

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:186

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005

ACTIVITIES OF INDIAN CULTURAL CENTRES ABROAD

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**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the activities of Indian Cultural Centres abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of outcome in this regard;
- (d) the action taken by the Government on the basis of this outcome;
- (e) the number of cultural programmes conducted by the ICCR during the last three years, abroad as well as in the country, year-wise;
- (f) whether the ICCR is implementing scholarship programmes for overseas students;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the number of journals published by the ICCR in different languages during the last one year?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a&b) ICCR maintains seventeen Cultural Centres and two Sub-Centres abroad. The activities of the Indian Cultural Centres abroad are constantly examined and monitored by the Statutory Bodies of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations viz. Governing Body and General Assembly and also by the Heads of Missions in the respective countries.

(c&d) The programmes and activities of the Centres are constantly reviewed and modified and new initiatives undertaken to enhance the quality, content and reach. Recently, an internal audit of four of the Cultural Centres was also undertaken.

(e) The details are as follows:-

Programmes abroad -

Year      Performances by number of  
            Indian Performing Groups

2004-05	72
2003-04	117
2002-03	77

Programmes in India -

Year      Number for Performances

2004-05	45
2003-04	117
2002-03	159

(f) Yes Sir.

(g) The ICCR administers 18 Scholarship Programmes for overseas students. A total number of 1243 scholarship slots are offered under these Programmes to overseas students.

(h) The Council published six journals in five different languages viz. Indian Horizons (English/Quarterly), Africa Quarterly (English/Quarterly), Gagananchal (Hindi/Quarterly), Papeles de la India (Spanish/bi-annual), Recontre Avec L`Inde (French/bi-annual) and Thaqafat-ul-Hind (Arabic/Quarterly).