

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2737
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2024

**SHOWCASING ODISHA'S RICH HERITAGE
THROUGH CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME**

2737. Shri Debashish Samantaray:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government has organized any cultural exchange programmes to showcase Odisha's rich heritage, such as Odissi dance, Pattachitra art, and tribal culture on international platforms;
- (b) The number of such events held in the last three years and their impact on global recognition of Odisha's culture; and
- (c) The future plans to expand cultural diplomacy initiatives involving Odisha?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Culture implements "Global Engagement Scheme" to promote India's rich cultural heritage and enhance India's image in the global arena in a concerted manner. Under the Scheme, the Festival of India (Fol) is organized abroad to promote people to people connect and bilateral cultural contacts. The artists, including the artists from Odisha, from diverse cultural fields such as Folk Art including Folk Music, Folk Dance, Folk Theatre & Puppetry, Classical and Traditional Dance, Experimental/ Contemporary Dance, Classical/ Semi Classical Music, Theatre etc. perform in the 'Festivals of India' abroad.

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), an autonomous organization under Ministry of External Affairs, promotes Indian culture worldwide including Odisha's culture, through its Cultural Centres and Missions/Posts abroad.

The details of events held by ICCR during the last three years for global recognition of Odisha's culture are given at **Annexure I**. The events organized help to popularize and create interest about Indian art & culture and foster closer friendship between India and other countries.

(c) ICCR has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Government of Odisha on 27 September 2024 to promote Odisha's culture abroad.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED
QUESTION NO. 2737 FOR 19.12.2024 REGARDING “SHOWCASING ODISHA’S RICH
HERITAGE THROUGH CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME”**

2021-22

| S. No. | Particular | Country | Date |
|--------|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | 12-Member Gotipua group “Baba Gorekhnath Gotipua Dance Association” led by Shri Chandramani Pradhan to participate in “Bagamoyo International Festival” in Tanzania and to participate in the International Arts and Crafts Expo in Nigeria | Tanzania and Nigeria | 27 October – 06 November 2021 |

2022-23

| | | | |
|----|---|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2. | 10-Member “Vande Bhartam” Odissi dance group “Nrutyanilaya” led by Ms. Swapna Rani Sinha, Odisha to perform on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) | Austria | 17-23 June, 2022 |
| 3. | 06-Member Odissi dance group led by Ms. Anu Narayan, Maharashtra to perform on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) | Vietnam | 12-21 August, 2022 |
| 4. | 06-Member Odissi dance group led by Ms. Kunjlata Mishra, Uttar Pradesh, to perform at SARANG Festival | South Korea | 29- September-10 October, 2022 |
| 5. | 08-Member Odissi dance Group led by Ms. Ranjana Gauhar, Delhi, to perform at India Week & National Day Celebrations | Dominican Republic | 24 January -01 February, 2023 |
| 6. | Odissi Dance teacher-cum-performer | Bali | 21 November 2022-01 November 2024 |
| 7. | Odissi Dance teacher-cum-performer | Madrid | 28 September 2022-30 June 2025 |

2023-24

| | | | |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 8. | 08 member Sankalp Odissi Dance group led by Kasturi Pattanaik to give cultural performances | El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala | 24 June -04 July 2023 |
| 9. | Odissi dance group led by Aniruddha Das to perform in Fol in Russia | Russia | 25 September-7 October 2023 |

| | | | |
|-----|---|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 10. | 8-Member Odissi dance group – Gunjan Das Academy led by Meera Das to perform on the occasion of Republic Day Celebrations | Indonesia | 23-29 January, 2024 |
| 11. | 05-member Odissi dance Group led by Leema Bhol to perform on the occasion of 60 th Anniversary of Celebration of India – Peru Diplomatic Relation. | Peru | 25-30 January, 2024 |
| 12. | 8-Member Odissi dance Group led by Namrata Mehta to perform on the occasion of Republic Day Celebrations | Sri Lanka | 23-29 January, 2024 |
| 13. | 8-member Odissi Dance group led by Kakali Bose to give Cultural performances on occasion of ITEC Day Celebration | Nepal | 21-27 March, 2024 |
| 14. | Odissi Dance teacher-cum-performer | Hungary | 10 November 2023-31 December 2025 |
