

Efforts Towards Building Hindu Nation



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Swadesh Darshan Scheme – Ministry of Tourism

- Under the scheme 'Swadesh Darshan', the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for infrastructure development of circuits. Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, 13 thematic circuits have been identified, for development namely: North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit. In Union Budget 2017-18, **Rs 959.91 crore** has been allocated for the Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits around specific themes under Swadesh Darshan scheme.

अतुल्य! भारत



Incredible! India

**SWADESH
DARSHAN**



National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive – PRASAD – Ministry of Tourism

Prasad Cities

- Amravati
 - Amritsar
 - Dwarka
 - Gaya
 - Kamakhya
 - Kanchipuram
 - Kedarnath
 - Mathura
 - Puri
 - Varanasi
- i. The National Mission for Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) scheme, was also launched by the Ministry for the development and beautification of pilgrimage sites to tap the growth of domestic tourists driven by spiritual/religious sentiments. The scheme seeks to augment tourism infrastructure at places of pilgrimage to provide better facilities to pilgrims/tourists and enhance their experience. **Rs. 100 crore** has been allocated for Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD).
 - ii. India's rich cultural , historical , religious and natural heritage provides a huge potential for the development of tourism and job creation as an Industry. Proposal to create 5 tourist circuits around specific themes and set aside a sum of **Rs 500 crore** for this purpose.
 - iii. Sarnath-Gaya-Varanasi Buddhist circuit would also be developed with world class tourist amenities to attract tourists from all over the world.

'Chardham' Highway Project – Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

- Chardham Mahamarg Vikas Pariyojna or the Chardham highway development project - aimed at improving connectivity between pilgrimage centres of Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamunotri. he **Rs 12,000 crore** 'Chardham' highway project in Uttarakhand will be completed soon.
- With the construction of the all-weather road, tourists will come throughout the year. There would be requirement of restaurants, hotels. There could be water sports, adventure sports in the state," he said.



'Chardham' Highway Project – Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

- Efforts are made to set up charging stations every 3 km in select cities and highways with a view to promote and popularise electric vehicles.



HRIDAY – Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana – Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

- The scheme aims to preserve and revitalise soul of the heritage city to reflect the city's unique character by encouraging aesthetically appealing, accessible, informative & secured environment. It supports development of core heritage infrastructure projects which shall include revitalization of urban infrastructure for areas around heritage assets identified / approved by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and State Governments. These initiatives shall include development of water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste management, approach roads, footpaths, street lights, tourist conveniences, electricity wiring, landscaping and such citizen services.



With a duration of 4 years (Completing in November, 2018) and a total outlay of **INR 500 Crores**, the Scheme is being implemented in 12 identified Cities namely, Ajmer, Amaravati, Amritsar, Badami, Dwarka, Gaya, Kanchipuram, Mathura, Puri, Varanasi, Velankanni and Warangal. The scheme is implemented in a mission mode.

Smart Cities Mission aims at building 100 Smart Cities with state-of-the-art amenities. I am happy to inform that 99 cities have been selected with an outlay of Rs 2.04 Lakh Crore. These Cities have started implementing various projects like Smart Command and Control Centre, Smart Roads, Solar Rooftops, Intelligent Transport Systems, Smart Parks. Projects worth Rs 2350 crore have been completed and works of Rs 20,852 crore are under progress.

Ministry of Agriculture

- To make dairying more remunerative to the farmers , four new projects will be taken up : first , the 'Pashudhan Sanjivani ' , an animal wellness programme and provision of animal Health Cards('Nakul Swasthya Patra') ; second , an advanced breeding technology ; third , Creation of 'E-Pashudhan Haat ' , an e market portal for connecting breeders and farmers ; and fourth , a National Genomic Centre for indigenous breeds. These projects will be implemented at a cost of Rs 850 crores over the next few years.

Arresting Conversion Efforts By Tightening Foreign Donation Through Strict Regulation of FCRA– Ministry of Home Affairs

- Modi government have closed down many of the foreign funded christian NGOs and is on mission to stop the forceful conversions of Hindus. So be prepared to hear a lot about christians in India because with no money they can't buy "souls".
- As per the latest available data with the Union home ministry, the US heads the list of donor countries to India with **Rs 1,492.62 crore (Rs 14.926 billion)**, followed by the United Kingdom (**Rs 677.59 crore**), and Germany (**Rs 664.51 crore**).
- Cow trafficking across border is almost stopped.
- The Centre has cancelled the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) licences of about **20,000 of 33,000 NGOs** after they were found to have allegedly violated various provisions of the Act, thus barring them from receiving any foreign funds.

Ministry of Home Affairs

□ **Border Roads**

- In order to have better communication and operational mobility of BSF in border areas , border roads have been constructed. So far , a total of 3, 638, 894 kms have been constructed out of the total sanctioned length of 4, 223,04 Kms. All the on going works are targeted for completion by March 2019.

□ **Security of Island**

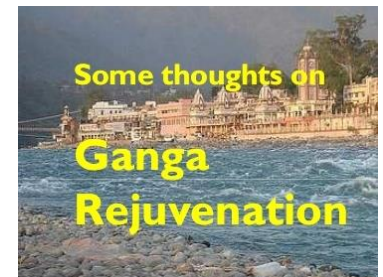
- Island development agency has been established by order dated 1. 6. 2017 to oversee the comprehensive development of Islands . 5 Islands each is in Andaman, Nicobar and Lakshadweep have been identified for holistic development in the first phase on PPP mode.

Ganga Rejuvenation - Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

- **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** is the implementation wing of National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA). At national level NMCG is the coordinating body and is being supported by States Level Program Management Groups (SPMGs) of UP, Uttarakhand, Bihar and West Bengal which, are also registered as societies under Societies Registration Act, 1860 and a dedicated Nodal Cell in Jharkhand.

- Aims and objectives of NMCG :
 - To ensure effective abatement of pollution and rejuvenation of the river Ganga by adopting a river basin approach to promote inter-sectoral co-ordination for comprehensive planning and management and
 - To maintain minimum ecological flows in the river Ganga with the aim of ensuring water quality and environmentally sustainable development.

- **NRI Ganga Fund** – NRIs have been a very important contributor to the development process in India , in areas such as education , health and preservation of culture. In this context , to harness their enthusiasim to contribute towards the conservation of the river Ganga , NRI Fund for Ganga will be set up which will finance special projects.



Ganga Rejuvenation - Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

□ Major Policy Initiatives Under NGRBA

□ Policies

1. Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement (MoA).
2. Independent Appraisal of Details Project Reports(DPRs).
3. Third Part Inspections.
4. City Level Monitoring Committees.
5. Revised Guidelines for Preparation of Details Project Reports(DPRs).
6. Dolphin Conservation.
7. Streamlining of Review and Monitoring mechanism in States.
8. Involvement of NGRBA experts.
9. Public Outreach and Awareness, Involvement of youth.
10. Ganga Knowledge Centre.
11. Water Quality Monitoring with focus on Real time, Online assessment.
12. Ganga River Basin Management Plan(GRBMP).

Ganga Rejuvenation - Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

- Cleaning the Ganga is work of national importance and it is our firm commitment. It is happy to learn that this work has gathered speed. A total of 187 projects have been sanctioned under the Namami Gange programme for infrastructure development, river surface cleaning , rural sanitation and other interventions at a cost of Rs 16,713 crore. 47 projects have been completed and remaining projects are at various stages of execution. All 4465 Ganga Grams – villages on the bank of river – have been declared open defecation free.
- **Sacred Rivers** – Substantial amount of money has been spent in the conservation and improvement of the Ganga , which has a very special sacred place in the collective consciousness of this country. It is proposed to set up Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission called “Namami Gange” and set aside a sum of Rs 2037 crores for this purpose.
- **Development of Ghats and beautification of Riverfront** – Our Riverfronts and Ghats are not only places of rich historical heritage but many of these are also sacred. To start this process in the country , a sum of Rs 100 crore embarked for Ghat Development and beautification of river front at Kedarnath, Haridwar , Kanpur , Varanasi , Allahabad , Patna and Delhi.

Ganga Rejuvenation - Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

- **Ganga River Basin Management Plan** - A comprehensive River Basin Management Plan for Ganga is being prepared by the consortium of seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). The Plan is being prepared with the objectives of taking comprehensive measures for restoration of the wholesomeness of the Ganga ecosystem and improvement of its ecological health, with due regard to the issue of competing water uses in the river basin. The wholesomeness of the river can be grasped in terms of four defining concepts: “**Aviral Dhara**” (Continuous Flow”), “**Nirmal Dhara**”(“Unpolluted Flow”), **Geologic Entity**, and **Ecological Entity**.



Sports and fitness – Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

- *The Khelo India programme has been introduced to revive the sports culture in India at the grass-root level by building a strong framework for all sports played in our country and establish India as a great sporting nation.*

- **Promoting Kabaddi :**
- **Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI)**

- *Youth of India are pragmatic and forward looking and wish to be leaders in all fields. In order to promote leadership skills, It is proposed to set up “ A Young Leaders Programme “ with an initial allocation of Rs 100 crore.*

- *Unique sports traditions have developed in the Himalayan region in the countries and the states that are a part of it. To promote these , India will start an annual event to promote these games and would invite countries such as Nepal and Bhutan also to participate in addition to the Indian states such as J&K , Uttarakhand , Process for setting up Junior Sports Academies and National level Sports Academies is under progress.*

Study of Ayurvedic Medicine – Ministry of Ayush

- **Ayush Upgrading to Ministry** – In keeping with the policy of the Government to lay focussed thrust on the Indian Traditional Systems of Medicine , the Dept. Of AYUSH was granted the status of Ministry w.e.f 9.11.2014 . The Ministry is responsible for propogation of Ayurveda , Yoga , Naturalpathy , Unani , Siddha , and Homeopathy (AYUSH) system of the health care.
- **Degree of Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery – BAMS**
- This refers to the person, who wish to undertake a full time training programme to become a fullfledged Ayurvedic practitioner. Objective The sole objective of the training is to make provisions to provide factual information on holistic approach of Ayurveda to all such persons, who wish to learn and practice Ayurveda for the well being of the society.
- **Post-Graduate Diploma in Ayurveda**
- This programme is for licensed practitioners in allopathic medicine/CAM/ Traditional Medicine with a graduate degree. This programme is intended to provide supplementary education to enable them to become licensed Ayurveda practitioners. A Post graduate diploma in Ayurveda would be awarded after successful completion of course.



आयुष मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF AYUSH

सत्यमेव जयते

Study of Ayurvedic Medicine – Ministry of Ayush

Research Centres & Projects undertaken last three years

- Central Council for Research in **Ayurvedic Sciences**
- Central Council for Research in **Yoga & Naturopathy**
- Central Council for Research in **Siddha**

Organizing of Yoga Fest/Utsav in States/UTs.

- The Yoga Fest/Utsav will envisage the promotion, propagation and development of Yoga in the mainstream of mass and class in every State/UT of India, where various Yoga traditions shall meet to form a Yogic Ocean featuring the following directions:
 - ✓ Promote the classical tradition of Yoga.
 - ✓ Educate people on the scientific aspects of Yoga.
 - ✓ Educate people on the policies of the Government in education, training in Yoga.
 - ✓ Create an opportunity for networking between the experts and stake holders.
 - ✓ Promote the Make in India through brand generation of Yoga apparels, teaching aid, games, ancillary products.
 - ✓ Create a network of Yoga Training Institutes/Centres for promotion and propagation of Yoga.

Ministry of Ayush

- **International Day of Yoga**, or commonly and unofficially referred to as Yoga Day, is celebrated annually on **21 June** since its inception in 2015. An international day for yoga was declared unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). Yoga is a physical, mental and spiritual practice originated in India . The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his UN address suggested the date of 21 June, as it is the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and shares a special significance in many parts of the world.
- **1ST NATIONAL AYURVEDA DAY** -The Ministry of AYUSH celebrated the First National Ayurveda Day on 28th October, 2016 by organizing the daylong Seminar on Ayurveda & Diabetes. A Seminar on theme “Ayurveda for Prevention and Control of Diabetes” was organized during the celebration of National Ayurveda Day at Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. A documentary film on ‘Ayurveda and diabetes’, “A Protocol for prevention and Control of Diabetes through Ayurveda” and a Compendium of selected research papers on Ayurveda for diabetes care were released during the Seminar. “Mission Madhumeha through Ayurveda” was also launched for prevention and control of diabetes through Ayurveda.
- **National AYUSH MISSION** : National Ayush Mission a flagship scheme is notified on 29.09.2014 with an aim to provide better access to AYUSH Services through increase in number of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries. It also aims at improvement in quality of improvement in AYUSH education through enhancement in the number of upgraded educational institutions sustained availability of quality raw materials.

Ministry of Ayush

- **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:** The Ministry of AYUSH took the following activities to globalized the popularity of AYUSH Systems of medicine:-
- A two-day India-US Workshop on Traditional Medicine was organized at New Delhi on 3-4 March, 2016 in association with DHHS, US Embassy, New Delhi. The event would pave way for the future collaborations with US in the field of Traditional systems of Medicine.
- An MoU for setting up of a Homoeopathy Chair at Yerevan State Medical University (YSMU), Armenia and an MoU on cooperation in the field of Research & Education in Homoeopathic Medicine with College of Homoeopathy (COH), Ontario was signed on 9th April, 2016 during the “International Convention on World Homoeopathy Day” at New Delhi.
- The Ministry of AYUSH signed a Project Collaboration Agreement with the World Health Organization (WHO), Hqs, Geneva on 13th May, 2016. Under the agreement benchmarks would be developed for training in Yoga and practice in Ayurveda, Unani and Panchkarma.

Ministry of Ayush-Yoga

- The Ministry of AYUSH successfully organised **1st International Day of Yoga (IDY)** on 21 June, 2015 at Rajpath, New Delhi. Two Guinness World Records were made viz. the Largest Yoga Lesson involving 35,985 participants and maximum number of Nationalities (84) participated in a single yoga lesson. Two days International Conference on "Yoga for Holistic Health" was organized on 21 and 22 June, 2015 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi wherein about 1300 delegates from India and abroad were participated.
- **Common Yoga Protocol** and Yoga DVDs were prepared to disseminate awareness of Yoga among the masses. Outside India, IDY was celebrated in all the UNGA member countries except war torn-Yemen, by the missions, Ministry of External Affairs in association with Ministry of AYUSH and various Yoga institutions and organizations.
- **Second International Day of Yoga** The Ministry of AYUSH in association with leading Yoga Institutions, Centre and State Governments, State Departments and Chandigarh Administration successfully organized 2nd International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 21st June, 2016 at the Capitol Complex, Chandigarh. More than over 30,000 people joined our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji for the Second International Day of Yoga celebrations where he pitched for treating diseases like diabetes through the ancient spiritual discipline Yoga. For the first time in International Day of Yoga, 150 Divyangs performed Yoga Protocol during the International Day of Yoga celebrations at the Capitol Complex, Chandigarh.

Ministry of Ayush

- (MoU signed between CCRH and University of Maimonides, Argentina)
- Ministry of AYUSH organized the 9th Annual meeting of the International Regulatory Cooperation for Herbal Medicines (IRCH) during 8-10 November 2016 at New Delhi. IRCH has been working to protect and promote public health and safety through improved regulations for herbal medicine across the globe. India is one of the 33 members of IRCH and has regularly been participating in the Annual IRCH working group meetings. The meeting was attended by 17 Member Countries with 33 delegates including 3 WHO officials. Quality of herbal material & products and vigilance of herbal medicines were deliberated in detail for promotion and facilitating the safe use of herbal medicines. The event provided an excellent platform to showcase the strengths of AYUSH systems of medicine.
- As a result of concerted efforts made by the Ministry of AYUSH in collaboration with Ministry of Culture and Ministry of External Affairs, Yoga has been inscribed in the UNESCO's representative list as the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity on 1st December, 2016 which would further propagate ideas of peace and tolerance in other countries.

Ministry Of Ayush

- **MoU on Traditional Medicine** : An Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare , Government of Bangladesh was signed during the 9th September , 2014 during Thirty Second Meeting of the Ministers of Health of the Countries of South East Asia Region.
- The **World Ayurveda Congress(WAC)** was organized by the Department of AYUSH in collaboration with World Ayurveda Foundation and Govt of NCT , Delhi held from 7-9 November, 2014 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The Congress was attended by official representatives of 11 countries including Ministers from 4 countries. Health Ministers from 10 States , Ambassadors/ High Commissioners , Members of Parliament , MLA from Delhi, Secretaries and other officials from other Ministries/Departments , Councilors of local bodies , more than 225 invited speakers and experts of Ayurveda and 3850 delegates including 120 foreign delegates from 21 countries participated in the WAC.

Festival of India in Switzerland and Liechtenstein – Ministry of Culture

Embassy of India, Berne
(Concurrently accredited to The Holy See and the Principality of Liechtenstein)

FESTIVAL OF INDIA

September - December 2018

Connecting Himalayas with Alps

Bouquet of Indian Classical and Folk Dances and Music

Incredible India

<u>Bharatnatyam Dance</u>	<u>Lokrang Performance</u>	<u>Kathak Dance</u>
7 September - Vaduz	5 October - Berne	17 October - Brug Windisch
8 September - Lausanne	6 October - Geneva	18 October - Lugano
9 September - Berne	7 October - Fribourg	19 October - Zurich

<u>Dhrupad</u>	<u>Kathakali Dance</u>
8 November - Schaan	5 December - St. Gallen
9 November - Luzerne	6 December - Bael
10 November - Berne	7 December - Berne

For more details visit - www.indembassybern.gov.in
Or contact us at info.berne@mea.gov.in

Festival of India in Switzerland and Liechtenstein – Ministry of Culture

Festival of India is being organized in Switzerland and Liechtenstein, country of concurrent accreditation from September to December, 2018. The Festival will be held in Berne, Capital City, Zurich, Baden, Basel, Geneva, Fribourg, Lugano, Luzerne, Brug Windish, St.Gallen, other cities of Switzerland and Vaduz, Capital City and Schaan, other city of Liechtenstein. Following events will be showcased:

- Bharatnatyam Dance from September 6 -10, 2018
- Lokrang Folk Dance from West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur from October 4-8, 2018
- Kathak Dance from October 16-20, 2018
- Dhrupad performance from November 7-11, 2018
- Kathakali Dance from December 4-8, 2018

In addition, Food Festival, Film Festival & Documentary Film Festival, Digital exhibition related to Mahatma Gandhi and Swami Vivekananda, Philately exhibition will be organised during Festival of India in Switzerland & Liechtenstein, country of concurrent accreditation.

Ministry of Culture

- Supported the Government of Gujrat with **Rs. 200 crore** contribution for the building of **Statue of Unity – Statue of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel**.
- To strengthen understanding of each other , it is proposed to create a closer engagement between different States and Districts in a structured manner . **“Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat” programme will be launched to link States and Districts in an annual programme that connects people through exchanges in areas of language , trade , culture , travel and tourism**. This will be done through mutual agreement with participating States and districts.
- **Indian Literature Abroad (ILA)** - With 22 scheduled languages, 122 regional languages, six classical languages, (**Sanskrit, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Odia**) thousands of mother tongues and countless dialects, India can claim a unique linguistic and literary history. The ILA project has been initiated by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, to support and facilitate translation and promotion of literary heritage and contemporary literature from the Indian languages into major foreign languages (especially those recognized by UNESCO).

Ministry of Culture

- **Project 'Mausam'** is the initiative of Ministry of Culture to be implemented by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as the nodal agency with research support of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and National Museum as associate bodies. This project aims to explore the multi-faceted Indian Ocean 'world'—collating archaeological and historical research in order to document the diversity of cultural, commercial and religious interactions in the Indian Ocean. It also aims to promote research on themes related to the study of Maritime Routes. Main objective of the project is to inscribe places and sites identified under Project Mausam as trans-national nomination for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List.
- A fund of **Rs. 150,244,502/-** was approved by Ministry of Culture for two years i.e. 2015-16 & 2016-17 out of which **Rs. 3,22,02,881/-** was transferred to IGNCA. An amount of **Rs.12,26,362/-** is utilized.

Ministry Of Culture

- Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) Vedic Heritage Gallery was inaugurated which reflects the traditional Vedic culture and its scientific perceptions. In the gallery agya symbols, patras, vedis, vedic chantings, yagya performances and yaga procedures are demonstrated through pictorial & audio-visual formats also. The 200 implements of yagya patras available with Kalakosa Division are exclusive attractions of the gallery.
- IGNCA organized an international storytelling festival in collaboration with Nivesh India with the aim to preserve, promote and celebrate the traditional oral art form of storytelling and IGNCA in collaboration with Shri K.C Aryan's home of folk art (museum of folk, tribal & neglected art) organised an exhibition called Hanuman: The Divine Simian, a repertoire of rare and unique art forms from the collection of Shri K.C. Aryan, curated by Shri B.N. Aryan, an exhibition catalogue was released by the dignitaries present. The exhibition will be on display till 31 December 2018.
- The Anthropological Survey of India organized a national seminar on "Anthropology of Pilgrimage with special reference to **Kumbh Mela**" on 16th November, 2018 at Central Regional Centre, Nagpur.

- A national Seminar on “Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee’s Educational Philosophy and His Vision on South East Asia and India ”was organised by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies in collaboration with Indian Council of Historical Research and District Administration, Cachar, Silchar to commemorate 117th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee at Banga Bhavan, Silchar.
- Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts is hosting Arth-Art for Earth The Excavated Museum of Clay by Manav Gupta which was inaugurated in July. Under the musical series, IGNCA organized an event “Sanjari Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat Shrinkhala”.
- The Sangeet Natak Akademi organized Shreshtha Bharat Sanskriti Samagam, a programme of Music, Dance Drama, Folk & Tribal arts and Puppetry in collaboration with Odisha Language Literature and cultural Department.
- A Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Korea, Ghana and Rwanda for the year 2018-2022 was signed in July, 2018 and also a memorandum of Understanding between the India and the Government of the Republic of Uganda on Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 2018-2021 was signed.
- Festival of India in Tunisia was inaugurated on 26th July, 2018

- Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti organized a two-day Gandhi Youth Exchange Programme for Adivasi children. A two-day workshop on Non-violent Communication and Non-violent Conflicts Resolutions was held at CRPF Academy, Kadarapur, Gurugram on August 17-18, 2018.
- Indian Museum organized an online exhibition of rare artefacts from its core collection. It enables visitors around the world to access and experience museum collection of rich cultural heritage sitting in the comfort of their home.
- The Sahtiya Akademi in collaboration with Pachhunga University College organized an All India Writers' Meet at Aizwal, Mizoram and also organized a literary forum on Indo-China Literaray Exchane: Multilingual Challenges in Delhi with a five member Chinese Writers' delegation.
- Sangeet Natak Akademi organized Sasankrit-Monthly Festival of Music, Dance, Drama, Folk & Tribal Arts and Puppetry at Swami Vivekananda Auditorium, Kathak Kendra, New Delhi during this month. In the festival Malawi Lok Geet and Kabir Gayan was presented by Shri Bheru Singh Chouhan and Group, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

- The festival of India in Russia scheduled from September, 2018 to March, 2019 was inaugurated on 6th September, 2018 and in Switzerland scheduled from September, 2018 to December, 2018 was inaugurated on 7th September, 2018.
- India Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) hosted two-day celebration on 'Braj Leela Mahotsav' on the occasion of 'Krishna Janmashtami'. Cultural performances, 'bhajans', peacock dance, flute recital and special cuisines from Mathura and Vridavan were organised as part of the festival (p.210/c) and IGNCA hosted a three-day festival on silent era films, Mook Chitra in collaboration with National Film Archives, Pune. Renowned film Director, Shri Shyam Benegal inaugurated the festival and launched a Book on 'Poster Boltey Hein' during the inauguration session.
- In order to commemorate the International Day of the World's Indigenous People, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangralaya organised a multi faced programme entitled Van Asmita including a special exhibition on Indigenous Tribes of India entitled Aadi-Jan was inaugurated.
- An exhibition "Mexico in the World Heritage" was organized by India Gandhi National Centre for the Arts on the Occasion of celebrations of 208th Anniversary of the National Independence of Mexico in collaboration with Embassy of Mexico to India.

- On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the formation of “Azad Hind Sarkar”, Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Hosted the National Flag at Red Fort, Delhi.
- Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Croatia for the year 2019-2022 was signed on 22nd October, 2018 in New Delhi and Programme of Cooperation between India and Tajikistan for the years 2019-2023 was signed on 8th October, 2018 in Dushanbe.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURAL FOR THE MONTH OF November, 2018

- Centre For Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) organised a workshop on “Our Cultural Diversity ”at Regional Centre, Guwahati in which 129 teachers from 14 states took part.
- National Museum organized a three day workshop on manifesting the Intangible Cultural Heritage: Indigenous Craftsmanship of Himachal Pradesh and organized exhibition in collaboration with Embassy of Peru from 16th October 2018 onward entitled “Peru’s Fabulous Treasure”and will be on display up to 31st December 2018.
- A Memorandum of Understanding between India and Zimbabwe concerning cooperation in the fields of Arts, Culture and Heritage was signed on 3rd November, 2018 at Harare, Zimbabwe.
- Gandhi Samriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS) in association with Harijan Sevak Sangh, Gandhi Peace Foundation, Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Yuva Snagathan, National Youth Project, Odisha Gandhiwad Forum along with some intellects organised a two-day national history symposium celebrating Gandhi 150. Gandhi Darshan also in association with Healthy Ageing India Organized the 4th International Congress on Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine as part of the Asia Pacific Geriatric Medicine Network Conference at ALL India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

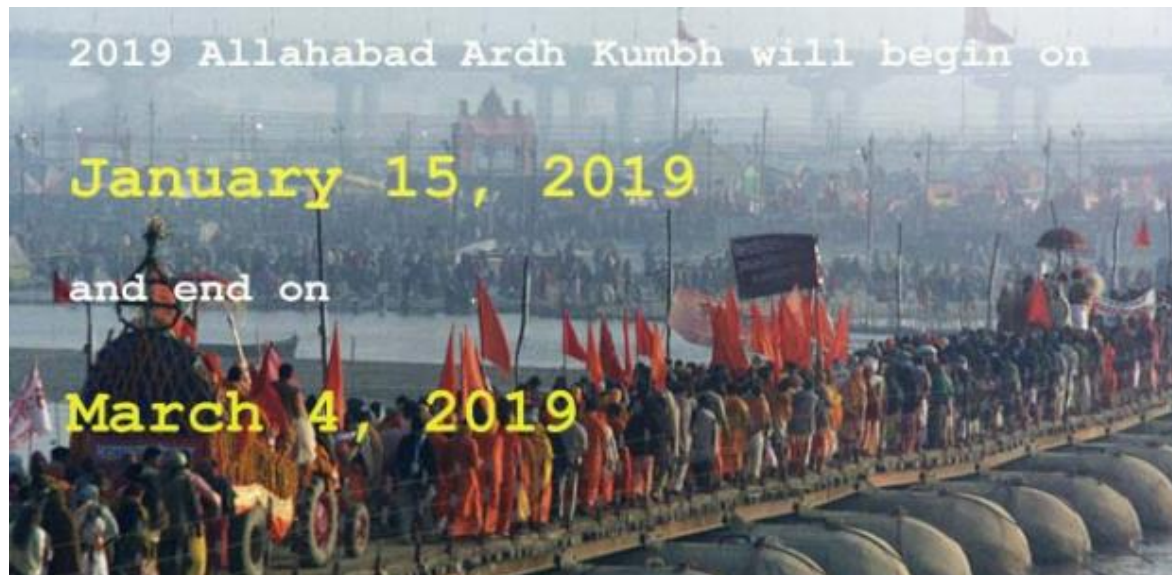
- An MoU between the National Archives of India (NAI) and the National Documentation and Information Centre of Mozambique was signed on 29 November 2018 at Jawahar Lal Nehru Bhwan, New Delhi during the 4th Joint Commission Meeting between India and Mozambique on Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technical Cooperation in the presence of Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs. DG, NAI signed the MoU on behalf of the National Archives of India and Ms Arlanza Dias, National Director signed on behalf of National Documentation and Information Centre of Mozambique.

Ministry of Defence

- **War Memorial** - The country is deeply indebted to the officers and the jawans of the armed forces for having made huge sacrifices to defend its honour. In doing so a very large number of them gave up their lives . It is a privilege for the nation to erect a befitting memorial in their memory . War Memorial will be constructed in the Princes Park. It will be supplemented by a War Museum. Sum of Rs 100 crore for this purpose will be allocated.

Pyagraj Express – Ministry of Railways

- It is an Indian Railways express train which runs between the cities of Prayagraj and New Delhi, India. It is, along with the prestigious Shaan - E - Bhopal Express, one of the "first" ISO 9002 certified trains of India because of its security features and high priority on the Indian Railways. But it takes 2 hours more than Rajdhani Express to cover the same distance. It is also slower than some other superfast trains in this section, but has one of highest commercial speeds among Non-Rajdhani trains. The Kumbh Mela held at Allahabad is the most auspicious of all the four places.



Hindu Temples - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Akshardham Temple, New Jersey, U.S.A.



Shri Shiva Vishnu Temple, Victoria, Australia.



Tanah Lot Temple, Bali, Indonesia.



Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Atlanta, U.S.A.



Angkor Wat, Cambodia.



Reference Link :

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Hindu_temples_outside_India

The Citizenship(Amendment) Bill , 2016

- ❑ The Citizenship (Amendment Bill , 2016) aims to provide eligibility to apply for Indian Citizenship to the persons belonging to minority communities , such as Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, who have either entered into India without valid travel documents or the validity of their documents have expired are regarded as illegal migrants .
- ❑ Further , this Amendment proposes to amend the Third Schedule to the Act to make applicants belonging to minority communities from the above countries eligible for citizenship by naturalisation in seven years instead of the existing twelve years.
- ❑ The Amendment also empowers the Central Government to cancel registration of Overseas Citizen of India in case of violation of the provisions of the Act or any other law for the time being in force. So far there is no such specific provision in the Act to cancel the registration.

Reservation of 10% quota to economically backward people

1. The Constitution (one Hundred One Twenty Fourth Amendment) Bill , 2019 is passed by the Parliament which Amended Article 15 and Article 16 of the constitution.
2. Presently , the economically weaker sections of citizens have been largely remained excluded from attending the higher educational institutions and public employment on account of their financial incapacity to compete with the persons who are economically more privileged. The benefits of existing reservations under Article 15(4) and (5) and Article 16(4) are generally unavailable to them unless they meet the specific criteria of social and educational backwardness.
3. Article 46 of Constitution codes Directive Principles of State Policy it is the duty of the state to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people.
4. Till this Amendment , the weaker sections were not eligible for the benefit of reservation. In order to fulfil the mandate of Article 46 and to ensure that economically weaker sections of citizens to get a fair chance of receiving higher education and fair share in public employment.
5. With the passing of this Amendment upto 10% of reservation is provided to people of economically weaker sections in educational institutions including private aided or unaided. Further , it also makes of upto 10% of reservation in the services under the State.

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Certification of Volunteers and Temporary Staff at Kumbh Mela-Prayagraj

Background

Kumbh Mela is a mass Hindu pilgrimage of faith in which Hindus gather to bathe in a sacred river. It is the world's largest religious gathering. It is held every third year at one of the four places by rotation: Haridwar, Allahabad (Prayagraj), Nasik and Ujjain. The latest Allahabad Kumbh Mela took place in 2013 and became the largest religious gathering in the world with almost 120 million visitors. The next one is scheduled for 2015, with an Ardh Kumbh Mela scheduled from **January 14th To March 4th, 2019**.

Need of Trained Manpower

Mass gathering including millions of people, makes the planning and management of the event a difficult task. Kumbh Mela is one such, internationally famous religious mass gathering. It creates the substantial challenge of creating a temporary city in which millions of people can stay for a defined period. The arrangements need to allow this very large number of people to reside with proper human waste disposal, medical services, adequate supplies of food and clean water, transportation etc . along with crowd management, emergency handling and disaster management.

All this needs specialised manpower to support the administration for smooth handling of the event. Local administration is recruiting temporary staff and seeking volunteers to support all such services.

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through its NSDC - Tourism Hospitality Sector Council (THSC) is supporting this congregation by way of Training and certifying 25000 volunteers and temporary staff under the Skill India Mission.

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ground Work

Based on the inputs THSC (Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council) is certifying volunteers and team staff under below mentioned job roles.

SN	Job Role Name	QP Code
1	Heritage Tour Guide	THC/Q4501
2	Food & Beverage Service-Steward	THC/Q0301
3	Housekeeping Attendant (Manual Cleaning)	THC/Q0203
4	Guest House Caretaker	THC/Q0501
5	Multi- Cuisine Cook	THC/Q3006
6	Tour Vehicle Driver	THC/Q4202
7	Meet & Greet Officer	THC/Q4205

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Project Out Come

1. Better management of the event with local Administration
2. Enhanced Efficiency of the Trained workforce.
3. Recognition of Volunteers/Temporary Staff will boost their moral and Sense of pride.
4. Visibility and impact of Skill India Mission during the Kumbh.
5. Set up manage a SKILL PAVILION during Kumbh Mela.

CONSERVATION OF ENDANGERED LANGUAGE

In a pilot project, a workshop is being organised in collaboration with the Indira Gandhi Centre of Arts on Understanding Rare Scripts – Moodi and Tigalari.” This will offer hands on training in deciphering the script, accessing manuscripts and also cover issues in manuscriptology research. The course is open to student and scholars interested in heritage research. It is a beginning of skilling in heritage research.

The objective of the initiative is to keep alive the rich heritage of languages.

Ministry of External Affairs

Salute to Bravery of Indian Soldiers

Photo Exhibition showcasing Indias contribution to World War I in the City Hall of The Hague from November 13TH to 17th, 2017

A photo exhibition showcasing the contribution of India Soldiers in World War-I will be on display at the City Hall of The Hague from November 13, 2017 to November 17, 2017. the exhibition is held in conjunction with Armistices Day (November 12) which is marked across the world with Remembrance function.

It is a little-known fact that the force of undivided India played a significant part in the First World War. By one estimate, every sixth soldier sent into the War by the British empire was from the Indian subcontinent. The photo exhibition remembers the India soldiers who were killed and wounded in one of the deadliest conflicts in human history and pays tribute to the courage and these soldiers. The photographers narrate the war experiences of the Indian soldiers and also includes photo of newspaper articles, postcards, comics and works of art by the Indian soldiers.

Over 74,000 Indian soldiers lost their lives in World War-I in which approximately 1.1 million Indian soldiers participated. India provided Britain with a volunteer army equal in number to the combined forces contributed by the dominions of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The Indian troops fought valiantly on the Western Front as well as in German East Africa, Mesopotamia (now Iraq), Egypt, Palestine and Gallipoli (Turkey).

Ministry of External Affairs

Salute to Bravery of Indian Soldiers

Indian soldiers faced a lot of hardships during the war. The supplies that were sent with them from India were inadequate in the face of the harsh European winter. The thin khaki drill uniforms left them exposed to the wind, sleep, and snow. In addition to the searing cold, the techniques of European warfare – snaking trenches with barbed wire, bunkers, and machine gun nests were relatively new to the Indian Troops. In Mesopotamia and the Middle East fronts, Indian troops had to contend with harsh climates and dramatic swings between the extreme summer and the bone-chilling winters of the desert. And yet, despite the myriad obstacles, Indian soldiers won accolades for their bravery.

During the war, Indian soldiers were recognized and seen as heroes. Their bravery and contribution in Flanders was exceptional. If Punjabi troops in the Lahore Division hadn't arrived in October and November of 1914 in the Flanders area of Belgium. The Germans would have taken the ports and the Canadian Expeditionary Force would not have landed on the European mainland.

After the war, 9200 Indian soldiers were decorated and 11 Indian soldiers who participated in the war were awarded Britain's highest award for valour, the Victoria Cross, for their conspicuous bravery on the battlefield.

Indian also contributed to the First War in the form of 170 million animals, 3700 million tonnes in supplies and cash worth 130 million pounds.

Ministry of External Affairs

Soldiers to Bravery of Indian Soldiers

Belgium

The commemoration ceremony for the Indian soldiers, who participated in the First World War was held on 12-11-2015 at the Indian memorial in 4 years, Belgium. The commemoration also included Indian Army Memorial Concert at in Belgium on 11-11-2015.

At Haifa, a Salute to Indian Heroes of Great War

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 6.7.2017 saluted the Indian soldiers who laid down their lives protecting the Israeli city of Haifa during World War-I from the Ottoman Empire forces. He said their sacrifice was a mark of the enduring bond between the two nations.

Mr.Modi visited the Indian cemetery in Haifa along with his Israel counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu on the last day of his visit to **Israel** and laid wreaths at the site. “Together in homage to the fallen brave. Wreaths by PM @narendramodi & PM @netanyahu at Haifa,” External Affairs Ministry spokesman Gopal Baglay tweeted.

Mr. Modi also unveiled a plaque commemorating Major Dalpat Singh, known as the ‘Hero of Haifa’ for his critical role in the liberation of the city.

“I am deeply honoured to stand here today to salute the valiant Indian soldiers, who laid down their lives for the liberation of Haifa during WWI, ”Modi wrote in the guest book. “The exceptional bravery and supreme sacrifice of Major Thakur Dalpat Singh MC, THE ‘Hero of Haifa’ and his men, will be remembered and continue to inspire generation to come. Next year, the centenary of the battle of Haifa will present another opportunity to mark this enduring bond between India and Israel,”

Ministry of External Affairs

Salute to Bravery of Indian Soldiers

Haifa Day

The Indian Army commemorates September 23 every year as Haifa Day to pay its respects to the two brave Indian Cavalry Regiments that helped liberation of the city following a dashing cavalry action by the 15th Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade. In the autumn of 1918, the Indian Brigade was a part of the Allied Forces sweeping northwards through Palestine in what is seen as the last great cavalry campaign in history.

Captain Ama Singh Bahadur and Dafadar Jor Singh were awarded the Indian Order of Merit and Captain Anop Singh and 2nd Lt. Sagat Singh were awarded the Military Cross in recognition of their bravery in this battle. Major Dalpat Singh was awarded a military cross for his bravery.

Defence Wing

Based on the identified defence potential of Italy, the Defence Wing was established in the Embassy in 1987. since Italy has a diversified defence sector which caters notably to the needs of Army, Navy and Air Force, the assignment of the Defence Attaché was conceived in the tri-service model.

The defence cooperation and friendship, notwithstanding, India has a huge “footprint” on Italian soil because of the supreme sacrifice made by Indian Soldiers during the Second world war and for the sake of freedom in Italy. By 1945, a total of 5782 Indian soldiers died in Italy with as many as six of them receiving the VICTORIA CROSS.

Ministry of External Affairs

Salute to Bravery of Indian Soldiers

The Indian Soldiers commemorated in Italy during the Second World War are spread over 40 cemeteries in Italy, the major one being at Cassino, Arezzo, Florence, Forlì, Sagro River and Rimini.

Military Honours to Two WW-I Indian Soldiers of 39th Royal Garhwal Rifles at France on 13th November, 2017

1. Mortal remains of two Indian soldiers of 39 Garhwal Rifles were laid to rest Military Cemetery at Laventie, France. A delegation comprising of Commandant and Subedar Major of the Garhwal Rifles Regimental Centre, two bagpipers from the Garhwal Rifles Regimental Pipe Band Colonel Nitin Negi, grandson of late Naik Darwan Singh Negi, Victoria Cross, attended the ceremony.

2. On the occasion, homage was also paid to the soldiers of Indian Meerut at Nueve Chapelle War Memorial by laying wreaths on behalf of the Chief of the Army Staff, Indian Army by Brigadier Indrajit Chatterjee, Commandant and Subedar Major Trilok Singh Negi, SM of the Garhwal Rifles Regimental Centre. The Commandant expressed his gratitude to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for the excellent care and maintenance of the War Memorial dedicated to Indian soldiers in France and Flanders. He also thanked the Government of France for the conduct of the solemn ceremony.

Ministry of External Affairs

Salute to Bravery of Indian Soldiers

3. On 20th September 2016, during an excavation work on southern side of the village of Richebourg near Laventie Military Cemetery, approximately 230 Kms away from Paris, two human remains were found and identified to be of soldiers of 39th Royal Garhwal Rifles the office of Commonwealth War Graves Commission in consultation with the French Government and Indian Embassy in France decided to hold ceremony to rest them along with their comrades at Laventie Military Cemetery, with full military honours during the annual memorial service that is held to commemorate the Indian soldiers who were martyred in action in France and Belgium. In a symbolic gesture the soil from the graves of these will be brought back to their homeland.

4. During World War-I, the Garhwal Brigade comprising of 1st/39th and 2nd/39th Royal Garhwal showed unparalleled bravery in treacherous trenches of France and Flanders. Fighting shoulder to shoulder with British soldiers, the Garhwal Brigade earned six Battle Honours and two Victoria Cross in France and Flanders Theatre.

5. On 14.11.2017 Delegation of Garhwal Rifles Regimental Centre returned with the sacred soil from the resting place of two soldiers of 39 Garhwal Rifles. The urn was brought from Laventie, France and carried to the Garhwal Rifles Regimental Centre at Landsdowne. The two urns containing the sacred soil were handed over to the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Smt.Nirmala Sitharaman by the delegation in a simple and solemn ceremony.

PM Narendra Modi Inaugurated First Hindu Temple in Abu Dhabi

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday (February 11, 2018) officially launched a project for the construction of the first Hindu temple in Abu Dhabi, describing the holy place as a “catalytic agent” of humanity and harmony that will become a medium of India’s identity.

Modi laid the foundation stone for the BAPS Swaminarayan temple via video conferencing from the Dubai Opera House, where he addressed the members of the Indian community.

“I would like to request all those associated with the construction of the temple that the rulers here have shown so much respect for India. They have been proud of India’s cultural history. Now it’s our responsibility that there is no mistake on our part,” he told the gathering, amid applause.

Modi asked people associated with the construction of the temple and also the worshippers not to cause any harm to others.

“This is my expectations from you,” he added. He thanked Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan on behalf of 125 crore Indians for the construction of the grand temple in the Gulf emirate.

“People were surprised when Abu Dhabi’s Crown Prince took forward the talks of building a temple in Abu Dhabi. I whole heartedly thank his highness on behalf of all 1.25 crore Indians,” Modi said, amid applause.

PM Narendra Modi Inaugurated First Hindu Temple in Abu Dhabi

MEA

Modi said this temple will also become a “medium of India’s identity”. “We have grown in a culture where temples are a medium of humanity...Holy place is a catalytic agent of humanity and harmony,” he told the gathering.

“I believe this temple will not be only unique in terms of architecture and splendour, but will also give a message of ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’ to people across the world,” he said.

The temple will come up on 55,000 square meters of land.

The structure will be hand-carved by Indian temple artisans and assembled in the UAE.

It will be completed by 2020, and open to people of all religious backgrounds.

Conferences & Seminars by ICCR 2015-16

An international conference was organized during November 21 - 23, 2015 on **“International Conference of Indologists”** at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

The Council also organized an International Conference on **“International Conference on ‘Shared Heritage as New Variable in the Indo-Korean Relations: Historicising the Legend of Princess of Ayodhya and its Legacy’”** in New Delhi during July 14 - 15, 2015.

Apart from organizing seven major conferences, Council also extended support to many universities/organizations in India to organize 18 conferences and events on various relevant subjects.

Outgoing Cultural Delegations by ICCR 2015-16

During the period from 1st April, 2015 – 31st March 2016, the Council sponsored 121 groups including 18 travel grants to 90 countries from 18 States of India to participate in various prestigious international festivals and events.

The Council emphasized on sponsoring talented artists, who have never been sponsored previously. The Council also emphasized on sponsoring young upcoming talented artists. Special efforts were made to sponsor cultural groups from North East Region.

The cultural groups participated in prestigious international festivals like “Singapore India Fine Arts Society (SIFA) in Singapore, “Cultural Week in Spain”, Festival of Drums and Traditional Arts” in Egypt, “Harare International Festival of the Arts in Zimbabwe, “ Namaste Stockholm” Festival in Sweden, Chaiti Festival” in Shanghai, “ Busan International Dance Festival” in South Korea, “India@Mindil Festival in Perth, “ Bali Art Jogjakarta Art Festival in Indonesia, “Days of India’ in Ecuador, “Zanzibar International Film Festival” in Zanzibar, “Annual International Bharatantyam Dance Festival in Malaysia, Jerash Festival” in Jordan, Hibiscus and Friendly North Festival in Fiji, 10th International Music Festival “Sharq Taronalari in Uzbekistan, “Silk Road Cultural Festival” in Gyeongju, South Korea, “Annual Nallur Festival” in Sri Lanka, “Namaste India” Festival in Japan, “Samaa Festival” in Egypt, “Cerventino Festival” in Mexico, “Holland India Festival” in Netherlands, “Paramsala Festival” in Sydney, “Cite de la Music” event in France, “Days of India” in Slovenia,

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“Sapporo Snow Festival” in Japan, “Highland Music Festival” in Peru, “LICAF” in Zambia, “Indian Village Festival” in Singapore, “India Cultural Week” in China, “Java Jazz Festival” in Indonesia.

Ms. Kumudini Lakhia (Kathak), Shri Lokendrajeet Singh & Ms. Akhan Lakshmi Devi (Manipuri), Ms. Nandini Ghoshal (Odissi), Ms. Ananda Shankar (Contemporary Dance), Ms. Gulabi Sapera (Rajasthani Folk), Ms. Anurupa Roy (Puppet), Shri Sarathi Chatterjee (Hindustani Vocal), Ms. Jayanthi Kumaresh (Veena), Dr. Jayanta Kumar Das (Rudra Veena) and Shri Basant Kabra (Sarod), Ms. Bindu Subramaniam (Popular Music), Pt. Vishwa Mohan Bhatt (Guitar) were a few of the eminent artistes sponsored by the Council.

Apart from this, the Council also handles Indian Cultural manifestations abroad by organizing major festivals. “Namaste Russia” was inaugurated on 10th May, 2015 in Moscow by the Hon’ble President of India along with his Russian Counterpart. A total of 5 groups participated in it. The inaugural event featured a special production by Kadamb group of Ms. Kumudini Lakhia. “60th Anniversary celebrations of Diplomatic Relations between India and Spain”, in Spain was inaugurated in January 2016 where Ms. Bindu Subramaniam gave scintillating performances. This would culminate in November 2016. A total of 08 groups will perform in it.

A Sanskrit Play “Karnabharam” by Jnan Pravah University, Varanasi, presented in Thailand on 29 June was the special feature of the current financial year activities as Sanskrit play have rarely gone abroad previously. A Ramayana play to Paris is also an important activity, the Council presented in Paris. Another Ramayana group of Shri Ram Bhartiya Kala Kendra (SBKK) visited Mauritius to present Ramayana during the International Ramayana Conference.

Major Festivals organized by ICCR in India

6th Edition of World Flute Festival 2015

The Council supported Krishna Prerna Charitable Trust, New Delhi to organize 6th edition of World Flute Festival in which groups from Hungary, Lithuania, Japan, Belarus, Switzerland and Spain performed in Delhi & other cities of India from 11-13 September 2015.

9th Edition of Delhi International Arts Festival 2015

The Council collaborated with Prasiddha Foundation & FABB to organize the 9th edition of Delhi International Art Festival from 16-31 October 2015 in New Delhi. The international groups from Egypt, Taiwan, Portugal, Kyrgyzstan, Israel, Turkey, Indonesia, Mexico, China and U.K. participated in the Festival.

2nd Edition of International Folk Dance & Music Festival

The Council organized the 2nd edition of International Folk Dance & Music Festival from 16-18 October, 2015. International cultural groups from U.K., Spain, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Israel, Mauritius, Hungary and Sri Lanka performed in Delhi &

2nd Edition of International Bhakti Festival

The Council organized 2nd edition of International Bhakti Festival from 7-9 December 2015. Apart from India, groups from Mauritius, Bangladesh and Bhutan participated.

6th Edition of International Dance & Music Festival

The Council organized the 6th edition of International Dance & Music Festival from 7-9 December 2015. Apart from India, groups from Kyrgyzstan, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Malaysia, Maldives and Vietnam performed in Delhi & different cities of India i.e., Guwahati, Kolkata, Lucknow, Allahabad, Goa, Jammu, Bhopal, Chandigarh, Faridabad and Gurgaon.

3rd Edition of World Percussion Festival

The Council collaborated with Krishna Prerna Charitable Trust, New Delhi to organize 3rd edition of World Percussion Festival from 5-6 March 2016. Apart from India, international groups from Sri Lanka, Belgium, Russia, Indonesia, Afghanistan and Italy participated

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR (April 2015-March 2016)

Organized the following International conferences/ seminars (7 in total):

- 1. International Conference on ‘Shared Heritage as New Variable in the IndoKorean Relations: Historicising the Legend of Princess of Ayodhya and its Legacy’:**
- 2. Bhagavad Gita and its Contemporary Relevance:**
- 3. Rishi Sufi Traditions of Kashmir:**
- 4. Sanskrit and Indological Studies in India, Russia and Neighboring Countries: Past, Present and Future:**
- 5. International Conference of Indologists – 2015:**
- 6. International Seminar on ‘Indo-Vietnam Cultural relations: Retrospect and Prospects’**
- 7. International Roma Conference and Cultural Festival**

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EXHIBITIONS April, 2015 - March, 2016

Outgoing Exhibitions

S.No.	Country	Name of the Exhibition & Artists	Period of display
1.	Spain	Religion of India by Shri Amit Mishra	April – July, 2015
2.	Tunisia	Monuments of India by Shri Kashinath Das	April – November, 2015
3.	Slovenia	Digital Prints of Artwork og Tagore	May – October, 2015
4.	Hungary	Phulkaris	August – September, 2015
5.	Netherland	Sari: The Magic of Indian Weaves by Smt. Rta Kapur Chishti	September – October, 2015
6.	Oman	Vastram – Splendid World of Indian Textile by Ms. Shelly Jyothi	October, 2015

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7.	China	Forms of Devotion curated by Smt. Sushma Bahl	Novemver – December, 2015
8.	Slovenia	Phulkari	January, 2016
9.	Spain	Women by Women by MS. RADHIKA Shrinagesh	January – December, 2016
10.	Turkey	Temples, Forts Palaces : 2000 Year of Indian Architecture	January, 2016

ICCR World Sanskrit Award

World Sanskrit Award was conferred on Prof. George Cardona (USA) on 21st November 2016 at Pravasi Bharat Kendra, New Delhi. Prof. Cardona is one of the most accomplished and outstanding foreign scholars of Sanskrit. He has earned the title of "Äbhinav Panini" because of his contribution to Sanskrit Grammar in general and Panini. He was also awarded President of India's Certificate of Honour in Sanskrit in 2012

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR (April 2016 – March 2017)

Sn	Country	Conference	Dates
1.	China	2 nd International Conference of Indologists 2016	November 12-13,2016
2.	India	'Sagar-Sangam: Trans-Oceanic Cultural Dialogue, Kalinga and Indonesia	November 15-16, 2016
3.	India	Quantum Reality and Theory of Shunya	December 9-10 ,2016
4.	India	Vedic Mathematics	December 28-30, 2016

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Sponsored Conference & Seminar

S.N	Details of the Proposal
1.	World Ramayana Conference 2016
2.	International Conference on Dravidan Linguistics 2016, University of Hyderabad
3.	Virat Hindi Kavi Sammelan, 2016, UK
4.	Hindi Kavi Sammelan, Nairobi, Kenya
5.	Indraprastha Festival, by Draupadi Trust
6.	Today's India; Culture, Society, state and Economy, August 22- 23, 2016
7.	Today's India; Culture, Society, state and Economy, August 22- 23, 2016
8.	International Seminar on 'Cultural Similarities Between Iran and India Subcontinent, Indigenous Cultural Fragmentation in an Era of Globalisation', January 18-19,2017
9.	Seminar on 'Sanskrit & Persian ...', Department of Persian, Gauhati University

Busts/Statues given to other Countries

During 2016 to March 2017

1. Bust of Rabindranath Tagore sent to Srilanka (April 2016)
2. Statue of Mahatma Gandhi sent to San Francisco (April 2016)
3. 6.6”Bronse statue of Mahatma Gandhi sent Pethhab Monastery, Ulaanbaatar in May 2016
4. Bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Villainous (June 2016)
5. Statue of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Accra, Ghana (June 2016)
6. Statue of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Pretoria in June 2016
7. Statue of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Kuwait in September 2016
8. Bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Warsaw (Poland) in November 2016
9. 5.0 feet stone Konark Wheel, 6.6 feet Stone Pedestal, 2.6 feet each of two figures of stone Devdasi sent to High Commission of India, Nicosia in November 2016
10. Bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Minister of State (MJ) office, MEA, South Block, New Delhi December 2016
11. Bust of Mahatma Gandhi sent to Santiago (Chile) in February 2016

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EXHIBITION- - Organized by ICCR

During April, 2016 – March, 2017

S.N	Period of Display	Name of Exhibition	Country
1.	April, 2016	Phulkari Exhibition	Slovenia
2-3.	May, 2016	Painting/Calligraphy Exhibition curated by Kamna Prasad	Iran
		'Digital Prints of the Artworks by Tagore	Slovenia
7-8	August, 2016	Churches and Christian Culture of Goa by Shri Benoy K. Behl	Slovakia
		Sari : The Magic of Indian Weaves bgy Smt. Rita Kapur Chisti	
17-18	February, 2017	Exhbition 'Sari' by Rita Kapur	Hungary
		Exhibition 'Scared India'by Amit Pasricha	Slovenia

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S.N	Period of Display	Name of Exhibition	Country
19-20	March, 2017	Exhibition of Indian tapestries and other mixed-medium art work by Dr. Sangeet Gandhi	Sweden
		Exhibition 'Rhythm of Colours	Venezuela

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Publications by ICCR During 2016-2017

The Council provided financial support of US \$ 10,000/- To Embassy of India, Bishkek towards publication of Indian Poems in Kyrgyz Language.

The Council also gave financial support of US \$ 8382 (equivalent to INR 5,68,048/-) to Prof. J. Ghendendaram for publishing a compilation of 13-14 volumes of all his translations from Hindi to Mongolian language done over last 30 years.

The Council also provided financial support of ISK5,00,000/- (EQUIVALENT TO Rs. 2,95,456/) for translation and publication book titled – ‘Freedom from the Known’ in Icelandic language by Jiddu Krishnamurti a renowned philosopher, speaker and writer. His work is greatly admired by Icelandic people and there are large followers of Jiddu Krishnamurti’s Philosophy.

Major Festivals organized by ICCR in India 2016- 2017

2nd International Ramayana Festival 2016

The Council organized the 2nd International Ramayana Festival 2016 from 10-11 October 2016 in New Delhi. The international groups from Thailand, Bhutan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and one Indian group participated in the Festival.

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3rd International Bhakti Festival 2016

The Council organized 3rd International Bhakti Festival 2016 from 4-11 November 2016. Apart from India, groups from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh participated.

7th International Dance & Music Festival 2017

The Council organized the 7th International Dance & Music Festival from 13-15 January 2017. apart from India, groups from Germany, Vietnam, Kazakstan, Guyana, South and Belarus performed in Delhi & different cities of India.

Contemporary Dance Festival 2017

The groups from Switzerzerland, Israel and Indian groups participated in Contemporary Dance on 28-29 March 2017 in collaboration with Teamwork Pvt. Ltd.

Outgoing Cultural Delegations by ICCR 2016-2017

The objective of the Outgoing Cultural Delegations Section (OCD) is to propagate Indian Culture by sponsoring performing art groups abroad. The Council showcases quality performances by Indian Culture troupes so that the people of the world get to see and appreciate the richness and diversity of Indian Culture.

During the period from 1st April, 2016 – 31st March 2017, the Council sponsored 166 groups including travel grants to 30 groups (90 air tickets) to 88 countries from 19 states of India to participate in various prestigious international festival and events.

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The cultural groups participated in prestigious international festivals like “Dance Festival of Classical Indian Dances” in Australia, “International Festival of Drums and Traditional Arts” in Egypt, “A Passage to India” in Qatar, “Namaste Festival” in Tajikistan, “ASEAN Ramayana Plus” in Thailand, “Kenyan national Music Festival” in Kenya, “India by the Nile Festival” in Egypt, “Ganga Swatchta Abhiyan – Ganga Avtaran” in UAE, “India Week” in Liechtenstein, “Mini India Festival” in Iran, “60th Anniversary celebrations of Diplomatic Relations between India and Spain” in Spain, “Southern Fruit Festival” in Vietnam, “India Arrival Day” in Trinidad & Tobago, “Days of Indian Culture Festival”, Ekaterinburg coinciding with “07th International Industrial Trade Fair Innoprom” in Russia, “Glasgow Mela” in U.K., “Yuva Mohotsav” in Morocco, “Summer Festival” in Egypt, “Festival of India” in Canada, “Spirit of India” in Australia, “Annual Gothenburg cultural festival” in Sweden, “47th IFF Liptal festival” in Czech Republic, “Annual Hibiscus Festival on the occasion of 60th Anniversary of ICC” in Fiji, “Annual Nallur Festival” in Sri Lanka, Kyrgyzstan, “India Week/Festival” in Zimbabwe, “Bangkok International Festival of Dance & Music” in Thailand, “Namaste India Festival” in Japan, “Samaa festival” in Egypt, “Festival of India” in Namibia, “Carthage Film Festival” in Tunisia, “Indian Culture Week” in China, “India LAC Conclave” in Mexico.

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Apart from this , the Council also handles Indian Cultural manifestations abroad by organizing major festivals. “ Namaste France” festival was inaugurated by His Excellency Dr. Mohan Kumar, Ambassador of India , France on 15 September 2016 in the prestigious venue La Villette , Paris. Sarod maestro Ustad Amjad Ali Khan and Kathak exponent Kumudini Lakhia and her troupe enthralled a crowd capacity of more than 2000 people in the inaugural ceremony. A total of 12 groups participated in it and performed in various cities across the France. Dr. L Subramaniam (Carnatic Violin) and Dr. Radha & Raja Reddy (Kuchipudi) performed at the closing ceremony of the festival.

‘Confluence – Festival of India in Australia’ was inaugurated at Sydney Opera House , Sydney, on 18 September 2016 by Hon’ble Minister of Culture (I/C) , Dr. Mahesh Sharma.

Apart from this , **Mini India Festival** organized in Iran from 20-25 May 2016 . During the period of the festival Council has sponsored 02 cultural groups i.e. Poet group led by Ms. Kamna Prasad and Sitar group led by Shri Nishat Khan.

MEA – ICCR Organized

Days of North East Culture Festival “ Namaste Nepal” organized in Nepal from 19-28 January 2017. During the period of the festival Council has sponsored 03 Folk groups and 01 Choir group i.e. Lily Veng Cultural & Drama Club of Shri H. Lalhmachhuana from Mizoram , Thoibi Manipuri Dance and Culture group led Shri Shamurailatpam Damukanta Sharma from Manipur , Shillong Chamber Choir group led by Shri Neil Nongkynrih from Assam and “Tetseo Sister” folk group led by Ms. Mutsevelu from Nagalond.