



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT SCHEME

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Ministry of Culture implements “Global Engagement Scheme” to promote India’s rich cultural heritage internationally and enhance India’s global image. The primary objectives of the Scheme include strengthening cultural ties with foreign nations, promoting bilateral cultural contacts, projecting India’s cultural identity on the world stage and encouraging inbound tourism. The Global Engagement Scheme has the following three components:

- I. Festival of India (FoI)
- II. Grant in aid to Indo Foreign Friendship Cultural Societies
- III. Contributions to Inter-governmental organizations

Components (I) & (II) of the scheme are administered through Indian Missions abroad to achieve its objectives.

Under the Scheme, Ministry of Culture has empanelled Artists/Groups under various art forms to participate in Festival of India abroad. Artists are selected from the empanelled list for performing in the Festivals of India abroad. Currently, 627 Artists/Groups are empanelled with the Ministry. Out of these, 119 Artists/Groups are empanelled in Folk Arts.

Till now, 62 FoIs have been held in different countries. The countries where Indian folk arts and culture have been showcased are Senegal, Ghana, Laos, Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga, Vanuatu, Nauru, Tuvalu and Cook Island, Trinidad and Tobago, UK, Turkmenistan, Hungary, Denmark, Japan, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Guinea, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Tunisia, Qatar, Croatia, Kuwait and France.

Total 2348 artists have participated in the FoIs till July, 2025.

Existing Global Engagement Scheme is valid for 15th Finance Commission Cycle.

This information was given by Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today

M Annadurai

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