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**Subject: Announcement of ICCR Scholarships for the
Academic Year 2024-25**

1. It is intimated that Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has announced scholarships under the Atal Bihari Vajpayee General Scholarship Scheme (A1201) formerly known as General Scholarship Scheme & under Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme (A1209) (formerly /ICCR Scholarship Scheme for Indian Culture) for pursuing study of Indian Culture such as dance, music, theatre, performing art, sculpture, Indian languages, Indian cuisine, etc for the Academic Year (AY) 2024-25. While a total of 35 slots are available for Yemeni students under Atal Bihari Vajpayee General Scholarship Scheme, there are a total of 100 ICCR Scholarships Slots globally under Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme.
2. The applications from interested international students for academic year 2024-25 will be invited online. The applications are invited directly on ICCR's A2A Scholarship Portal <http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in>. The tentative timeline of scholarship is tabulated below:-

04-April-2024*	Opening of Portal for inviting applications from interested candidates
31-May-2024*	Last date of application to be submitted by students
30-June-2024 *	Last date of Universities to inform the decision (if confirmed, intimation to Missions; if rejected, intimation to students)
15-July-2024 *	Last date for allocating scholarship and generating Offer Letters by Indian Mission abroad.
25-July-2024*	Last date of acceptance by students
10-August-2024*	Based on the number of acceptances in the first round (if acceptances are less than the scholarship seats allocated) Indian Mission to offer scholarship to other students who were not considered in the first round.
20-August-2024*	Second-round students to convey their acceptances.

3. A2A portal is operational now. A list of 126 Universities/Institutes for scholarship on board with ICCR for the A.Y 2024-25 will be reflected in application Portal when opened. Further, admission processes for Atal Bihari Vajpayee General Scholarship Scheme & Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Schemes are highlighted at **Annexure 'A'**.




(Pushpa Kumar)
Second Secretary (Cultural)

Annexure 'A'

Highlights of Admission Process for the Academic Year 2024-25 under Atal Bihari Vajpayee General Scholarship Scheme & Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme

1. Applicants have the option to apply to 05 Universities/ institutes in the order of their preference of study. The admission, as far as possible, shall be given as per applicant's preference. However, there may be a scenario when students do not get admission in their preferred Universities / institutes due to limited number of seats on offer. Students should therefore be prepared to receive admission from any of their five preferences.
2. Since last AY 2023-24, a 500-word essay in English has been introduced to ascertain English proficiency. Besides, students can also submit their TOFEL/ IELTS etc. Standardised Test scores, if available. ICCR is also requesting Universities / institutes to conduct interview of the applicants online, if so required. There will be no separate English test by Missions, as was earlier.
3. Rejected candidates will be intimated by concerned Universities. Moreover, Scholarships will be awarded to new students and repeat scholarship will be avoided.
4. Students are required to obtain the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) equivalence (if needed). This would be stipulated by the concerned University/ Institute in their Provisional Confirmation letter for the applicant (uploaded on Portal). In case AIU equivalence is required the student may apply for the same at the link <https://evaluation.aiu.ac.in/student/login> and bear the fees incurred on obtaining the certificate at own expense (non-reimbursable). For any further details/ queries, students may contact AIU at (+911123230059 / 23231097 / 23232305 Extn. 210, 234, 252, E-mail id: studentinfo@aiu.ac.in, ds_international@aiu.ac.in, evaluation@aiu.ac.in
5. The guidelines of both the schemes are available on the Portal. A scholarship e-brochure is also available in e-book section of ICCR website and Portal, which may be referred to.
6. The scholarship slots include return economy class air-fares to the nearest Airport and 3rd AC Train fare to the place of study, if so required. Mission will provide one way air-ticket for onward journey to the selected scholars.
7. Interested students are advised to visit respective University / institute website regularly for courses offered, eligibility criteria and general information about the University / institute before applying for admission. The students should ensure that they are eligible for the course and meet the eligibility criteria and should submit relevant documentation as required by the Universities, in addition to the basic certificates mentioned in the application form. They are also advised to refer to the University's Handbook/University Grants Commission's website etc.
8. It may be noted that for BE/B. Tech courses, Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics (PCM) are compulsory in 11 and 12 Grades and it is a mandatory requirement for Engineering courses. Mark sheets for each i.e., level 10 and 10+2 equivalent level of school should be uploaded along with the transcripts in English. The application will not be considered without English translation of documents if the original documents are not in English. It may also be noted that incomplete application can be summarily rejected by Universities. Students should be advised to thoroughly check their applications and attach

requisite documents before submission of the application.

9. It may be noted that the applicant's age for availing scholarships is as under on the date of opening of portal:-

For Undergraduate/ Postgraduate courses - between 18 to 40 Years and For PhD Programmes - 50 Years Maximum.

10. The admissions in Medical/ Paramedical (Nursing / Physiotherapy / anaesthesia etc.) / fashion / law courses / integrated courses such as BALLB (5 Years) / BSC & MSC (5 Years) etc. are not admissible under the scheme.

11. Please note that for Science courses, the expenditure on laboratory chemicals and other related incidental charges will be borne by the scholars themselves.

12. It may also be noted that a scholarship is awarded only after the Mission is satisfied that student intends **to study in India; has no serious health issues;** has not submitted incomplete/fraudulent documentation or any other such parameters, which may negate the objective of promoting goodwill through scholarships.

13. It is compulsory for all ICCR scholarship students to procure Medical Insurance policy with minimum sum assured for Indian Rupees Five Lakhs per annum. Students are also informed that they must have medical insurance coverage on their own either before travel or immediately after reaching India, whichever is convenient. Students can purchase medical insurance from any of the insurance companies of their choice. However to facilitate students, Portal has two insurance companies for referral purpose. ICCR has uploaded the revised norms on its Portal.

14. It may also be noted that ICCR may amend some provisions of scholarships from time to time and it is incumbent on students to accept the revised norms.

15. In order to automate the entire manual work process of ICCR's scholarship division, ICCR has launched an application, **'Gyan Setu- connecting Culture through Knowledge'** on 6 February 2023. Since the inception of Gyan Setu app, all the scholarship dues to the Universities/Institutes as well as to the Students, are being released through this app only. The features of Gyan Setu applicable to Students on their post arrival in India are elaborated below:-

(a) Students are directed to report their arrival on the Gyan_Setu web application on an immediate basis.

(b) Students are required to coordinate with their respective Universities/institutes regarding updation of their details such as joining report on the app.

(c) Submission & Verification of Documents/Confirmation of Admission-To submit the original documents and verify the details mentioned in the A2A Portal during the admission process with their original documents including Passport, previous degree certificates, country's unique identification number, in order to confirm the admission of students and get the Hostel Accommodation as soon as the admission is confirmed. Please note that the details entered in the Portal, if in case, does not match with the original doc-

uments, the admission of the said student be termed as **CANCELLED**.

16. Departing students will be advised that in order to get their scholarship dues, they should ensure the submission of the following details **on Gyan Setu App within 15 days of their arrival in India**, else payment of their scholarship dues might get delayed:

- (a) Passport No.
- (b) Joining Report (including joining date and duration of the Course)
- (c) Bank Account No.
- (d) e-FRRO registration no.

17. In order to ensure security of the foreign students, ICCR advises students to stay in the campus hostel, if available. However, students are allowed to stay in private accommodation if the concerned institute does not insist on staying in their hostel.

18. Students will be required to give undertaking that the course and the University as conveyed is acceptable and that he/ she will not request for change at the time of admissions.

19. Students will require to give undertaking that they have read the terms and conditions/ Guidelines of ICCR scholarship as specified in the Scholarship Manual 2024-25 when updated.

20. Detailed guidelines on the process of applying for ICCR Scholarships are available on the Portal.
