

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1605

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013

PROMOTION OF HINDI ABROAD

Nishad Capt.(Retd.) Jainarayan Prasad; Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of delegations which visited foreign countries for the promotion of Hindi during the last three years;
- (b) the extent to which success has been achieved as a result thereof; and
- (c) the year-wise expenses incurred by the Government on such visits?

Answer

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

(a) Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) did not send any delegation abroad for promotion of Hindi. However, on request from our Missions abroad, local organizations in various countries and MEA, ICCR has been sponsoring/supporting visits of Hindi poets, writers, critics to take part in the events like World Hindi Conference, Kavi Sammelans, Workshops and Seminars. Statement showing the list of persons sponsored by ICCR for such events is enclosed at Annexure-1.

(b) The mandate of ICCR has been to promote Indian culture abroad. The Hindi language is an integral part of India's culture and therefore is very much within ICCR's mandate. As a consequence of the visits sponsored by ICCR, person to person interaction has been generated, Indian authors and critics working in Hindi have gained international recognition, and their individual interactions have led to more collaborative efforts in the promotion of Hindi. The reports on the visits of such groups have been positive.

(c) Details of year wise expenditure incurred by the Council for the last three years is enclosed at Annexure-2.