

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was founded on 9th April 1950 by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of Independent India.

The objectives of the Council are to participate in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes relating to India's external cultural relations; to foster and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries; to promote cultural exchanges with other countries and people; to establish and develop relations with national and international organizations in the field of culture; and to take such measures as may be required to further these objectives.

ICCR is about a communion of cultures, a creative dialogue with other nations. In facilitating this interaction with world cultures, the Council strives to articulate and demonstrate the diversity and richness of the cultures and civilization of India in all its manifestations, covering music, dance, paintings, sculptures, manuscripts, textiles, handicrafts, philosophical thought and introducing global culture traditions and forms into India.

It is the Council's resolve to continue to symbolize India's great cultural and educational efflorescence in the years to come.

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