

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will get a separate listening to it. Question No. 485.

*485. The Questioner **Shri Bhagirathi Majhi** was absent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are there any supplementaries?

SARDAR SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA: Yes, Sir.

Culture developing centres opened abroad

*485. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been spending huge funds for promoting our Indian culture at different Centres in various countries;

(b) if so, the total number of this kind of culture centre that have been opened abroad and the total amount being spent on their activities per month/year/centre, name-wise details thereof;

(c) if so, the total number of administrative officers/directors/any other individuals who are privately appointed by the department and the criteria adopted for appointing them, since these centres were opened abroad;

(d) whether deputed artisans/singers/yoga gurus are getting the same facilities like administrative officers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) ICCR has embarked on an ambitious expansion plan for effective projection of India's soft power abroad. This plan includes opening of 15 new Cultural Centres in different parts of the world. Government of India has allocated additional financial resources to ICCR for this purpose.

(b) At present, ICCR maintains 26 Cultural Centres in different parts of the world. Out of these, five were opened in financial year 2009-10. Systematic efforts are also being made to strengthen our existing Cultural Centres. A list of Cultural Centres and budgetary allocation for each of these Centres during 2009-10 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Total number of officers appointed in administrative positions as Director/ Dy. Director to man Indian Cultural Centres abroad at present is 29. Appointments are largely made from the ranks of ICCR and MEA officials and some individuals are also inducted from outside. These appointments are made on the basis of merit of the candidates, with the approval of President, ICCR and Foreign Service Board.

(d) and (e) ICCR deputed experts in Indian classical dance and music, yoga and Hindi as teachers at Indian Cultural Centres abroad. They are provided similar facilities as administrative officers in our Missions abroad.

Statement

List of Cultural Centres and budgetary allocation for each centre

(A) List of existing Indian Cultural Centres

1. The Nehru Centre, London (U.K.).
2. Indian Cultural Centre, Berlin, Germany.
3. Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre, Moscow, Russia.
4. Indian Cultural Centre, Astana, Kazakhstan.
5. Indian Cultural Centre, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
6. Indian Cultural Centre, Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
7. Indian Cultural Centre, Kabul, Afghanistan.
8. Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
9. Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre, Jakarta, Indonesia.
10. Sub-Indian Cultural Centre, Bali, Indonesia.
11. Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture, Port Louis, Mauritius
12. Maulana Azad Centre for Indian Culture, Cairo, Egypt.
13. Indian Cultural Centre, Durban, South Africa.
14. Indian Cultural Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
15. Indian Cultural Centre, Georgetown, Guyana.
16. Mahatma Gandhi Institute For Cultural Cooperation, Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago.
17. Indian Cultural Centre, Paramaribo, Suriname.
18. Indian Cultural Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
19. Indian Cultural Centre, Tokyo, Japan
20. Indian Cultural Centre, Suva, Fiji.

21. Sub-Indian Cultural Centre, Lautoka, Fiji.
22. Indian Cultural Centre, Kathmandu, Nepal.
23. Indian Cultural Wing, Beijing, China.
24. Indian Cultural Centre, Bangkok, Thailand
25. Indian Cultural Centre, Abu Dhabi, Dubai.
26. Indian Cultural Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

(B) Budget for Indian Cultural Centres

S.No.	Name of Centres	Budget for 2009-10 (Figures in Lacs of Rupees)
1	2	3
1.	ICC, Georgetown	135.00
2.	ICC, Paramaribo	155.00
3.	IGCIC, Port Louis	220.00
4.	JNICC, Jakarta	
5	Cultural Centre, Bali	294.00
6	JNCC, Moscow	393.00
7.	Tagore Centre, Berlin	205.00
8.	MAGIC, Cairo	145.00
9.	TNC, London	380.00
10.	ICC, Tashkent	134.00
11.	ICC, Astana	165.00
12.	ICC, Johannesburg	70.00
13.	ICC, Durban	72.00
14	MGICC, Port of Spain	175.00
15	ICC, Colombo	70.00
16	ICC, Kuala Lumpur	204.65

1	2	3
17.	ICC, Dushanbe	70.00
18.	ICC, Suva	130.00
19.	Cultural Centre, Lautoka, Fiji	
20.	ICC, Dhaka	160.01
21.	ICC, Tokya	238.92
22.	ICC, Beijing	179.00
23.	ICC, Kathmandu	148.62
24.	ICC, Kabul	70.00
25.	ICC, Bangkok	83.09
26.	ICC, Abu Dhabi	07.01
Total		3994.76

सरदार सुखदेव सिंह ढीढसा : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदया से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इन्होंने जो 26 सेंटर खोले हैं, उनमें से कुछ कंट्रीज में दो-दो सेंटर दिए हैं, जब कि वे छोटी कंट्रीज् हैं और जो बहुत important countries हैं, जैसे, यूएसए, कनाडा, आदि, वहां पर कोई सेंटर नहीं है, तो यह जो सेंटर खोले जाते हैं, इसके लिए उन्होंने क्या criteria रखा है? चूंकि इस देश में बहुत-से cultures हैं और बहुत languages भी हैं, इसलिए मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या कुछ states के cultures का ही प्रचार किया जाता है या सभी states के cultures को इकट्ठा रखा जाता है?

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Sir, we have 26 Cultural Centres in the world as of today. Now, 16 more are being opened. Yes, there are Cultural Centres that are coming up in Washington and the other countries that Shri Dhindsa has mentioned. Sir, five have been opened this year and another 15 will be opened later. In some countries where there is more activity and more Diaspora, we have sub-centres. We have three sub-centres so far which are existing.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, unfortunately, the message in the world still is that India is a country of snake-charmers, beggars and astrologers. These Cultural Centres are doing a lot to change the image of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would consider using such Centres as one-stop-library of classical and folk Indian music, subtitle cinema, prints of modern and classical Indian paintings and modern Indian literature in translated form and the local language of that country to engage a target group in the host countries.

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that these Cultural Centres are doing very good work in promoting the Indian culture abroad. There are not only dance and music programmes, we have lectures, talks, seminars, conferences, etc., not only in the cities where they are located but also in the other cities in the same country. There are regular screenings of Indian films and we do have cultural troupes with the help of teachers and local students that stage performances throughout the country so that we can take our very rich heritage and culture to all parts of the countries where the Cultural Centres are existing.

श्री विनय कटियार : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह देश बहुभाषी और बहु-संस्कृति वाला है और उन्होंने जो 26 सेंटर्स खोले हैं, क्या वहां पर वेद, पुराण, गीता, कुरान, गुरुग्रंथ साहिब, महापुरुषों, आदि के विषयों में भी कहीं कोई जानकारी दी जाती है? जिनको हम अपने देश में पूजा का ग्रंथ मानते हैं, विदेशों में researchers इन पर रिसर्च करके काफी आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। तो इन केंद्रों पर क्या इन विषयों की जानकारी भी देने की कोई व्यवस्था है? अगर नहीं है, तो क्या आप और धन allot करते हुए इसका विस्तार करेंगी?

श्रीमती परनीत कौर : सर, मैं कहना चाह रही हूँ कि एक activity जो इन cultural centres में है, वह है कि हम अपनी भाषा में प्रोग्राम रखें। वहां के ICCR के माध्यम से विश्व में एक हिंदी चेंबर भी हमने रखवाई है, जो हमारी संस्कृति में सब कुछ सिखाते हैं। योगा क्लासेज और जो हमारे कल्चर की क्लासेज हैं, उनमें हम सब सिखाते हैं।

श्री विनय कटियार : सर, मैंने कुछ और पूछा था। सभापति जी, जो हमारी संस्कृति का अंग है, हमारे जो धार्मिक ग्रंथ हैं, मैंने तो उनके विषय में प्रश्न पूछा था कि क्या इसके साथ-साथ कहीं उनका भी अध्ययन होता है? क्या इस दृष्टिकोण से भी आप अपने देश की संस्कृति को विदेशों में देने का काम करेंगी? इसको फैलाने का काम करेंगी? कल्चर में डांस हो रहा है, यह तो हम लोग जान रहे हैं, लेकिन इस डांस के अलावा भी कुछ हो रहा है या नहीं?

श्रीमती परनीत कौर : यह जो आपने सवाल किया है, मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि अपने देश के संबंध में हम जो lectures करवाते हैं, seminars करवाते हैं, उसमें हम यह सब्जेक्ट दे सकते हैं कि इसके साथ हमारी जो दूसरी संस्कृति है, उसको लोग जानें। इसके अलावा जो हिंदी चेंबर हैं, संस्कृत की चेंबर हैं, यह भी हम वहां सिखाते हैं।

Cyber Espionage

*486.SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that crucial data has possibly been lost to Chinese hackers who attacked computers at the Ministry of Defence, External Affairs and National Security Council Secretariat and also of some independent Defence analysts;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;