

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2302  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010  
CULTURAL FESTIVALS  
Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

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

- (a) whether the Government is improving the relations with other countries with nomadic fairs and festivals and e-museums;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and
- (c) the allocation of funds made and spent for this purpose during each year and in each country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (c): Government is improving relations with other countries by promoting cultural exchanges and fostering and strengthening cultural relations between India and other countries. ICCR as an autonomous cultural organization under Ministry of External Affairs is the pre-eminent institution of cultural diplomacy and main sponsor of cultural exchanges. An important component to promote cultural exchanges is organizing of Festival of India in other countries. These Festivals are comprehensive and cover all aspects of Indian Culture. They consist of variety of many performances of Indian classical, contemporary, tribal and folk art, music and dance forms. They cover all aspects of India's rich cultural heritage.

The expenditure incurred on Festivals organized by ICCR year wise and country wise is given below:-

Years	Country's name	Funds allocated(in Rupees)	Funds spent(in Rupees)
2008-09	Nil	Nil	Nil
2009-10	Russia	5,00,00,000 (5 cr)	4,19,18,584
2010-11	China	3,00,00,000 (3 cr)	2,18,10,163 (till date)
	France (ongoing)	3,00,00,000 (3 cr)	2,33,63,644 (till date)