



The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, is organizing an International Conference on “Bharat’s Cultural Connections across the Globe” from 14–16 October 2026. The Brihattar Bharat Scheme under the Global Engagement Scheme of the Ministry of Culture is being administered under the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts.

Schedule of the conference

→ Day 1:
Inauguration of the Conference by Hon’ble
Prime Minister
Shri. Narendra Modi

→ Day 2 & 3:

Academic Sessions on the Themes:

- Early Linkages and Civilizational Encounters
- Religious Traditions, Knowledge Systems and Philosophy
- Languages and Scripts across Civilizations: Transmission, Translation and Literary bridges
- Ideas Visualized in Art
- Textile and Attire Traditions
- Cuisine and Culinary Exchange
- Cultural Expression and Fusion
- Performing Arts and Living Traditions
- Trade and Commerce as carriers of goods and ideas
- Diaspora Communities, Cultural Preservation & Civilizational Continuities



For Attendee registration
Google Form link -
<https://forms.gle/SuCEmVujGb3eqqXP8>

For any queries contact: +91-112 344 6464 Or on:
brihattarbharatconference@gmail.com
Website: brihattarbharat.com

Chief Patron
Shri. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
Minister of Culture and Tourism

Patrons
Shri. Vivek Aggarwal
Secretary, Ministry of Culture

Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi
Member Secretary, IGNCA

Convenors

Prof. (Dr.) D. C. Choubey
HoD, Brihattar Bharat, IGNCA

Shri Arvind Kumar
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture

Organising Committee

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Director, Ministry of Culture

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Director (Administration), IGNCA



संस्कृति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
CULTURE



BRIHATTAR BHARAT

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

BHARAT'S CULTURAL CONNECTIONS ACROSS THE GLOBE



कृण्वन्तो विश्वमार्यम्
Kṛṇvanto Viśvamāryam
Make the world noble

Brihattar Bharat: A Background

- Brihattar Bharat is derived from the Sanskrit words 'Brihat' or 'Brihattar', signifying large, vast, or expanded, and Bharat, the ancient and continuously used name for India signifying civilizational connections across the world.
 - Brihattar Bharat denotes the wider civilizational sphere shaped by the movement, exchange and adaptation of India's cultural, intellectual, artistic, linguistic and philosophical traditions across Asia and the wider world.
 - The conference commemorates the centenary of the Greater India Society (Brihattar Bharat Parishad est. 1926), which pioneered scholarly engagement with India's civilizational interactions across the World.
 - The conference seeks to revive and re-contextualize Brihattar Bharat studies through rigorous interdisciplinary scholarship, in consonance with the national resolve on decolonizing the mind (Panch Praan of Amrit Kaal).
 - These connections unfolded through diverse land and maritime networks, linking Southeast Asia, East Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, Europe, South Asia and the Global Diaspora leaving enduring traces in inscriptions, literature, architecture, art, knowledge systems, languages, trade and shared cultural practices.
- Southeast Asia
 - East Asia
 - Central Asia
 - West Asia
 - European Region
 - South Asia and the Global Diaspora
 - Saraswati-Sindhu, Mesopotamia and Nile Civilizations

Focus of the Conference

- **Global knowledge forum** for sharing research findings, archival sources, scholarly perspectives and evidence on Bharat's civilizational connections across the world.
- **Joint Nominations** for UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW).
- **Multinational Nominations** for Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) including dossier preparation.
- **Bring together** scholars, institutions and knowledge traditions from India and partner countries to connect diverse disciplines and geographies
- **Explore** civilizational linkages and research frontiers to identify new themes and areas for documentation.
- **Collaboration** through joint research, publications, archival projects and academic exchanges.
- **Establish** a Brihattar Bharat Portal and Knowledge Consortia for sustained research, documentation, preservation and global dissemination of shared civilizational heritage.

Themes of the Conference

Early Linkages & Civilizational Interface

Religious Traditions, Knowledge Systems and philosophy

Languages and Script across Civilizations: Transmission, Translation and Literary bridges

Ideas Visualized in Art

Textile and Attire Traditions

Cuisine and Culinary Exchange

Cultural Expression and Fusion

Performing Arts and Living Traditions

Trade and Commerce as carriers of Goods and Ideas

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