



ICCR
Indian Council for
Cultural Relations

SCHOLARSHIP MANUAL

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-22





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Preface

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), an autonomous organization, was established in 1950 with the primary objectives of establishing, reviving and strengthening cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries.

It aims, as enunciated in the Memorandum of Association, are:

- To participate in the formulations and implementations of policies and programme relating to India's cultural relations with other countries;
- To foster and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries;
- To promote cultural exchanges with other countries and peoples;
- To establish and develop relations with national and international organizations in the field of culture.

ICCR has been playing an equally important role in the field of education for international students in India. It offers a number of scholarships to foreign nationals to pursue higher studies in Indian Universities and other recognized institutes of higher education and learning.

Scholarships and Welfare Of International Students

India has been an attraction to the foreign students since ancient times. Scholarships are a great initiative to encourage foreign nationals to study and appreciate ancient Indian systems of medicine, performing arts and culture, and also contemporary subjects, including science, technology, liberal arts, engineering, agriculture and law. These are also a way to create an outreach - a feeling of goodwill about India and to apprise the world that India has to offer in cultural and academic fields.

Through its scholarship programme, people from different parts of the world have been immensely benefitted. On the one hand, ICCR helped various countries in capacity-building by providing scholarships to foreign students in the professional fields like engineering, agriculture, management etc. and, on the other hand, promoted Indian culture by providing scholarships to pursue courses in Indian dance, music, yoga, ayurveda and Indian languages. Many of ICCR Alumni have achieved position of influence in their respective countries and have been serving as India's goodwill Ambassadors.

Salient Features of ICCR Scholarships

India is known as an education hub attracting international students from all over the world. India's diversity and vibrant history offer a broad range of options for students. With access both to such rich and diverse as well as a rapidly growing country on the cutting edge of the technological revolution, studying in India has much to offer, whether an applicant interests in Engineering, IT, Philosophy, Politics or in Classics and many more branches of study.

As a major promoter and disseminator of culture, one of the most important tasks of ICCR is to promote international mobility. For this, the ICCR's main activity is to develop a scholarship programme for international students so as to promote cultural and academic exchanges.

ICCR with a mandate of administering scholarship programmes of Government of India annually awards about 3,500 scholarships under 23 different schemes to foreign students from about 180 countries. Amongst these 23 schemes, six are funded by ICCR from its own grant and others are administered on behalf of MEA and Ministry of AYUSH.

The courses offered for studies are for under-graduation, post-graduation and M. Phil /PhD levels. In every academic year ICCR holds about 7000 plus foreign students who are studying at various Central/State University, Institutes, NITs and Agricultural Institutions etc.

Students have a wide range of options to choose from any kind of courses - not only under-graduate, post-graduate and doctoral programmes, but also professional courses, including thematic subjects like engineering, pharmacy, accountancy, business administration, management, and also culture-related courses such as Indian dance, music, painting, sculpture, and so on.

Salient Features of ICCR Scholarships

To make foreign students feel at home and bring in contact with Indian families, the Council arranges cultural immersion programmes, orientation programmes for the newly-arrived students and also solicit participation of international students in ICCR's cultural activities. The Council also celebrates Indian festivals like Republic Day, Independence Day, Diwali, Holi, etc.

Scholarship Programmes are managed by 18 Regional Offices ensuring welfare of the foreign students spread across all over India.

ADMISSION 2 ALUMNI (A2A) PORTAL www.a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in

The admissions and scholarships are offered through ICCR's "Admissions to Alumni (A2A Portal)". The portal has greatly streamlined the scholarship work

With the introduction of the A2A portal from the academic year 2018-19, ICCR scholarship programmes are not only digitized for aspiring foreign students but also have become effortless and transparent offering wide choices to the students as such.

The portal contains all relevant information regarding ICCR-sponsored scholarship schemes and other information like name of the Indian universities, courses offered by them and guidelines of scholarship schemes.

ICCR Scholarship At A Glance (Academic Year 2021-22)

7000⁺

students from 120 countries are studying in India under ICCR scholarship schemes

3500⁺

scholarships are on offer

7500⁺

applications for scholarship were received

3087

Admissions of foreign students were confirmed

2419

students accepted scholarship from 74 countries (as of 1 Feb 2021)

1029

new students for UG courses

1226

new students for PG courses

164

new students for Ph.D courses

100⁺

subjects studied by foreign students that includes: Agriculture, Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnology, Business, Classical Indian Dance, Music, Commerce, Economics, Engineering IT; Indian languages, Law, Liberal arts, Management, Philosophy, Political Science, Yoga and so on.

200⁺

universities and institution where ICCR scholars are studying

18

Regional Offices of ICCR in different cities of India and headquarters at New Delhi looks after welfare of foreign students

6

cities of India has the major concentration of foreign students - Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Delhi, Hyderabad and Pune

ICCR Scholarship Schemes

General Scholarship Scheme - For the nationals of 55 countries, namely, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Cambodia, Fiji, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Saint Denis Reunion Island, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Suriname, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste (Indonesia), Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, UAE, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen. It is now extended to 60 additional countries.

Bangladesh Scholarship Scheme and India Scholarship (Bangladesh) Scheme - For the nationals of Bangladesh

Border Guard Bangladesh Scholarship Scheme - For the nationals of Bangladesh, who are children of personnel serving with Border Guard of Bangladesh.

Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme - For the nationals of Commonwealth countries.

Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme, Maulana Azad Scholarship Scheme and Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship Scheme – For the nationals of Sri Lanka.

Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) / Education Exchange Programme (EEP) Scholarship Scheme - For the nationals of 29 countries namely, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, France, Guyana, Hungarian, Indonesia, Israel, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Norway, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen.

ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture – For the nationals of all the countries to pursue courses of Indian dance, music, sculpture, Indian theatre, cuisine etc. International airfare is available to all scholars.

Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme – For the nationals of Nepal, to pursue courses of PG level and above.

AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for BIMSTEC Countries – For the nationals of 6 countries namely, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand to pursue courses in Indian traditional, medical systems AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy).

AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for Malaysia – For the nationals of Malaysia to pursue courses in Indian traditional, medical systems AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy).



ICCR Scholarship Schemes

AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for Non-BIMSTEC Countries

- For the nationals of 100 countries namely, Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Spain, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Oman, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe to pursue courses in Indian traditional, medical systems AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy).

AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for South East Asian Region (SEAR) Countries

– For nationals of SEAR countries namely, Bangladesh, Bhutan, DPR Korea, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Thailand and Timor-Leste to pursue courses in Indian traditional, medical systems AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy).

Aid to Bhutan Scholarship Scheme – For the nationals of Bhutan.

Aid to Maldives Scholarship Scheme – For the nationals of Maldives.

Aid to Mongolia Scholarship Scheme – For the nationals of Mongolia.

Mekong Ganga Co-operation Scholarship Scheme – For the nationals of 5 countries namely, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Special Scholarship Scheme for Afghan National (SSSAN) – For the nationals of Afghanistan.

Scholarship Scheme for Children / Dependents of Afghan National Defence & Security Forces – For the nationals of Afghanistan, who are children / dependents of Afghan National Defence & Security Forces.



Country-wise Allocation Of Scholarship Slots

S.NO.	SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME	SLOTS	COURSES OFFERED
1.	General Scholarship Scheme	580	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
2.	CEP / EEP Scholarship Scheme	152	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
3.	Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme	26	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
4.	ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture	100	Dance, Music, Indian Theatre, Cuisine, Yoga/Art courses
5.	Bangladesh Scholarship Scheme for Bangladeshi nationals	100	UG, PG, Ph.D./Post Doctoral
6.	Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme for Sri Lankan nationals	60	UG courses
7.	Africa Scholarship Scheme	908	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
8.	Mekong Ganga Co-operation (MGC) Scholarship Scheme	50	UG, PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
9.	* Scholarship Scheme for Children/Dependents of Afghan National Defence & Security Forces		UG, PG courses
10.	Special Scholarship Scheme for Afghan National	1000	PG, M Phil, Ph.D. courses
11.	Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme	64	UG, PG, Ph.D. courses
12.	Aid to Mongolia Scholarship Scheme	20	Under Graduate (only Engg. courses)
13.	Aid to Bhutan Scholarship Scheme	20	Under Graduate (only Engg. courses)
14.	Aid to Maldives Scholarship Scheme	20	UG, PG, Ph.D. courses
15.	India Scholarship (Bangladesh) Scheme	100	UG, PG, Ph.D (General Courses excluding Engineering)
16.	Scholarship to Wards of Border Guard Bangladesh	20	Under Graduate (only Engg. courses)
17.	Nehru Memorial Scholarship Scheme	60	Only Under Graduate Courses

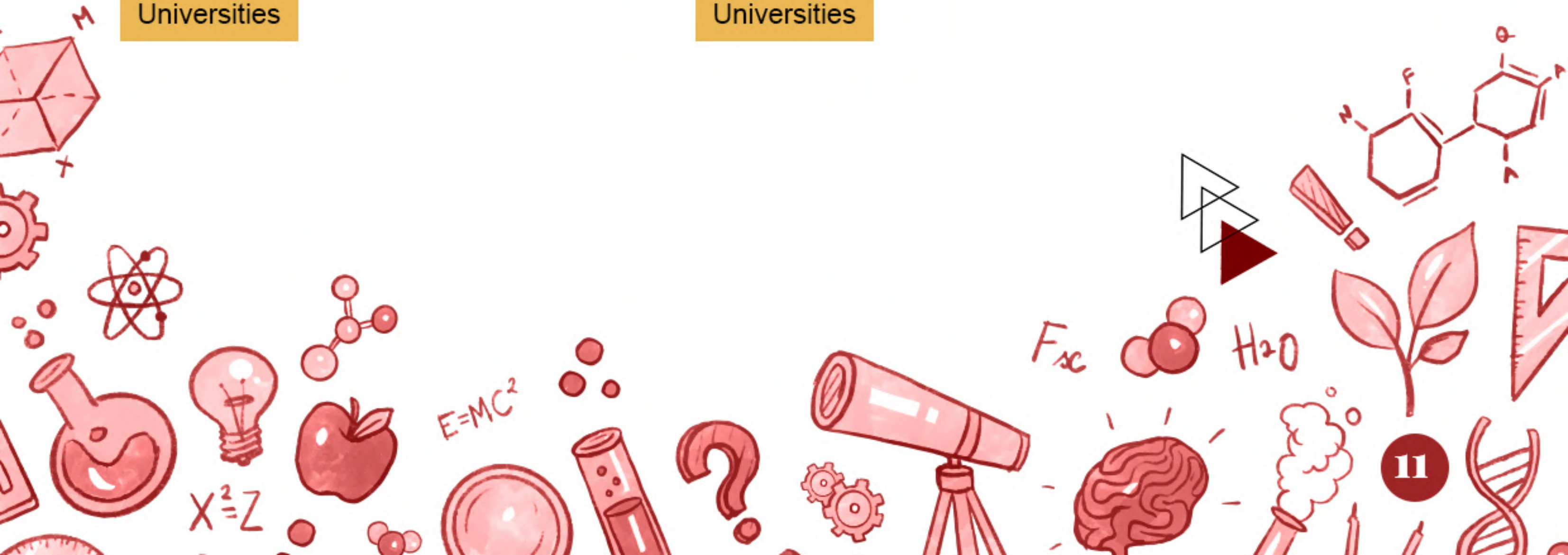
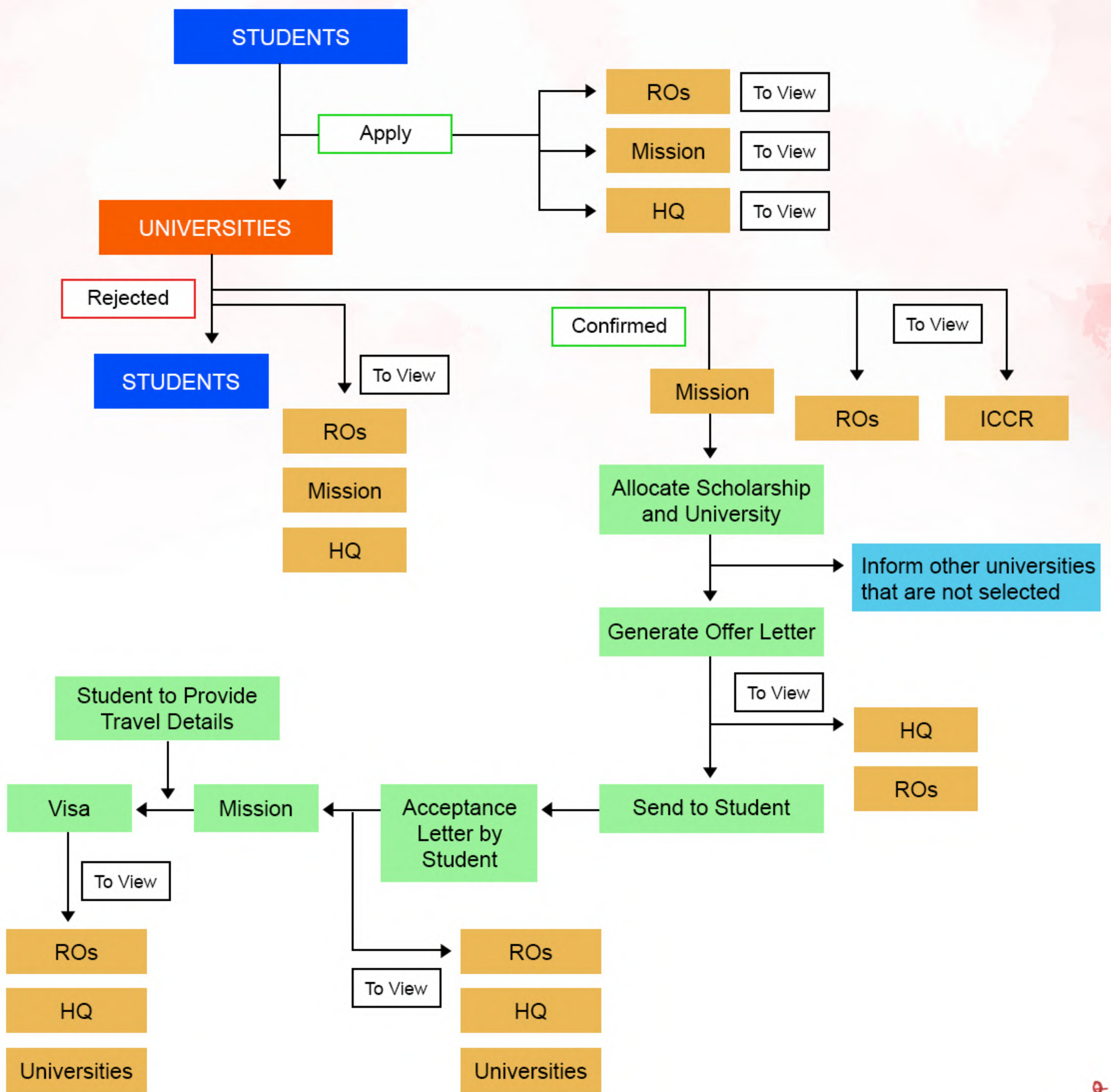


Country-wise Allocation Of Scholarship Slots

S.NO.	SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME	SLOTS	COURSES OFFERED
18.	Maulana Azad Scholarship Scheme	50	Master Degree in Agriculture Science & Engg. courses
19.	Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship Scheme	25	For study in the field of IT (BE/B.Tech Courses)
20.	AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for BIMSTEC Countries	30	Undergraduate/Post Graduate / Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Siddha, Yoga
21.	AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for Non-BIMSTEC Countries	20	Undergraduate/Post Graduate / Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Siddha, Yoga
22.	AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for Malaysian	20	Undergraduate/Post Graduate / Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Siddha, Yoga
23.	AYUSH Scholarship Scheme for South East Asian Region (SEAR) Countries	29	Undergraduate/Post Graduate / Ph.D. Courses in Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani, Siddha, Yoga
	* 500 cumulative since 2018		
TOTAL		3454	



Scholarship Admission Process Flow Chart



ICCR Alumni Data

S.NO.	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	S.NO.	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
1.	Afghanistan	10024	26.	Jordan	05
2.	Argentina	03	27.	Kyrgyzstan	06
3.	Azerbaijan	05	28.	Lebanon	01
4.	Bahrain	02	29.	Liberia	10
5.	Bangladesh	1979	30.	Madagascar	51
6.	Belarus	20	31.	Mexico	64
7.	Benin	03	32.	Mozambique	200
8.	Brazil	02	33.	Myanmar	36
9.	Cabo Verde	08	34.	Namibia	196
10.	Chad	08	35.	Nepal	600
11.	China	184	36.	New Zealand	01
12.	Colombia	06	37.	Nigeria	40
13.	Comoros	17	38.	Peru	01
14.	Cote d'Ivoire	47	39.	Poland & Lithuania	122
15.	Croatia	08	40.	Romania	10
16.	Egypt	105	41.	Rwanda	02
17.	Ethiopia	600	42.	Senegal	06
18.	France	22	43.	Serbia	01
19.	Gambia	64	44.	Seychelles	22
20.	Ghana	51	45.	South Korea	13
21.	Guinea	08	46.	Suriname	03
22.	Guinea Bissau	04	47.	Switzerland	07
23.	Hungary	36	48.	Thailand	242
24.	Iran	109	49.	Tunisia	06
25.	Israel	06	50.	Zimbabwe	53
TOTAL					15,019*

(**) The above figure is tentative as the data collection is underway and shall be raised from time to time.)



Recipients of ICCR Alumni Award

India has always been an attractive destination for foreign students and scholars to enrich their academic excellence. India has always welcomed foreign students to study in India. ICCR has an extensive scholarship programme for foreign students. Foreign students who studied in India are India's goodwill ambassadors and over a period of time, have achieved influential positions in their respective countries. Recognizing the achievements of foreign students who studied in India, "ICCR Distinguished Alumni Award" was instituted in 2015. Award is conferred upon foreign nationals who studied in India, for their contribution to the promotion of understanding, goodwill and friendship between India and people of their respective countries.

Recipients of ICCR Alumni Award -



H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh from Vietnam
H.E. Ms Zenebu Tadesse Woldetsadik from Ethiopia
Mrs. Milena Salvini from France



Dr. Soe Win from Myanmar
Mrs. Sarita Boodhoo from Mauritius
Prof. I. Ketut Widnya from Indonesia
Dr. Laura Gibratovna Yerekesheva from Kazakhstan
Dr. Galina Rousseva Sokolova from Bulgaria



Ms. Rezwana Choudhury Bannya from Bangladesh
Ms. Aishath Safoofa from Maldives
Dr. Saman Kelegama (Posthumously) from Sri Lanka
Ms. Dollaporn Phukkhong from Thailand
Dr. Sirojiddin S Nurmatov from Uzbekistan



H.E. Dr. Kaba Urgessa Dinssa from Ethiopia
Mr. Bui Ba Bong from Vietnam
Dr. Constantino Xavier from Portugal
Mr. Ajmal Hameed Abdulrahimza from Afghanistan
Mr. Damcho Dorji from Bhutan



Mr. Mohammad Mirwais Balkhi from Afghanistan
Ms. Maqaddesa Yourish from Afghanistan
Ms. Monica de la Fuente from Spain
Mr. Tendai Padenga from Zimbabwe

Recipients of ICCR Alumni Award

On the sidelines of Destination India Conference held in Pune, ICCR honoured its eminent alumni from Afghanistan, Spain, Thailand and Zimbabwe on 28 January, 2020 at the Distinguished Alumni Award ceremony.



Ms. Maqaddesa Yourish
Afghanistan



Mr. Mohammad Mirwais Balkhi
Afghanistan



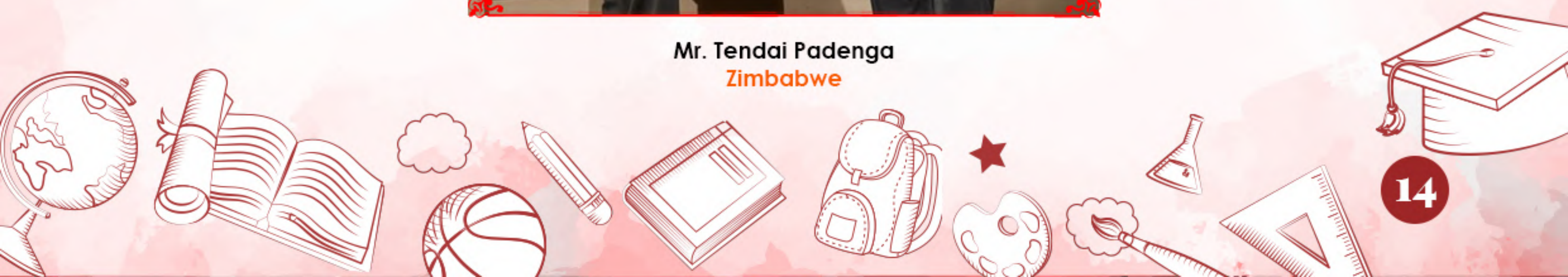
Ms. Monica de la Fuente
Spain



Ms. Dollaporn Phukkhong
Thailand



Mr. Tendai Padenga
Zimbabwe



Regional Offices of ICCR with their Jurisdiction

S.NO.	REGIONAL OFFICES	JURISDICTION	CONTACT DETAILS OF RO
1.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat and UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	Ph: 079-26300091, 26300046 Mob: 9925088855, 9081122296 E-mail : roahmedabad.iccr@gov.in; iccrghujarat@gmail.com
2.	Bangalore	Karnataka	Ph: 080-23462714, 23462715 Mob: 9036457331 E-mail : robengaluru.iccr@gov.in; iccrbengaluru@gmail.com
3.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh	Ph: 0755-2770420 Mob: 9868861130 E-mail : iccrbhopal@gmail.com; robhopal.iccr@gov.in
4.	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	Ph: 0674-2594011 Mob: 8130190700 E-mail : robhubaneshwar.iccr@gov.in
5.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu and UT Puducherry	Ph: 044-24460766, 044-24460767 Mob: 07401085451 E-mail : rochennai.iccr@gov.in; iccrchennai@gmail.com
6.	Delhi NCR	Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand	Ph: 011-23379309, 011-23379301 Mob: 8968692211 E-mail : ro.delhincr@gov.in
7.	Goa	Goa	Ph: 0832-2711120, 2711121 Mob: 9730141925 E-mail : rogoa.iccr@gov.in; iccrgoa@gmail.com
8.	Guwahati	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Sikkim	Ph: 0361-2335358 Mob: 9895118167 E-mail : roguwahati.iccr@gov.in; iccrro.guwahati@gmail.com
9.	Jammu	UT of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	Ph: 0191-2555736 Mob: 9560474594 E-mail : rojammu.iccr@gov.in; iccrjammu@gmail.com



Regional Offices of ICCR with their Jurisdiction

S.NO.	REGIONAL OFFICES	JURISDICTION	CONTACT DETAILS OF RO
10.	Kolkata	West Bengal	Ph: 033- 22822895, 033-22823431 Mob: 9658890832 E-mail : rokolkata.iccr@gov.in; icccal@gmail.com
11.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Ph: 0522-2209592, 0522-2209594 Mob: 7080921503 E-mail : rolucknow.iccr@gov.in; iccluck@gmail.com
12.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Ph: 022-26520027 / 26520042 Mob: 9892198117 E-mail : romumbai.iccr@gov.in, iccr.may2012@gmail.com
13.	Patna	Bihar and Jharkhand	Ph: : 0612-2204734, 2207378, 2545232 Mob: 09430825968 E-mail : ropatna.iccr@gov.in; iccroapatna@gmail.com
14.	Pune	Maharashtra	Ph: 020- 25690084, 020-25695464 Mob: 9969252452 E-mail : ropune.iccr@gov.in; iccrpune@gmail.com
15.	Secunderabad	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	Ph: 040-27820294, 040-27820295 Mob: 8800963095 E-mail : rohyderabad.iccr@gov.in; iccrhyd@gmail.com
16.	Shillong	Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram	Ph: 0364-2228573 Mob: 8119923578, 8860766181 E-mail : roshillong.iccr@nic.in, iccrshillong@gmail.com
17.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	Ph: 0471- 2316712, 0471-2310825 Mob: 08590373832 E-mail : rotrivandrum.iccr@gov.in; iccrvm08@gmail.com
18.	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	Ph: 0542-2368631 Mob: 9793050044 E-mail : rovaranasi.iccr@gov.in; iccrbhu@gmail.com



Testimonials Of Alumni



Ms. Takhmina Sharopova,
Tajikistan,
Ph.D Management Studies
Kerala University

My second visit to India happened in 2018 finally after 5th application to the ICCR annual application process for pursuing my PhD degree. I travelled to Kerala for the first time, but for me all states of India were like my second home so I was sure I will like it to stay and study in the University of Kerala.

ICCR provides a good opportunity to study and develop both personally and professionally for all students under its scholarship schemes. It broadens our personal view and educates us on many events and situations happening in the world and creates learning and developing environment for all international students in India. Stay in Kerala under ICCR scholarship gave me opportunity to apply my capacity and develop my skills in academic stream. I found out my abilities and participated in various academic and cultural programs which ICCR arranged for us as international students. As an international student in India we always experience the rich blend of hospitality and high respect to global community in the University of Kerala in all academic levels like bachelor, Master or PhD candidates.

ICCR provides us with wide scope of activities, World Theatre Day, World Yoga Day, and many more and it cares for our wellbeing. Thanks to ICCR because during stay in Kerala we feel like at home.

During my stay in Goa as a Master's student under ICCR Scholarship, life was really very nice and interesting. I particularly experienced an intriguing culture where people from different environment live peacefully and respect each other regardless of their differences. Most importantly, I found Goa University to be a lovely educational institution. I enjoyed the way the lecturers interact with all students without any exception and the latter expressed themselves a mutual cooperation in their community. This helped me get wonderful skills and knowledge through learning and made me not to feel alone in a foreign country. Finally, the **ICCR international desk care so much about international students to make sure every international student is safe and getting a healthy life.**



Marc Ndayisenga,
Burundi,
M.Sc Zoology,
Goa University



Agnesia Yolina ,
Indonesia,
MBA Course,
Goa University

India is one of among oldest countries in the world that has its own prominent identity. It is not only in this modern day that people go to India and pursue their study. Even for centuries ago, people from various countries came along and pursue their study at Nalanda University, one of the oldest universities in the world. I was one of the lucky scholars from Indonesia that granted the chance to study in India through the General Scholarship Scheme by Indian Council for Cultural Relations for Post Graduate Course. I have a special curiosity about India since childhood that driven me to apply for this scholarship. The study which conducted in English Medium makes every student from any part of the world can easily adapt with the learning environment. The availability of textbooks from various reputable publishers will boost our knowledge and make the study easier. **ICCR Regional Director where I studied as well as the International Advisor are amazing and great personalities. They will always be there as our core supporter in any difficult situations that we can't handle all alone. And they treat us just like their family.** As a newcomer, we indeed will face many challenges in India. But build a mentality that we must finish what we start beautifully and successfully. And if the scholars keep that principle in their mind, we will have a clear vision and mission during the stay of study duration there and we can complete the course successfully and with good marks. India has 29 states and 7 union territories that we can make our own choice of stay destination to pursue the study. And in between the stay, we can travel and visit places that we might have seen in movies or on social media. So, enjoy the stay for the new students, work smart and hard for the study. May the success and happiness be yours.

Testimonials Of Alumni



Mohammed Abunahel,
Palestine,
Masters Mass Communication,
Tezpur Central University

I'm a student from Palestine, pursuing Masters in Mass Communication from Tezpur Central University, Tezpur, Assam. My experience as an international student has, overall, been positive; I have changed in ways I would never have imagined. I am from Palestine, and India, to say the least, is an extremely different environment than where I used to live. **I have come to India for higher studies through an ICCR scholarship (Indian Council for Cultural Relations), but experiencing a new culture, new food habits and making new friends – all these things have summed up into something significant in my life and memory which makes me no longer feel like a stranger.** I have celebrated Indian festivals such as Holi and Saraswati Puja. During my time here, I have picked up a little bit of the Assamese language and learned how to speak it; I have made lifelong friends with unforgettable memories. I learned to cook some Assamese dishes, participated in such activities as the wildlife safari in Nameri national park, and learned endless things about Hinduism and other dynamic Indian religions and culture.

As an international student at Tezpur University, I grew to be proud of my University, and I truly feel like I am a part of this community. **Education in India is not bound to a classroom; ICCR gave me an opportunity to travel to different places.** This chance allowed me to visit some places of South India. I explored the villages in different places of India and experienced their way of living. This trip let me enjoy the natural beauty of India; with my friends, I visited places like Sikkim, Shillong, Cherrapunjee, Tezpur, Bangalore and many more. Every place has its own natural beauty and unique culture. This trip not only let me enjoy the natural beauty of India, but also helped me to make some friends with unforgettable memories.

It is worth mentioning here the people who helped me: my friend Robert Fantina who supports me with material and encouragement; Dr. Prasanta K. Das, the director of the international office, and Dr. Joya Chakraborty, the head of the mass communication and journalism department, who gave me a chance to travel to Jordan to get my visa and come back.

Last but not least, the moment I had been waiting for came true. This is a great opportunity to extend my warmest appreciation to India and to the ICCR for allowing me to be part of this wonderful community. Honestly, India is a great place to study and I really like India, so I am contemplating to continue further advanced study here. I can hardly wait to perceive what different encounters and experiences are coming up for me in the coming months!

It is my pleasure to write to your esteemed office confirming that I have completed my M.Sc in Analytical Chemistry from K.J Somaiya College of Science and Commerce. I would like to write a word of thanks for all the tireless work that you have given us at your capacity as a person and at the level of the ICCR.

As one of the beneficiaries of ICCR Scholarship I would like to thank the ICCR and the government of India for their generous, financial support towards my higher education.

During my two years in India I have learned many things from India that have sharpened my world view and will help me in the whole journey of my life. All the spheres of life have been changed and I will never forget what India has added to my life and believe that this will be my second home and will not hesitate to come back here when there is need.

Conclusively, this opportunity has allowed me to make my goals and dream a reality. I hope in turn one day I will be able to give back and help others get their dreams and goals a reality. Thank you very much.



Malek Jacob Mayen,
South Sudan,
M.Sc Analytical Chemistry,
Mumbai University

Testimonials Of Alumni



Huynh Cao NhutQuang,
Vietnam,
Undergraduate,
Nalanda University

I am very grateful for receiving ICCR scholarship. It helps me continue my studies at Nalanda University. Thanks to your support, I can dedicate all of my time to study, to deepen my knowledge on Buddhism as well as other Indian traditions. I have learned a lot at Nalanda University. Due to its diverse approach, the students can have a large picture of various Indian philosophical schools and religions where Buddhism has been a part of. Although I could stay in India for the short period of one academic year (due to Covid-19 restrictions), I had many interesting experiences there. Briefly saying, I realized how the locals, at least those I observed in Nalanda, lived close to the natural environment. They used dung fuel for cooking, dried grass for binding vegetables (instead of rubber bands), used - newspapers for wrapping things (instead of plastic bags), etc. Those simple things show how the people love the Mother Nature. I think it is the best way to preserve our planet- through care and love. I hope this eco-friendly way of living will not be distorted via inappropriate modernization. It sends a very positive message to protect our Earth in the most practical manner.the possibility to understand more the profundity of Indian philosophy about which I had not known much before.

I had had a mistaken idea about India before getting the ICCR scholarship, without which I would not come to India and I would not complete my higher studies. To me, India was the country of Amitabh Bachchan and Shahrukh Khan and nothing else. However, having the chance to come to India was like giving some blind fellow eyes to take a real look at what there is. **I came to know what India is for real. Yes, India is the country of movies, dancing, singing, and arts, but also, it is the country of fast development, technology, diversity, and humanity.** Further, nothing is more significant than giving a person the chance to have a better career, a better job, and a better income. All are possible now with the knowledge and skills I got under the generous sponsorship of the ICCR. **I believe that all the ICCR students and scholars, just like myself, will always be thankful to the ICCR for giving them the chance to learn, improve, and know this great future-leading country in a better way.** I love the ICCR; I love India.



Ahmad Abdullah Salih,
Yemen,
Ph.D. English,
Banaras Hindu University



Sphamandlaluvuno,
South Africa,
MA Political Science,
Osmania University

Currently pursuing my studies in India, Telangana state doing MA Political Science in Osmania university under ICCR scholarship, academic year 2019-2021 and I also completed my undergraduate BA Degree from Nizam College under ICCR scholarship academic year 2016-2019. **I come from a very humble background and throughout my life I was always praying for an opportunity to further my studies and my prayers were answered when I was granted an opportunity to study in India under ICCR scholarship.**

My journey in India began 2016, from day one I was fascinated by the large population, for the 1st time in my life I was surrounded by so many people, as my journey continued I was adapting to the new lifestyle and society, **I learned the importance of education in shaping a prosperous society through the teachings of Jawaharlal Nehru and B. R Ambedkar. I also noticed that India is a country that is diverse and rich in culture, through events organized by ICCR- Hyderabad.** I was exposed to some of the cultures which includes the likes of Kuchipudi and Kathak dance and the universal humanitarian culture inspired by Mahatma Gandhi Teachings, the astonishing food culture and various Indian cuisines most famously bryan. Those with similar experience will always say incredible India.

Foreign Students' participation in Cultural Activities



Celebration of International Day of Yoga at RO Bhubaneswar



DG ICCR, Visited to RO Bhubaneswar



Foreign Students and Goa University Main Administrative Building



Celebration of Foundation Day at ICCR GOA



Certificate Distribution Ceremony 2019 at ICCR Gujarat



Diwali Milan Samaroh Hosted by VC MSU in Nov 2020 at ICCR Gujarat

Foreign Students' participation in Cultural Activities



Participation of 250 students in Beach Festival held in OCT 2018 at ICCR Gujarat



Participation of students in Tarnetar Festival with the then CM of Gujarat



International students at the Latin American Music and Dance Festival inaugurated by H.E. Dr. Shah Mohammad Tanvir Monsur , Hon'ble Assistant High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India, Guwahati, and Director, IIT Guwahati Dr. TG Sitharam



Mr. Baza from Sao Tome Principe & Ms. Daneila from Mozambique at ICCR Hyderabad



Foreign Students at Osmania University, Hyderabad, Telangana

Foreign Students' participation in Cultural Activities



President, ICCR interacting with office bearers of Telangana Foreign Students Association at Hyderabad



Students from various countries studying at University of Kerala Kariyavattam Campus



Ms. Varsheni Uma Shangkar from Malaysia performed in ICCR Foundation Day at RO Kerala



Students attended Contemporary Dance by the Tribhangi Dance Theatre from South Africa on 29th May, 2017 at Tagore Theatre, Trivandrum



Students attended International Yoga Day on 21st June 2018 at Vazhathacadu, Trivandrum



Students attended the ICCR Foundation Day on 9th April 2019 at RO Kerala

Foreign Students' participation in Cultural Activities



Foreign students at Diwali function at Convocation hall Mumbai University



Foreign students attending Cultural programme held at Videsh Bhavan organised by RO Mumbai



Students from Nepal & Mauritius with RPO, POE & RO ICCR Mumbai during Republic Day



Foreign students at Videsh Bhavan, Mumbai during Independence Day



ICCR Pune students creating awareness about different countries & fostering interest in young ones about different international cultures.



ICCR students in Pune



Indian Council for Cultural Relations

Azad Bhawan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002

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