

The Ministry of Culture deals with both the tangible and intangible heritage of India. However, on a larger scale, it also addresses issues relating to national identity in conjunction with several other Ministries and Departments such as Tourism, Education, Textiles and External Affairs. Tangible and intangible heritage encompass several strands including monuments, sights and archaeology; anthropology and ethnology; folk and tribal art; literature; handicrafts; archives; libraries; performing arts including music, dance and drama; and visual arts in the form of paintings, sculpture and graphics.

Plan programmes of the Ministry of Culture relating to promotion, preservation and conservation of the cultural heritage of the country are implemented through a network of 2 attached offices, 6 subordinate offices and 26 autonomous organizations under its control and through 16 schemes directly operated by the Ministry for promotion and dissemination of art and culture. Its activities and programmes have been organized under eleven broad heads. They are Promotion and Dissemination, Archaeology, Museums, Archives, Anthropology, Performing Arts, Libraries, Buddhist and Tibetan Institutes, Activities for North Eastern Region etc.

The goals and objectives as well as policy framework and vision of various major organizations working under the Ministry are given as under:

1. **Secretariat Social Service:** Provides for expenditure on Secretariat of the Ministry

Central Secretariat Library caters to the needs of Government Officials, Academies, Researchers and serious readers with a collection of over six lakh volumes in a printed form. In addition, it has over one lakh documents in a non-printed form. In addition to the Main Branch at Shastri Bhawan it has two different Branches, namely, Tulsi Sadan Library for regional language documents at Bhawalpur House and R.K. Puram Library catering to the needs of the wards of the Government officials in the matter of the Text Books. CSL has accomplished the task of developing machines readable catalogue for its printed collection. It is also in the process of accomplishing two major tasks of digitizing the Government of India Gazette and Commission and Committee Reports, which runs into about 40 lakh pages. CSL is in the process of placing all its services on the web site through NIC, which will include the OPAC, full text documents of the Gazettes and Commission and Committee Reports along with CSL publications, linkages for electronic publications emanating from different Ministries and Departments. It will also act as a portal for Government of India Libraries.

2. **Zonal Cultural Centres:** Zonal Cultural Centres have been conceptualized with the aim of projecting cultural kinships, which transcend territorial boundaries. The idea is to arouse and deepen awareness of the local cultures and to show how these merge

into zonal identities and eventually into the rich diversity of India's composite culture. These centers have already established themselves as a premier agency in the field of promotion, preservation and dissemination of culture in the entire country. Apart from promoting performing arts, they are also making a significant contribution in the associated field of literary and visual arts.

The Seven Zonal Cultural Centres established under this Scheme are: (i) North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala; (ii) Eastern

Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata; (iii) South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur; (iv) West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur; (v) North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Allahabad; (vi) North East Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur and (vii) South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur. The participation of various states in more than one Zonal Cultural Centre according to their cultural linkage is a special feature of the composition of the Zonal Centres.

3. **Sangeet Natak Akademi:** The Sangeet Natak Akademi was set up in 1953 for the promotion of performing arts. The Akademi acts at the national level for the promotion and growth of Indian music, dance and drama; for the maintenance of standards of training in the performing arts; for the revival, preservation, documentation and dissemination of materials relating to various forms of music, dance and drama and for the recognition of outstanding artists.
4. **Lalit Kala Akademi:** Lalit Kala Akademi is a national organization to foster and co-ordinate activities in the sphere of creative visual arts and promote the cultural unity of the country.
5. **Sahitya Akademi:** Sahitya Akademi has been set up for the development of Indian literature and to set high literary standards to foster and co-ordinate literary activities in all the Indian languages and to promote through them cultural unity of the country.
6. **Festival of India:** The Festival of India abroad and reciprocal festivals of other countries in India was started in 1982 with the objective of projecting India's rich cultural heritage and contemporary creativity abroad as well as bringing to the people of India a panorama of the life, tradition and culture of a foreign country in a comprehensive way to promote better understanding of the dynamics of continuity and change, tradition and innovation, values and perceptions of each other. Moreover, these festivals promote Indian Culture and traditions as well as attract tourists from foreign countries by familiarizing the people with various tourist places in India and multiple facets of Indian culture. The Festival of India have so far been held in the UK, USA, Japan, Sweden, Germany, China and Thailand. The Festival of France, USSR, Japan Sweden, China and Germany were held in India on reciprocal basis.

During the year 2006-07, the proposals for holding Festival of India in Japan, Ukraine, South Korea & Brazil are under consideration.

7. **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts:** IGNCA was established to commemorate the memory of the former Prime Minister, Late Smt. Indira Gandhi. The Centre was launched in November 1985 and was later constitute into an autonomous Trust. The IGNCA has been given corpus fund for running the academic programmes and meeting its administrative expenditure out of the interest earning. Besides, funds have also been given to the Centre for its building complex.
8. **National School of Drama:** NSD, which was established in 1959 imparts training and propagates dramatics in the country.
9. **National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi:** Founded in 1954, the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) is a unique institution that represents the evolution and pictorial transformation in the visual arts in India over the last century. The main objectives of the NGMA are to create an understanding and sensitivity among the Indian Public towards the visual and plastic arts in general, and to promote the development of contemporary Indian art in particular. The NGMA maintains a functional branch at Jehangir Public Hall at Mumbai and another branch at Bangalore is being established. The construction of new wing of NGMA, New Delhi undertaken by CPWD is likely to be completed during the current financial year.

The collection of NGMA built up primarily through purchase and gifts, comprises 17,813 paintings, sculptures, graphics and photographs dating back to 1857 and represents about 1742 contemporary artists from all over the country.
10. **The Asiatic Society, Kolkata:** The Asiatic Society founded in 1784 by Sir. William Jones is a unique institution having served as fountainhead of all literary and scientific activities. The Government has declared the Society as an institution of national importance.
11. **Centre for Cultural Resources and Training :** CCRT is an autonomous organization for linking culture with education. The Centre organizes a variety of programmes to achieve specific objectives for enrichment of Indian educational system.
12. **Assistance to Dance, Drama and Theatre Ensembles:** Under this scheme, assistance in the form of salary grant and production grant is given to well established voluntary cultural organizations for promoting the cultural heritage of the country.
13. **Gandhi Peace Prize:** As part of the celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Government of India announced the institution of an annual International Gandhi Peace Prize for social, economic and political transformation through non-

violence and other Gandhian methods. The recipient is selected by a Jury, headed by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. The prize carries an award of Rs.1.00 crore or equivalent in foreign currency, a plaque and a citation.

14. **The National Cultural Fund:** NCF, set up under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890 seeks financial support of the State Governments, statutory bodies, private corporate sector, societies, individuals and even from the United Nations and its associate bodies, for cultural-related endeavors. The provision is for corpus contribution by the Government of India.
15. **Centenaries and Anniversaries Celebration -:** A National Committee under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister has been constituted to chalk out the programmes in connection with the celebrations for 2550 Anniversary of the Mahaparinirvana of Lord Buddha.
16. **Archaeological Survey of India:** The Archaeological Survey of India was set up in 1861 with the primary object of surveying antiquarian remains in this country and their study. Its main functions are preservation and environmental development of centrally protected monuments and sites, chemical treatment and preservation of monuments and antiquities, exploration and excavation of ancient sties, specialized study of inscription and various phases of Indian architecture, maintenance of Archaeological Museums, Operation of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 and research and training in different areas of Archaeology.
17. **National Archives of India:** The National Archives of India is the Central Repository of non-current records of enduring value belonging to the Ministers and Departments of the Government of India. It also acquires and preserves private papers of eminent Indians and microfilm copies of records of Indian interests from abroad. It provides facilities for historical research and promotes archives keeping in the country on scientific lines through the School of Archival Studies, which runs many courses in this discipline. It has regional office at Bhopal and record centers at Jaipur, Pondicherry, and Bhubaneswar.
18. **National Museum:** A subordinate under Ministry of Culture, it is one of the premier museums in the country established in 1949. The main activities of the museums include (i) Bringing out publication on art and culture; (ii) Acquisition and Conservation of Art Objects; (iii) Organizing exhibitions; (iv) Production of replicas of masterpieces of India sculptures and bronzes; (v) Audio visual and other educational programmes; (vi) teaching of history of art and conservation and (vii) Setting up of Reprography center and presenting exhibitions in India and abroad.

19. **National Council of Science Museums:** To popularize science and technology by organizing exhibitions and seminars, training programmes for science teachers, students, young entrepreneurs, technicians etc. The Council has national level centers at Kolkata, Bangalore, Mumbai and Delhi; besides, small centers at 22 other places. It develops science centers all over the country.
20. **Anthropological Survey of India:** Established in 1945, it conducts bio-cultural investigation on Indian population, collects and preserves documents of scientific interest about the people of India.
21. **Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi:** The Museum is responsible for collection of books, newspapers, unpublished references, private papers, photographs, film takes and also translation of important papers relating to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It is also responsible for preservation of papers of the National Leaders of Modern India.
22. **Indian Museum:** Indian Museum an autonomous organization of Ministry of Culture, inter-alias, engaged in re-organization and renovation of galleries and also in obtaining ethnographic specimen and techno socio and economic cultural data. It houses a large number of ancient collections of artifacts and sculptures.
23. **Salar Jung Museum:** It is engaged in conservation, preservation, acquisition of art objects of historical importance and educational activities such as exhibitions, popular lectures, gallery talks, seminars etc.
24. **Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal:** IGRMS, is a Museum conceived as a growing movement to depict the story of human kind in time and space highlighting human biological and cultural evolution with special reference to India and to revitalize the living Museum of the country with its varied tapestry of cultures and community knowledge systems. It is being developed around general anthropology as its cultural discipline and it seeks to attain its objective by setting (1) indoor museum with extensive galleries and (2) outdoor complex permanent open-air exhibition.
25. **Other Programmes:** This provides for Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata that is an autonomous organization and is a repository of contemporary art relevant to a period depicting art history of freedom struggle. National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property, a subordinate office, was established in 1976 to carry out research in the methods of conservation of cultural property, provide technical assistance to museums, archeological departments and others.
26. **National Library, Kolkata:** It serves as a prominent repository of all reading and information materials produced in India as well as abroad concerning India. It has a rich collection of Persian, Sanskrit, Arabic and Tamil manuscripts and also rare books.

It is the recipient library under the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act, 1954 and the repository library in South Asia.

27. **Delhi Public Library:** Established in 1951, it has been providing free library services to the citizens of Delhi. It is a recipient library under the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act, 1954.
28. **Raja Ram Mohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata:** Established in 1972, it aims to promote and support public library movements in the country by providing adequate library services and by developing reading habits all over the country.
29. **National Mission for Manuscripts:** The National Mission for Manuscripts was launched in February 2003. This Mission aims at cataloguing, conserving and collecting the invaluable manuscripts from all over the country. The Mission has already established a network of Manuscripts Resources Centres, and Conservation Centres.
30. **Other Libraries:** These include Central Reference Library, Kolkata, Central Library, Mumbai, Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna; which is nearly 100 years old and has a rich collection of old and rare books and manuscripts; Rampur Raza Library, Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library Society, Thanjavur; and Connemara Library, Chennai, etc.
31. **Provision for Project / Schemes of NE Area and Sikkim:** The provision is for implementing projects / scheme for North Eastern Region and Sikkim.
32. **Building Projects in respect of Attached/ Sub-ordinate offices of the Ministry.**