

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4468
ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012
INDIAN CULTURAL CENTRES ABROAD
Patil Shri A.T. Nana

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government undertakes periodical review of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations Centres functioning abroad;
- (b) if so, the details of such reviews undertaken during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise; and
- (c) the outcome of such reviews along with the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b) Yes, the Council monitors and reviews functioning of the cultural centers on the basis of periodic reports of the centers as well as feed back from the Head of the concerned Indian Mission. Apart from the periodic audit of the accounts of the cultural centers by the CAG audit, the Council has also instituted its own system of auditing the accounts and performance of the cultural centers through Internal Audit. 21 cultural centers at Tokyo, Beijing, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Johannesburg, Durban, Port Louis, Cairo, Jakarta, Moscow, Dushanbe, Tashkent, Astana, Colombo, Dhaka, Kathmandu, Thimphu, London, Paramaribo, Port of Spain, Georgetown were audited by the ICCR's Internal Audit Team during last three years and 4 Centres during current year i.e. Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, Mexico & Sao Paulo.

(c) 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.