

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3204  
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005  
PROMOTION OF INDIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE BY ICCR  
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

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

- (a) Whether the ICCR has failed to promote and strengthen our rich cultural heritage across the globe;
- (b) If so, the facts thereof;
- (c) The details of effective steps taken/proposed to be taken to boost India`s culture in other countries; and
- (d) The funds earmarked in the Tenth Five Year Plan for the same?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b) & (c) ICCR has successfully projected and promoted India`s rich cultural heritage abroad through its multifaceted programmes which include sponsorship of cultural troupes, scholarship programme, exchange of distinguished visitors, gifting of musical instruments and books, exhibitions, publication of journals, India`s Chairs abroad, deputation of teachers, civil society dialogue etc. Role played by ICCR in realising these objectives has also been acknowledged and appreciated by the Standing Committee of Parliament on External Affairs in the 13th Report (13th Lok Sabha) on the `Working of ICCR with special reference to Cultural Centres abroad`.

ICCR continues to innovate and undertake new initiatives within its budgetary outlay.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the funds earmarked to ICCR in the Tenth Five Year Plan because ICCR gets its budget as grant-in-aid from the Revenue Head of the Ministry of External Affairs.