

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4143  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010  
REVIEW OF INDIAN CULTURAL CENTRES  
Sinh Dr. Sanjay;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the activities of Indian Cultural Centres located in other countries;
- (b) if so, the time when the review was undertaken last and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in the light of the outcome of the review?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (c): The activities undertaken by Indian Cultural Centres abroad include holding of classes in Indian dance and music, Hindi and Yoga, arranging performances by visiting groups from India, facilitating admission of foreign students into Indian Universities under Indian Council for Cultural Relations' (ICCR) scholarship Schemes, arranging seminars and conferences, reaching out to creative Centres in the country where they are located and running a regular programme of events to facilitate the promotion and projection of Indian Culture in all its facets. The entire range of activities of the Centres is monitored on a regular basis through an institutionalized system of monthly reporting by these Centres. The reports are carefully scrutinized at the ICCR. These Centres function as an integral part of Indian Missions abroad and hence their activities are also continuously monitored by the Head of Mission in the country concerned. Based on the ongoing process of monitoring and review, several steps have been taken for a continuous up-gradation in the quality, content and reach of the activities of the Cultural Centres. The activities of the Cultural Centres have resulted in a significant expansion of India's cultural outreach overseas.