MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2018

• Hon'ble Prime Minister of India led the nation into paying rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th Birth Anniversary on 2nd October, 2018 at Gandhi Samriti, New Delhi.

• On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the formation of “Azad Hind Sarkar”, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India hoisted the National Flag at Red Fort, Delhi.

• The Jury under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister selected Sh. Rajkumar Singhajit Singh, Chhayanaut (a cultural organisation of Bangladesh) and Sh. Ram Vanji Sutar for the Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony for the years 2014, 2015 & 2016 respectively.

• Celebrations of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi commenced on 2nd October 2018 for a period of two years both at national and international level.

• The National Implementation Committee under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Home Minister met on 9th October, 2018 and approved following commemorations:
  
  i) 550th birth anniversary of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji.
  ii) 100 years of Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

• Secretary(Culture) represented Hon'ble Culture Minister in the 3rd BRICS Culture Ministers Meeting at Pretoria on 31st October, 2018. The following proposals of India were endorsed by other member countries:
  
  i. BRICS Literary Festival to be included in the scope of activities.
  ii. Making cultural activities eligible for funding from the BRICS Bank.
  iii. Prohibition and prevention of illicit trafficking of cultural property.

• Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Croatia for the year 2019-2022 was signed on 22nd October, 2018 in New Delhi and Programme of Cooperation between India and Tajikistan for the years 2019-2023 was signed on 8th October, 2018 in Dushanbe.

• Sahitya Akademi organized Yuva Puraskar presentation function at Imphal, Manipur. On this occasion, an ‘All India Young Writers festival’ titled Avishkarat was also held in which young writers of various Indian languages participated.
• Sangeet Natak Akademi organized "Bapu Smaran" and “Desaj” - festival of music, dance, drama, folk and tribal arts and puppetry to celebrate the diverse cultural traditions of India”.

• Artists of Zonal Cultural Centres gave performance at ceremony held for unveiling of the Statue of Unity at Gujarat on 31st October, 2018.

• Rashtriya Ekta Diwas and Vigilance Awareness Week were observed by the Ministry as well as its organisations.