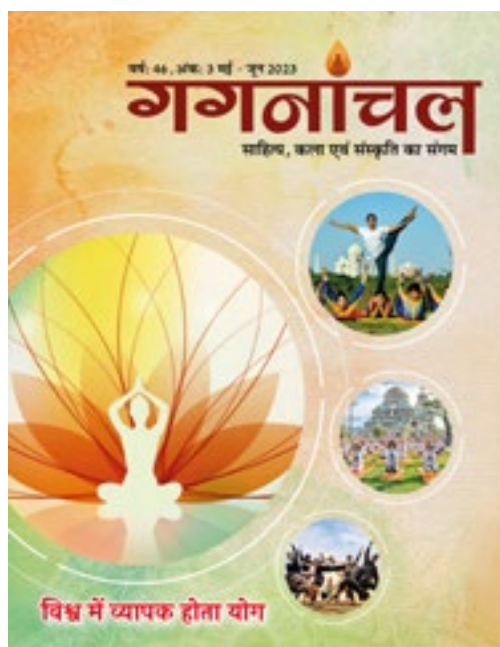
In the academic year 2023-24, ICCR awarded a senior fellowship to Professor Ulfat Mukhibova from Uzbekistan, Tashkent for research studies in Hindi Literature/Hindi Novels of 20th century and was affiliated with the Center of Indian Languages, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi.

Promotion of Hindi

Gagananchal

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has been publishing the Hindi bimonthly magazine “Gagananchal” for the past 46 years, with the primary objective of promoting Hindi and strengthening international relations through the magazine. During

the year 2023-24, the following issues of Gagananchal were published: Volume 46, Issue 3 (May-June 2023), Volume 46, Issue 4 (July-August 2023), Volume 46, Issue 5 (September-October 2023) and Volume 46, Issue 6 (November-December 2023).





Hindi Workshop

To encourage ICCR personnel to conduct official work in Hindi, four Hindi workshops on various topics were organized during the financial year 2023-24. These workshops were held on June 23, 2023, September 14, 2023, December 15, 2023 and March

22, 2024 respectively. Additionally, four meetings of the Official Language Implementation Committee were conducted during this period to review the use of Hindi in the Council's work.



Hindi Workshop

Hindi Pakhwada

The ICCR organized Hindi Pakhwada from September 1-14, 2023. On this occasion, competitions such as Hindi Essay Writing, General Hindi, Noting, Drafting and Dictation were held. Certificates were awarded to all participants and the successful

participants received cash prizes. On October 3, 2023, a poetry recital was organized as part of the Hindi Fortnight closing ceremony, in which ICCR officers and staff presented their poems.



Poetry recitations by headquarters personnel marked the closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwada (September, 1-14 2023)



Hindi Conference

Recognizing the significance of the Hindi language, a two-day Hindi Conference was organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in collaboration with the Jagadamba Prasad Yadav Memorial Foundation on March 2-3, 2024. The conference, themed **“Establishing Dialogue between Indian Languages and Promoting Indian Languages and Culture in India and Abroad”** took place in the ICCR’s conference hall. The event brought together scholars, linguists and cultural enthusiasts to foster dialogue and promote the rich linguistic and cultural heritage of India both domestically and internationally.

A 2-day Akhil Bhartiya Rajbhasha Sammelan, Rashtriya Sangoshthi and Kavya Goshti was organized by Jagdambi Prasad Yadav Smriti Pratishthan, Bihar, in partnership with ICCR at Azad Bhavan, ICCR Headquarters, New Delhi on

March 2-3, 2024. The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Shri Ravindra Kishore Sinha, former MP, Rajya Sabha and a renowned journalist. Director General of ICCR, Shri Kumar Tuhin, graced the occasion as a Distinguished Guest, while Shri Virendra Yadav, Member, Hindi Advisory Committee, Government of India, presided over the conference which witnessed the participation of Hindi scholars, poets and language enthusiasts from all over India. The technical sessions delved into diverse aspects of Hindi language and literature. From discussions on the constitutional aspects of Hindi as an official language to exploring the contemporary landscape of Hindi literature, eminent speakers provided their invaluable insights. Apart from that, deliberations on Kavya literature and the impact of digitalization on Hindi in recent times were discussed extensively.



Awards

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has instituted several prestigious awards to honor foreign nationals for their significant contributions to various fields that foster India's cultural relations

with other countries. In 2023, ICCR organized several award ceremonies worldwide, recognizing the achievements and dedication of these distinguished individuals and institutions. These awards are:

World Sanskrit Award

The award conferring ceremony for **Ms. Vlasta Pacheiner Klander**, recipient of the World Sanskrit Award for the year 2022, was organized in Slovenia on April 18, 2023. ICCR's "**World Sanskrit Award**" award was presented during an Azadi Ka

Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) event to the 91year old Slovenian Sanskrit scholar. Prof. Klander was honored for her extensive studies, teachings and contributions to promoting the Sanskrit language at the University of Ljubljana.



Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, Hon'ble Minister of State of External Affairs and Culture, presenting the award to Ms. Vlasta Pacheiner Klander

Distinguished Alumni Awards:

- 1) The award conferring ceremony for **Mr. Odbayar Jagarnomch**, one of the recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award for the year 2019, was organized in Mongolia on April 28, 2023.
- 2) The award conferring ceremony for **Dr. Riyad Mustafa Abushehadeh**, one of the recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award for the year 2020, was organized in Palestine on July 5, 2023.



Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, Secretary (CPV & OIA), MEA presenting the award to Dr. Riyad Mustafa Abushehadeh



3) The award conferring ceremony for **Dr. Wah Wah Maung**, one of the recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award for the year 2022, was organized in Myanmar on August 2, 2023. The President, ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe

presented this prestigious award to Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Deputy Minister of Investment, Foreign & Economic Relations, Myanmar at the India Centre, Yangon in recognition of her significant contributions.



Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, ICCR presenting the award to Dr. Wah Wah Maung

4) The award conferring ceremony for **Mr. Nguyen Trung Khanh**, one of the recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award for the year 2022 was organized in Vietnam on August 4, 2023. The President, ICCR, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe

presented this prestigious award to Mr. Nguyen Trung Khanh, Chairman of Vietnam National Administration of Tourism, a part of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Government of Vietnam in Hanoi, Vietnam.



Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, ICCR presenting the award to Mr. Nguyen Trung Khanh



Award for Promotion of Buddhist Studies:

- 1) The award conferring ceremony for **Mr. Choijamts Demberel**, one of the recipients of Award for Promotion of Buddhist Studies for the year 2022, was organized in Mongolia on July 8, 2023. Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha,

Shri Om Birla ji presented this prestigious award to recognize contribution of H.E. Demberel Choijamts in Buddhist Studies at Gandantegchinlen Monastery, Mongolia.



Shri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha presenting the award to Mr. Choijamts Demberel

- 2) The award conferring ceremony for **Dr. Duong Thi Thanh Huong**, one of the recipients of Award for Promotion of Buddhist Studies for the year 2021, was organized in Vietnam on August 4, 2023. The President, ICCR, Dr. Vinay

Sahasrabuddhe presented this prestigious award to Dr. Duong Thi Thanh Huong, in recognition of her significant contributions in Hanoi, Viet Nam.



Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, ICCR presenting the award to Dr. Duong Thi Thanh Huong



Distinguished Indologist Award:

The award conferring ceremony for **Dr. Joanna Jurewicz**, recipient of Distinguished Indologist Award for the year 2022, was organized in Poland on October 12, 2023.



Dr. Vinay Sabasrabuddhe, President, ICCR presenting the award to Dr. Joanna Jurewicz



Annapurna Certificate

The certificate conferring ceremony for the recipients of Annapurna Certificate 2023 was organized at ITC, Maurya, New Delhi on December 12, 2023. The following international restaurants have been awarded the Annapurna Certificate for their excellence in promoting Indian cuisine:

i. **Balaji Dosai** from **Sri Lanka**

ii. **Indian Street Food & Co.** from **Sweden**

iii. **Amber India Restaurant** from **USA**

iv. **Naans and Curries, An Ethnic Indian Restaurant** from **Costa Rica**

v. **Mumtaz Mahal Restaurant** from **Oman**

vi. **Namaste, Indian Restaurant** from **Mongolia**





Important Annual Events



Special Projects

2nd Pratibha Sangam Competition (PSC), 2023

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) organized the 2nd Pratibha Sangam Competition (PSC) from 5th October to 24th November 2023. This unique initiative aims to showcase the talents of foreign nationals and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) who are passionate, dedicated, and actively promoting Indian classical dance and music forms in their respective countries. ICCR received 148 valid entries from 38 countries for this competition. It featured seven genres: Kathak, Odissi, Bharatnatyam,

Hindustani Instrumental, Hindustani Vocal, Carnatic Instrumental, and Carnatic Vocal. A jury committee selected 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each genre, totaling 22 winners. The 1st and 2nd place winners have been invited to India to perform at selected locations, coinciding with other important events.

The winning artists were invited to India for performances at selected locations.



Archive Building Project

During this period, the ICCR also initiated a special project called the “**Archive Building Project**” to digitize ICCR’s old records. This includes photos, videos, monographs, books, and records of all files and the history of ICCR from its inception. The primary purpose of this program is to prepare an

e-gallery/document to showcase the history and activities of ICCR from its inception, accessible on any platform.



Finance & Accounts

ICCR received Grant-in-Aid of ₹303.38 crores against its Budget Estimate of ₹ 345.21 crores. ICCR was able to implement a range of important activities within the allocated grant.

Following are highlights of activities, related to Finance & Accounts:-

- (i) Annual Accounts of ICCR for the year 2023-24 was prepared. This was completed after rigorous follow-up with 11 ZO/Sub-ZOs in India and 37 ICCs abroad.
- (ii) In view of implementation of Public Financial Management System (PFMS) in 2021, all the bills for the FY. 2023-24 were processed for payment through TSA Modules of PFMS. Thus, all the payments from Grants-in-Aid were released from RBI Account through PFMS only.
- (iii) All payment through Electronic mode are being released directly to Vendor/Beneficiary's bank account by processing of all bills and payments through PFMS platform since April 2021.
- (iv) Annual Account and Annual Report of ICCR for the year 2022-23 were laid on the table of Parliament on December 21, 2023 (Lok Sabha) and February 08, 2024 (Rajya Sabha).
- (v) 88th Finance Committee meeting of ICCR were held on June 28, 2023. The Annual Accounts of ICCR are to be approved by the Statutory Bodies. At present neither Finance Committee nor Governing Body exists. New Finance Committee of ICCR will be formed shortly.
- (vi) ICCR's 6-months Plan of Action for the FY 2024-25 based on proposals received from various Missions/Posts were prepared/compiled to ensure productive forward planning. The same was duly approved by Foreign Secretary.
- (vii) Internal Audit Programme was approved for its Zonal/Sub-zonal Offices and an audit team from ICCR (HQ) has conducted audit of Zonal Office, Kolkata, Shillong and Guwahati during September, 2023 and November, 2023 respectively.



The head-wise expenditure during financial year 2023-24 is as given below:

A. General Activities–Revenue Accounts

(Figs in Lakhs)

| S.No. | Appropriate Head | Expenditure (FY 2023-24) |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Incoming & Outgoing Delegation/Visitors and Gen Next Democracy Network Programme | 2169.47 |
| 2. | Cultural Performances of ICCR | 231.94 |
| 3. | Seminars/Symposia/Conferences/Lectures/SIS | 177.69 |
| 4. | International Students Divisions/Alumni Awards | 8884.41 |
| 5. | Exhibitions/Bust/Orientation Grant | 149.60 |
| 6. | Presentation of Books and Art Objects | 3.56 |
| 7. | Publications | 7.26 |
| 8. | Libraries | 16.46 |
| 9. | Multimedia & Website | 92.92 |
| 10. | Hindi Activities | 24.05 |
| 11. | Festivals | 0.00 |
| 12. | Fellowship | 28.16 |
| 13. | Misc. Deposits | 1.35 |
| Total (A) | | 11786.87 |

B. Projects Abroad

(Figs in Lakhs)

| S.No. | Appropriate Head | Expenditure (FY 2023-24) |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Cultural Centres Abroad | 11658.36 |
| 2. | Chairs/Centres of Indian Studies | 895.60 |
| 3. | Grants to Casa De La India (Spain) and Busan | 92.52 |
| 4. | Deployment of Resource Persons | 203.61 |
| 5. | Teacher in Centres (TIC) | 895.28 |
| 6. | International Day of Yoga (2023) | 40.57 |
| 7. | Hindi Teacher Chair Abroad | 47.00 |
| 8. | Selection of Directors/Professor/TIC/Yoga/Dance Teacher | 4.97 |
| 9. | Local Resource Person Abroad | 136.40 |
| 10. | Rakhi Purchase for 37 ICCs | 3.73 |
| Total (B) | | 13978.04 |



C. Fixed Charges (Figs in Lakhs)

| S.No. | Appropriate Head | Expenditure (FY 2023-24) |
|-----------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | Meeting of GA /GB and other Committees | 3.59 |
| 2. | Establishment of Central and Regional Offices | 3272.86 |
| 3. | Office Expenses | 926.99 |
| Total (C) | | 4203.44 |

D. Capital Expenditure (Figs in Lakhs)

| S.No. | Appropriate Head | Expenditure (FY 2023-24) |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 1. | Air conditioners/Furniture/Fixtures/Vehicles/Computers | 121.00 |
| 2. | Maintenance of Jinnah House | 13.43 |
| Total (D) | | 134.43 |
| Grand Total (A to D) | | 30102.78 |

In addition to general activities, the Council also carried out various Agency Works on behalf of MEA and other Govts./Departments/Ministries, details of which are as under:

(Figs. in Lakhs)

| S.No. | Name of Department | Receipt (FY 2023-24) | Expenditure (FY 2023-24) |
|-------|---|----------------------|--------------------------|
| A | Ministry of External Affairs Scholarships | 17773.80 | 16564.64 |
| B. | Other Govts./Departments/Ministries | | |
| 1 | AYUSH Non-BIMSTEC (Health) | -- | 610.59 |
| 2 | AYUSH Scholarship for SEAR | | |
| 3 | AYUSH Scholarship for Malaysia | | |
| 4 | OKITA Memorial Scheme | 1.49 | 0.00 |
| Total | | 17775.29 | 17175.23 |



Annexure

Annexure I

Governing Body
List of Members of Governing Body

| Office | Name | Designation |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| President | Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe | President, ICCR |
| FS/ Ex-Officio Vice-President | Shri Vinay Kwatra | Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs Ex-Officio Vice-President, ICCR |
| Two Vice-Presidents elected by General Assembly | Shri Hans Raj Hans | Vice President, ICCR & Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), New Delhi |
| | Shri Adwaita Charan Gadanayak | Vice President, ICCR & Director General, National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi |
| Director General | Shri Kumar Tuhin | Director General, ICCR |
| Financial Advisor | Shri Anurag Agarwal | Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor Ministry of External Affairs New Delhi |
| Three Members nominated by Government of India from among their nominees on the General Assembly | Shri K Sanjay Murthy | Secretary (Higher Education) Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi |
| | Shri Govind Mohan | Secretary, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi |
| | Ms. V Vidyavathi | Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, New Delhi |
| Nine Members elected by the General Assembly from amongst its members of whom at least one shall be a member of Rajya Sabha and two of Lok Sabha | Shri V Nagdas | Chairman, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi |
| | Dr. K Sreenivasarao | Secretary, Sahitya Akademi New Delhi |
| | Shri Raju Das | Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi |
| | Smt. Navneet Ravi Rana | Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), New Delhi |
| | Shri Rakesh Sinha | Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), New Delhi |
| | Shri Deepak Karanjikar | Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Ms. Malini Awasthi | Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh |
| | Shri Arif Noorani | Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Dr. Arindam Mukherjee | Director, Indian Institute of Social and Cultural Studies, Kolkata, West Bengal |

Members of Governing Body are selected from the General Assembly. The term of Governing Body expired on 27.07.2023.



Annexure II

General Assembly List of Members of General Assembly

| Office | Name | Details |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| President | Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe | President, ICCR |
| Three Vice-Presidents | Shri Vinay Kwatra | Foreign Secretary, MEA & Ex Officio Vice President, ICCR |
| | Shri Hans Raj Hans | Vice President, ICCR & Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), New Delhi |
| | Shri Adwaita Charan Gadanayak | Vice President, ICCR & Director General, National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi |
| Director General, ICCR | Shri Kumar Tuhin | Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi |
| Financial Advisor | Shri Anurag Agarwal | Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, MEA & ICCR, New Delhi |
| Five Nominated persons by the Government of India | Shri K Sanjay Murthy | Secretary (Higher Education) Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi |
| | Shri Govind Mohan | Secretary, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi |
| | Ms. V Vidyavathi | Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, New Delhi |
| | Smt. Rachna Shah | Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, New Delhi |
| | Shri S Krishnan | Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, New Delhi |
| Two members of the Lok Sabha | Smt. Navneet Ravi Rana | Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), New Delhi |
| One member of the Rajya Sabha | Shri Rakesh Sinha | Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), New Delhi |
| One representative each of the Lalit Kala Akademi, Sahitya Akademi and Sangeet Natak Akademi | Shri V Nagdas | Chairman, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi |
| | Dr. K Sreenivasarao | Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi |
| | Shri Raju Das | Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi |
| Ten persons eminent in various sphere of Indian Culture nominated by the President of the Council in their individual capacity | Shri Nitin Bhai Dave | Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Smt. Jaya Jaitly | New Delhi |
| | Shri Deepak Karanjikar | Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Shri Gurumayum Biseshwor Sharma | Imphal(East), Manipur |
| | Ms. Malini Awasthi | Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh |
| | Shri Vivek Srivastava | New Delhi |



| | | |
|---|--|---|
| | Shri Arif Noorani | Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Dr. Arindam Mukherjee | Director, Indian Institute of Social and Cultural Studies, Kolkata, West Bengal |
| | Shri Sanjiv Nandan Sahai | New Delhi |
| Ten eminent artistes from the fields of performing, fine and plastic arts to represent institutions and organizations of this category selected by the Governing Body | Ms. Chitra Visweswaran | Bharatanatyam Dancer, Chennai, Tamil Nadu |
| | Pt. Vishwa Mohan Bhatt | Musician (Mohan Veena), Jaipur, Rajasthan |
| | Ms. Kavita Krishnamurti | Playback singer, Bangalore, Karnataka |
| | Shri Kaushal S. Inamdar | Musician, Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Shri Naresh Kumar Kumawat | Sculptor, Gurugram, Haryana |
| | Shri Vivek Agnihotri | Film Maker, Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Dr. Prakash Khandge | Folk Artist, Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Shri Wasifuddin Dagar | Vocal Musician (Dhrupad), New Delhi |
| | Shri Sudarshan Thakur | Secretary, Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra Guwahati, Assam |
| | Smt. Tana Yami | Tribal Artist, Papum Pare District, Arunachal Pradesh |
| Fifteen representatives of Universities or of Institutions deemed to be Universities, to be selected by Governing Body | Prof. (Dr.) Suresh Gosavi | Vice Chancellor, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune |
| | Prof. Sudhir K Jain | Vice Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh |
| | Prof. (Dr.) Renu Vig | Vice Chancellor, Punjab University, Chandigarh |
| | Prof. Abhay Kumar Singh | Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University Rajgir, District Nalanda, Bihar |
| | Dr. P Venkat Rangan | Vice Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu |
| | Prof. Murli Manohar Pathak | Vice-Chancellor, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, New Delhi |
| | Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar | Principal Director, Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune, Maharashtra |
| | Let. Gen. (Dr.) M. D. Venkatesh | Vice Chancellor, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, Karnataka |
| | Shri Shekhar Kapur | Chairman, Film & Television Institute of India (FTI), Pune, Maharashtra |
| | Prof. Prabha Shankar Shukla | Vice Chancellor, North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, Meghalaya |
| | Dr. B N Tripathi | Vice Chancellor, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Jammu |
| | Prof. (Pt.) Sahitya Kumar Nahar | Vice Chancellor, Raja Mansingh Tomar Music & Art University, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh |



| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | Prof. V K Srivastava | Vice Chancellor, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat |
| | Prof. Vishwanath D. Sabale | Dean, Sir J J School of Art, Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Shri Vikram Singh | Director, Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), New Delhi |
| Five representatives of prominent Scientific and Technical Institutions selected by Governing Body | Shri Nisheeth Srivastava | Principal, Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| | Dr. H R Nagendra | Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana Bengaluru, Karnataka |
| | Prof. Tanuja Manoj Nesari | Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), Delhi |
| | Shri T G Sitharam | Chairman, AICTE, New Delhi |
| | Prof. J K Pattanayak | Officiating Director, Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad, Jharkhand |
| Five representatives of Research Institutions and Institutes of Higher Learning in areas of Humanities and Social Sciences selected by Governing Body | Prof. Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit | Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi |
| | Prof. Eqbal Hussain | Vice Chancellor, Jamia Milia Islamia, Central University, New Delhi |
| | Dr. Chinmay Pandya | Pro Vice-Chancellor Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya Haridwar, Uttarakhand |
| | Prof. Dhanajay Singh | Member Secretary Indian Council of Social Science and Research New Delhi |
| | Prof. E Suresh Kumar | Vice Chancellor, The English & Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, Telangana |
| Five Representatives of other Organisations interested in the work and objectives of the council to be selected by Governing Body | Prof. M Jagadesh Kumar | Chairman, University Grants Commission, New Delhi |
| | Dr (Mrs) Pankaj Mittal, | Secretary General, Association of Indian University, New Delhi |
| | Shri Chamu Krishna Shastry | Trustee, Samskriti Promotion Foundation, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu |
| | Kum. Nivedita Bhide | Vice President, Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari, Kerala |
| | Mrs. Nilanjana Roy | Secretary, Sanskar Bharti, Kolkata, West Bengal |

Members of the General Assembly are nominated as mentioned in the list above. Except where otherwise provided, the term of General Assembly is three years. The term of General Assembly expired on 27.07.2023.



Annexure III

INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS
(Scholarship Division)

Details of slots utilization for 2023-24 of Scholarship Division

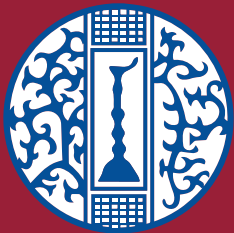
| S. No. | Name of the Scholarship Scheme | Slots | Courses |
|------------------------|---|-------------|---|
| Non-Agency Work | | | |
| 1 | Atal Bihari Vajpayee General Scholarship Scheme | 613 | UG, PG, Ph.D. Courses |
| 2 | Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Cultural Exchange Scholarship Scheme | 152 | UG, PG, Ph.D. Courses |
| 3 | Dr. A.P. J Abdul Kalam Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme | 24 | UG, PG, Ph.D. courses |
| 4 | Lata Mangeskar Dance and Music Scholarship Scheme | 100 | Dance, Music, Yoga/Art Courses |
| 5 | Suborno Jayanti Scholarships Scheme | 500 | UG, PG, Ph.D. Courses |
| 6 | Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme for Sri Lankan nationals | 60 | UG Courses |
| Agency Work | | | |
| 7 | The India-Africa Maitri Scholarship Scheme | 908 | UG, PG, Ph.D. Courses |
| 8 | Mekong Ganga Co-operation (MGC) Scholarship Scheme | 50 | UG, PG, Ph.D. Courses |
| 9 | Special Scholarship for Afghan nationals (Online Mode) | 1000 | UG, PG Courses |
| 10 | Sushma Swaraj Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme for Nepalese Nationals | 64 | PG, Ph.D. Courses |
| 11 | Kushok Bakula Rinpoche Scholarship Scheme for Mongolian Nationals | 20 | UG, PG, Ph.D. Courses |
| 12 | Dr. B. R Ambedkar Scholarship Scheme for Bhutanese Nationals | 25 | Under Graduate (only Engg. Courses) |
| 13 | Aid to Maldives Scholarship Scheme for Maldives nationals | 20 | Under Graduate Courses |
| 14 | Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme for Sri Lankan Nationals | 60 | Only UG Courses |
| 15 | Maulana Azad Scholarship Scheme for Sri Lankan Nationals | 50 | Master Degree in Agriculture Science & Engg. Courses |
| 16 | Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship Scheme for Sri Lankan Nationals | 25 | For study in the field of IT (BE/B.Tech Courses) |
| 17 | Ayush Scholarships Scheme to study Indian Traditional Medicine Systems such as Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha & Homeopathy (available for students from all Countries, though priority is given to those from BIMSTEC Countries) (Funded By MEA) | 30 | Undergraduate/Post Graduate /Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Sridhar, Yoga |
| 18 | Ayush Scholarship Scheme for Non BIMSTEC countries on behalf of Ayush Department to study in Indian Traditional Medicine System such as Ayurveda, Yoga Unani, Siddha & Homeopathy (Funded By AYUSH) | 25 | Undergraduate/Post Graduate /Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Sridhar, Yoga |
| 19 | Ayush Scholarships Scheme to study Indian Traditional Medicine Systems such as Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha & Homeopathy (for Malaysian nationals) (Funded By AYUSH) | 20 | Undergraduate/Post Graduate /Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Sridhar, Yoga |
| 20 | Ayush Scholarships Scheme to study Indian Traditional Medicine Systems such as Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha & Homeopathy for South East Asian Region (SEAR) Countries (Funded By AYUSH) | 29 | Undergraduate/Post Graduate /Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Sridhar, Yoga |
| Total | | 3775 | |

 [Facebook.com/ICCROfficial/](https://www.facebook.com/ICCROfficial/)

 [@ICCROfficial](https://twitter.com/ICCROfficial)

 [ICCROfficial](https://www.instagram.com/ICCROfficial/)

 [Youtube.com/ICCROfficial](https://www.youtube.com/ICCROfficial/)



Indian Council for Cultural Relations

Azad Bhawan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002

General No. 011-23379309, 23379310

www.iccr.gov.in