

Press Release

ICCR is organising its 4th Pratibha Sangam Competition 2025—Inviting Global Participation in Indian Classical Dance and Music

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) proudly announces the launch of the 4th Pratibha Sangam Competition 2025, continuing its tradition of promoting Indian culture internationally through the performing arts. This prestigious competition invites foreign nationals, Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs), and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card holders from around the world to showcase their talent in the following seven categories of Indian Classical Music and Dance:

- a) Bharatanatyam Dance
- b) Odissi Dance
- c) Kathak Dance
- d) Hindustani Music (Vocal)
- e) Hindustani Music (Instrumental)
- f) Carnatic Music (Vocal)
- g) Carnatic Music (Instrumental)

The General Guidelines & Instructions for uploading video entry & other salient Terms & Conditions received from ICCR are enclosed .

Pratibha Sangam Competition 2025

About the Competition :

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) - the cultural arm of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, has been actively promoting Indian culture abroad through its Cultural Centers functioning abroad and the Indian diaspora.

In recognition of the unique and deep association of foreign citizens with India and Indian culture, ICCR is anchoring the 4th edition of the Pratibha Sangam Competition 2025 – a global competition for performers across the world in the categories of Classical Indian Music and Dances. This competition will be judged by an eminent jury drawn from amongst the leading exponents of these performing arts in India.

Winners of this Competition would be invited to India for live performances at events to be organised in India, where a certificate will be awarded to the winners. Prize money is given to winners through concerned Indian Mission/Post.

Who can participate :

The competition is open to all foreign nationals/PIOs/OCI card holders, regardless of race, creed, or sex. This Competition is not open for NRIs.

Participants shall be of a minimum age of 18 years and maximum age of 50 years. Prizes will be given in two age categories:–

18 – 30 years

31—50 years

Previous Winners of this competition may re-apply only after a cooling off period of 3 years.

Confidentiality :

The announcements will reveal only the identities of the winners of the competition, with information such as name, age, gender, category of award and the country. ICCR reserves the right to use participant's videos for future promotional activities.

Categories of Competition :

Indian Dance –

- Bharatnatyam
- Kathak
- Odissi

Hindustani Music –

- Instrumental Music
- Vocal

Carnatic Music–

- Instrumental Music
- Vocal

Competition Timelines :

- Starting Date : 01/10/2025 (10.00 am IST)
- Closing Date : 31/10/2025 (6.00 pm IST)
- Winners to be announced in the month of November/December, 2025 (tentative).

Awards & Prizes :

- Prize money for the three winners in each genre will be :
- First Prize(\$500),Second Prize(\$350),Third Prize(\$250)
- A Certificate will also be awarded to the winners.

In addition, the final winners shall be invited to perform in India at select states/locations as decided by ICCR.

The expenses incurred by the winners on this travel and stay shall be borne by ICCR and shall be communicated once the results of the Pratibha Sangam Competition are announced by the Jury.

Guidelines for entry :

The General Guidelines

The participants must visit the ICCR website (<https://iccr.gov.in/psc/index.php>). Therein they will have to register their entry through the "Participation Form" on the "Registration" menu.

1. The participants are permitted to submit their entry for **only one chosen category** strictly. Multiple entries will lead to disqualification.
2. The participants must compulsorily submit a Certificate from their Guru/Teacher/Instructor along with their entry to ensure to complete adherence to the terms and conditions.
3. The participant must compulsorily submit his/her Id proof – copy of passport, Age proof, contact No. with Residence address and E-mail etc.

The Guidelines & Instructions for uploading Video entry :

- All entries must be in the form of a digital video produced by the applicant himself/herself.
- The entry must focus on the participant's selected field of expertise from amongst the ones stated above with a classical dance/music piece as applicable.
- **Video should be recorded with auto display of date and time of recording.**
- **Recordings done between the dates 01.10.2025 – 31.10.2025 will only be considered.** Those done earlier shall be rejected,
- Participants are required to make a video on the selected field of expertise for **duration of 5 to 10 minutes** for submission only. Video shall not exceed the time limit. If the video is longer than the prescribed duration, the entry shall be considered ineligible.
- Participants must upload their videos on **You Tube** in unlisted mode. Link of the video to be uploaded in Pratibha Sangam Competition Portal only. Entry submitted through any other mode shall not be accepted.
- PDF/JPEG Certificate by participant's Guru/Teacher must be compulsorily uploaded on the Pratibha Sangam Portal as per the given prescribed format.
- Participant shall not disclose their personal identity within the video created (name, country etc.)
- Entries with experimental, fusion or group presentations are not permitted and shall be rejected.
- Organization may reach out to the participants whose videos are shortlisted for clarification and additional information, if necessary. Organization reserves the right to accept or reject any entry without assigning any reason.
- The decision of the Pratibha Sangam Jury shall be final and binding on all participants. No queries shall be entertained in this regard.

Other Salient Terms and Conditions :

- The entry videos uploaded should strictly conform to the guidelines provided.
- Visuals/Words which are erroneous, misleading and which may provoke communal obscurantist, anti-scientific and anti-national attitudes will make the entry liable to be disqualified.
- The display of obscene acts and exposures that are deemed to be indecent will be disqualified.
- Canvassing in any form by any participant thru means such as phone calls, emails or letters is strictly prohibited and will lead to disqualification.
- False declaration of personal information will lead to disqualification.
- The eminent panel of jury shall undertake the evaluation and judging of the entries. The decisions of the Screening Committee and the Jury shall be final and binding on all participants. The Jury may seek clarifications on any aspect (including age) of an entry from the participant to facilitate their evaluation. The participants who fail to provide the same within the specified time frame may be disqualified.
- The winners shall be declared by the Jury panel and publicized on the Competition Website and the ICCR Website along with Social Media Channels.
- Video provided by the participants shall be accorded complete confidentiality. It shall be used only for the competition or other related promotional purposes by the Organizers.
- Organizers reserve their right to accept/reject any entry without assigning any reason whatsoever.
- Any legal disputes arising out of the competition shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of law in Delhi, India.
- The cost of producing/making the video is borne by the participants themselves. No reimbursement whatsoever for the same will be made by the organizers.
- Participants submitting the videos for the competition are solely responsible for copyright regulations, if any. Their undertaking that the video does not infringe on any copyright or intellectual property rights is inherent and included in their act of submission of entries to this competition. They shall indemnify the organizers against eventuality during and after the conduct of the competition.



भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद
Indian Council for Cultural Relations



To Whomsoever It May Concern

I /We hereby certify that Ms/Mr _____ age _____

has undertaken training/course in the field of _____

under my guidance/at our institution _____

from _____ to _____ (specify dates/duration of course).

His training covered the following fields _____

We wish her/him success in the forthcoming endeavours.

Signed & Stamped by:

Name of the Guru/Director of the Insitution _____

Brief details of the Guru/Institution _____

(Proforma for the Certificate By the Guru /Insitution)





Indian Council for Cultural Relations
भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद



Fourth International Competition of Indian Dance and Music

Competition starts from 1st October, 2025

Categories of competition: Indian Classical Dance • Hindustani Music • Carnatic Music

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CASH PRIZES
& REWARDS

