Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat
Tamil Nadu and Jammu & Kashmir

The Department of Art and Culture, Government of Tamil Nadu, invited a troupe of 70 artists from Jammu & Kashmir under EBSB to Tamil Nadu to showcase their rich heritage and culture, customs and traditions. The troupe visited and performed cultural events in Tamil Nadu in Chennai, Thanjavur and Madurai districts. The officials and 70 artists from Jammu & Kashmir visited and enjoyed the natural beauty of Marina Beach, which is the second largest urban beach in the world. Later the troupe visited Five Rathas, Arjuna penance and tourist significant places in and around the sculpture city of Mahabalipuram. The Jammu & Kashmir artists were briefed about the rich monolithic sculptures of Pallava period. The Tamil Nadu artists showcased the cultural events such as Karakattam, Samiyattam and Nayyandi Melam. Then the Kashmiri troupe performed Dhamali dance, Bacha nagma, Chakri, Rouf dance, Harangeetru, Dogri folk dance, Gojri folk dance and Pahari folk dance in the Indian Dance Festival at Mahabalipuram. The art lovers and the public participating in the festival were enthralled by the mesmerising cultural talents exhibited by Jammu & Kashmir artists. The Commissioner, Art & Culture Department, honoured the officials and artists with shawl, memento and certificate. The foreign tourists present in the dance festival greatly enjoyed the cultural performance of Jammu & Kashmir artists. Doordarshan, Chennai, covered the entire programme. The artists of Jammu & Kashmir visited Brihadisvara Temple, Thanjavur, and were really excited on seeing the Gopurams, sculptures and the mega size Nandi. The artists performed cultural programmes showcasing the Jammu tradition and culture in a specially erected stage just opposite to Brihadesvara Temple. About 400 members of public,
students and teachers of Tamil Nadu Music College, Tiruvaiyaru and officials of Tourism and District Administration of Thanjavur witnessed the mega cultural event of Jammu & Kashmir artists. The District Collector, Thanjavur, honoured the officials and artists by presenting a memento.

70 artists and officials of Jammu & Kashmir also performed their cultural programmes at Gandhi Memorial Museum and Thirumalai Naicker Mahal, Madurai. More than 1000 public, foreign tourists, Government Music College students enjoyed the programmes. The District Collector, Madurai, honoured all the artists with a shawl and memento. The news articles covering details of Jammu & Kashmir cultural programme appeared in all leading local newspapers with beautiful colour photos. The Hindu newspaper described the cultural event under the caption “Kashmir Dancers mesmerise Madurai.” All India Radio made elaborate arrangements for the live broadcast of the cultural events held in Madurai.

A 10-member contingent under the leadership of Prof. Fayaz Ahmed Nika from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology and the Central University of Kashmir visited Alagappa University, Karaikudi. The team visited Meenakshi Amman Temple and witnessed the famous bull taming festival (Jallikattu) held at Palamedu, Madurai. The visiting students also participated in the Pongal festival organised by the Alagappa University. Then the team visited Ramanathaswamy Temple, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial, Dhanuskodi in Rameshwaram. The students and the faculty visited Dr. Alagappar Museum and all the Departments in Alagappa University. The Department of Tamil and Culture presented a documentary on the cultural and traditional heritage of Tamil Nadu. The students and faculty had an interaction with Vice Chancellor, Alagappa University, and shared their experiences of travel to various places of historical importance. The Vice Chancellor explained the infrastructure facilities and resources available in the University to pursue higher education and research. The team met the faculty and research scholars of various Departments and collected the details about the courses, duration of study and research facilities suitable to them. The students and faculty from Jammu & Kashmir also expressed their desire to pursue higher studies in Alagappa University, Karaikudi. Prof. Fayaz Ahmed Nika, faculty and the students from Jammu Kashmir shared their experiences at Alagappa University and their visit to other places in Tamil Nadu. Principal Secretary, highlighted
about various schemes and initiatives periodically taken up by the Government to strengthen the Universities and Directorates in providing quality and need-based education to the student community in the field of higher education. The Secretary invited students from Jammu & Kashmir to Tamil Nadu suggested that MoUs can be signed between Universities for the introduction of Kashmiri Language and Culture in Tamil Nadu and vice versa.

As part of EBSB, a contingent consisting of 20 students from Department of Film Studies from Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai, participated in the inter-State cultural programme conducted at Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, on 30th and 31st January, 2018. The Tamil Nadu and Jammu Kashmir students jointly performed cultural programmes in the IIT campus. The first series of Traditional Performing Arts of both the States was conducted on 30th January, 2018 at Kalidas Auditorium in which 47 artists from Eyal Isai Nataka Manram of Tamil Nadu gave performance of Tamil Traditional Arts. The second series of Traditional Performing Arts was conducted on 31st January, 2018. The well-co-ordinated joint cultural performance of Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram with Tamil Nadu Open University students was appreciated by one and all.

A team of 75 students from Jammu & Kashmir studying in SRM University, Kattankulathur, Chennai, had an interaction with the students of Anna University on 13th February, 2018 at Academic Council Hall of Anna University. The Commissioner of Technical Education and Registrar of Anna University explained the higher education avenues available in Anna University. The Registrar, Anna University, informed that the Anna University established fellowship under one India fellowship scheme for the benefit of faculty and students of Jammu & Kashmir to pursue higher studies (PG & Research).

The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation announced two concessions for the tourists from Jammu & Kashmir-15% concession in the tour packages conducted by Tourism Department and 20% concession in the TTDC Hotels.

**Delhi and Sikkim**

The North East Cell of Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Science for Women successfully organized a Quiz competition on the topic “Sikkim - The Hidden Valley of Rice” under the scheme of EBSB on 23rd March, 2018. 73 students participated in the quiz
competition.

To keep in tune with the EBSB initiatives of Government, certain competitions were held during “Anugoonj 2018”, annual fest of GGSIP University focussing on the themes concerning Delhi’s pairing with Sikkim. The theme providing for On the Spot painting competition was “The Himalayan Wonderland of Sikkim.” Various students from different educational institutions and students of GGSIP University participated in this competition and showed good performance. Students also participated with great enthusiasm in the competition of “Collage Making” was “Cultural Diversity of Sikkim”.

**GGSIP University** also organised a programme “Just a Minute,” focussing on the Sikkim State (its history, culture, tradition and tourism prospects). The participants were provided on the spot subjects and given a total of 2 minutes time where 1 minute was allotted for thinking and 1 minute for speaking. Some of the topics were-The land of Kanchanjunga, Sikkim; second smallest and least populous Indian State with 11 official languages, Sikkim; From Monarch to Indian State, Sikkim; The cultural and spiritual powerhouse, Sikkim, Not a part of India till 1975 and Nathu La: India’s gateway to the silk route. The event was witnessed by almost 200 audiences on 9th February, 2018.

**Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies (SSCBS)** organized North-East Festival under EBSB at the end of January 2018. The programme was covered by Doordarshan.

The Music society of SSCBS sang melodious songs namely, “And it goes”, “Asarai Mahinama”, “Musu Musu Haasi”, “Saare Jahan se Acha” in the ethnic dresses. The Dance society of SSCBS performed various kinds of dance forms from Sikkim like “Tarang”, “Bhutia”, “Bihu” in rhythmic beats. The event continued for over 60 minutes. More than 300 students participated in the event. The whole event was telecast on DD
National on 10 February, 2018 at 4:30 P.M.

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College organized an Audio-visual presentation on the Culture and Tourism of Sikkim by EBSB at the end of January 2018. Various dances of Sikkim like Maruni dance, Bhutanese dance and Ranka dance were portrayed in the programme. The speakers enlightened the audience regarding the State of Sikkim such as the Best traffic management system, Sikkim being the first fully organic State of India, having the highest per capita income next to Delhi and Chandigarh, cleanest markets, good civic sense of citizens, full ban on polythene bags, etc. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College invited the students from Sikkim to participate in the College Annual Fest which was Scheduled in the third week of February under student exchange, and in return, students from Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College will visit Sikkim in the month of September 2018. These students will explore Sikkim and interact with the people living in the rural areas of Sikkim. This will enrich them about the cultural heritage of the State. The programme was also aired in DD National under the flagship of Good Evening India.
on 5th February, 2018.

**Aditi Mahavidyalaya** (Girl's college), University of Delhi, in collaboration with Government of Sikkim, Shri Narayan Sanskritik Chetna Nyas and Shri Chitragupta Trust organised cultural programmes with reference to Delhi-Sikkim partnership under EBSB at the fag of January 2018. The Mahavidyalaya organised exchange programme in which the participants were mostly from low income groups who also got opportunity (20 of the students) to travel to Sikkim by Air. Exposure to Sikkim made a great deal of significance in their lives by exposing them to the needs of the rapidly changing development scenario and cultural capital of our country. The programme also had the presence of officials from MHRD Institutions and Government of Sikkim. There was a cultural exchange of Lepcha, Bhootiya and Nepali dance forms, rock band music and ideas from the students of Sikkim. In continuation, the team of students from Delhi also presented Harayanvi folk dance, recited the self-authored poetry in Hindi and English and also put forth the ideas of poetic literature of Rabindra Nath Tagore's famous work “Where the mind is without Fear.” Further, the team of students also visited various sites – Baba Harbhajan Singh’s Temple, Defence Cantonment, M.G Road which is full of cultural artefacts and handicrafts, Small Scale Cottage Industry of Government of Sikkim, Palzor Stadium, Tashi View Point, Hanuman Tonk, Ganesh Tonk, etc.

The major learning outcomes of this programme were - Learning about preserving shared culture and heritage, co-operation and mutual trust, sharing common vision and strategies to build unity and integrity of the Nation, creating communication bridges between culturally diverse people and two-way dissemination of cultural knowledge.

Keshav Mahavidyalaya observed the Sikkim Week from 19th to 23rd March, 2018. A plethora of
events was organized to celebrate the occasion. On 19th and 20th March, a Documentary Screening was organized which showcased the rich heritage and culture of Sikkim and the struggle behind its inclusion in the country. On 21st March, a Poster Making Competition was organized to observe the scenic beauty of Sikkim with the Theme - Landscapes of Sikkim. On 27th and 28th of March, a folk dance was performed by the College students. There was also a bulletin board decorated in the College which had various elements of the State.

Rajkiya Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Shankar Nagar, East Delhi, organized Quiz Competition on Sikkim's Geography, History and Culture with full enthusiasm, zeal and energy in which 17 participants from Classes VII and VIII participated.

**Uttar Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya**

**Department of Culture**

Cultural troupes of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Maharashtra performed during the U.P. Day celebrations and Republic Day Parade which were witnessed by thousands of spectators standing on both sides of the road along the route of the parade. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh felicitated the Cultural Groups of States with a cash reward of Rs.1 lakh. Several programmes of Folk Music, Folk Dances/Songs, Ram Lilas of various States, especially of Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Maharashtra, were organized on the occasion of Establishment Day of Uttar Pradesh and Republic Day 2018 from 24th to 28th January, 2018 and also at “Deepotsav” in Ayodhya, “Geeta Utsav” in Kurukshetra, Suraj Kund Craft Mela, Faridabad, Haryana, and also at Uttar Pradesh Investors Summit consisting of elite audiences from abroad. Apart from these programmes, several exhibitions were also organized by the State Archives and Lalit Kala Academy to showcase the journey of development of Uttar Pradesh and the development of its core infrastructure. A meeting was organized with the industrialists before the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to encourage the production of popular products with the aim for making EBSB highly successful. One artist from Uttar Pradesh Shri Sunil Kumar of Ghazipur performed the Dhobiya Dance in January end in Shillong, Meghalaya.

**Foundation Day of Arunachal Pradesh – 20th February, 2018**

A contingent of Kathak Kendra, Sangeet Natak Academy, Lucknow, performed Kathak dance in
Itanagar during the Foundation Day celebrations.

National Service Scheme - Youth Exchange Programme of NSS

A contingent of 20 persons of Savitri Bai Phule University, Pune, visited Lucknow University which coincided with U.P. Day celebrations. Their counterparts of Lucknow University also stayed with them to facilitate their understanding of culture and cuisine. They took part in Republic Day Parade with the Tableau of Chief Electoral Officer, Uttar Pradesh, which was adjudged first. They also performed their dance forms like Lavni etc., at Guru Nanak Girls Degree College and Awadh Girls Degree College during their NSS Special Camps. The team performed cultural programmes at several schools in Lucknow and also visited several tourist places to know about the culture, living style and food habits of the people of Uttar Pradesh. They interacted with the Vice Chancellor of Bhatkhande Music Institute, Deemed University. They visited offices to see the working of some important in Lucknow. The volunteers dressed in their ethnic attire had an interactive session with Shri Ram Naik, Hon’ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh, at Raj Bhawan, Lucknow, and Dr. Rita Bahuguna Joshi, Cabinet Minister, Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Police contingent of Arunachal Pradesh took part in march past at the State level parade in the Republic Day in Lucknow.

Nehru Yuvak Kendra - Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme at Sakshar Niketan, Lucknow – 21st January – 4th February, 2018

25 youths from Meghalaya and 25 youths from Arunachal Pradesh along with 50 youths from 5 districts of U.P participated in the Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme at Sakshar Niketan, Lucknow from 21st January to 4th February, 2018. They took active part in sports, cultural and academic activities along with sight-seeing and interaction with local dignitaries to learn and know about the State & share their experiences with them. The
in Shillong i.e. from 5th to 19th December, 2017. They shared their experience with other 50 youths of the host districts. They took active part in sports, cultural and academic activities along with sight-seeing and interaction with local dignitaries to learn and know about State & share their experiences with them.

Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli

Chandigarh Lalit Kala Akademi hosted a Drawing Workshop in Chandigarh Arts College to provide a platform to artists. More than 22 artists of varied age groups and expertise participated in the Workshop, working on complex artworks in acrylics, charcoal on paper, dark pen foundations and various other mediums. Two award winning artists in the Warli tribal art form hailing from Dadra and Nagar Haveli showcased miniature Warli tribal arts made with dark black pigments on a white sheet. Both Artists Rajesh Gaju Mahala and Kalu Bhai Bhawar took inspiration from their everyday life back home for their art works. Students of Chandigarh College of Arts, Chandigarh College of Architecture Graduates, freelancers, art teachers, renowned and seasoned artists were seen engrossed in giving finishing touch to their great artworks. Numerous artworks were created with a combination of black charcoal, washed sheets, sharply and bluntly carved eraser.

Government of Chandigarh mutually shared and exchanged sentences and words in Hindi, Gurumukhi, Gujarati and Marathi with the Government of Dadra & Nagar Haveli. This would give a boost to linguistic and cultural affinity and integration among the Union Territories.

Rajasthan and Assam

Government of Rajasthan in co-ordination with its partner Assam as also with others has been organising as a part of EBSB, “Art Yatra” in various parts of the country which has given a major
fillip to EBSB activities comprising a wide range of interactions, unity marches, unity messages, demonstrations through discussions, art, culture, history, languages, academicians meet, students meet, people to people interactions, interactions in educational institutions, fashion shows, etc. Several artists of different States, including a large number from Assam and Rajasthan, are participating in this event. Over 10,000 Students /Artists /Academicians/Professionals are engaged in interactive sessions, workshops, competitions, in different States/UTs. More than 2 lakh people witnessed the EBSB Art Yatra in visited States. The yatra was covering over 10,000 kilometres. As a part of the Yatra, various traditional machines, vehicles, tools, vintage items etc., are also displayed. The Diversity with Unity is in its full swing and rhythm.

Besides above, Assam was in focus in Rajasthan in Government College, Bikaner, in its Annual Function which also included a variety of cultural activities under EBSB matrix on 2nd February, 2018. Similar function was held in Government Girls College, Tonk, on 6th February, 2018. Also, lectures were also organised on different topics related to Assam in all Colleges under Yuva Vikas Kendra, National Service Scheme, Women`s cell, etc. The EBSB activities are being organised in thousands of Educational Institutions and in all districts of Rajasthan, even in the Institutions in the remotest areas.

**Punjab and Andhra Pradesh**

A group of 30 members (including 3 staff members) identified from youth members belonging to Collegiate Education Department and from different parts of the State of Andhra Pradesh started their journey for Inter-State Youth Exchange programme under EBSB on 25th January, 2018 from Vijayawada. Specially designed T-Shirts, Caps and bags with Logo of EBSB Programme and Youth Advancement Department
of Andhra Pradesh Government was distributed to the team. The team reached Chandigarh on 27th January, 2018. The Andhra Pradesh youth members went for city tour of Chandigarh and saw various places of tourist attractions in Chandigarh - like Rock Garden, Rose Garden and Sukhna Lake, High Court, Punjab University Campus, etc. In the evening an interactive session on history & cultural heritage of paired States and Languages with proverbs on Telugu and Punjabi Languages was organized. Another session on the nutritional values of varieties of Andhra food and delicacies were explained through a PPT presentation by Kumari Krishna Sannidha, a Graduate from Visakhapatnam, which was well appreciated. The team thereafter reached Anandpur Sahib and paid obeisance at Gurudwara Takhat Sri Kashgarh Sahib. Later, the team visited Golden Temple in Amritsar and had langar in the largesse there. They were delighted with the sight of volunteers and sheer amount of food that is prepared and served round the clock. The team enjoyed the marvellous view of Golden temple at sunset and had beautiful experience of the spiritual and peaceful space of the temple. The team also visited Jallianwala Bagh Museum. The team was later taken to historic Khalsa College at Khalsa where a motorcycle rally was organized with both the Andhra Pradesh contingent and students of Khalsa college and it shared the experiences of cultural and heritage values of the both the States. A session was organized in Khalsa College on the subject of great culture, language and art form of Punjab State, including details of history and the weapons
used at the historic time. The reference books in token of the facts and figures was also shown to the contingent. During the visit the team realized that the Khalsa College’s contribution towards the freedom history of India was significant as it generated many famous freedom fighters, political leaders, armed forces generals, scientists, famous players-Olympians, actors, writers, journalists and scholars.

The team also went to Indo-Pak borders for watching the Retreat Ceremony of Wagah Border. It had enthusiastic and amazing experience when it cheerfully participated in Bhangra dance and screamed “Jai Ho” showing its love for the countrywomen/men. It cheered loudly during the grand parade in the intense atmosphere which was filled with nationalistic fervour. The visit to museum of Sardar Bhagat Singh brought tears in the eyes of the team members seeing the sacrifices made by the legend for the sake of Independence and witnessing the life of Sardar Bhagat Singh through the exhibits of the Museum. Later in the day the team also had an interactive session with farmers at a village where they were explained about potentiality of different types of crops and manufacturing of jaggery in sugarcane fields.

On 1st February, 2018 a cultural evening was organized at Chandigarh University campus where the classical dances of Kuchipudi, Tribal Dance like Dhimsa, Folk dance by Repalle Troupe were performed by the Andhra Pradesh team. A fusion item on EBSB with the combination of Punjabi Song and Classical songs
of Andhra by pairing Bhangra Dancers and Kuchipudi dancers was made. Before commencing the return journey from Chandigarh to Vijayawada on 2nd February, 2018 an interactive session with Punjabi Youth Club members was organized wherein the experience of the visit to Punjab under EBSB was shared by the Andhra Pradesh team.

**Jharkhand and Goa**

Workshop of Cuisines of Jharkhand 2018: A workshop of Cuisines of Jharkhand was arranged in Goa from 25th January to 5th February, 2018 in which 20 ladies of Goa were trained for the preparation of Cuisines and Recipes of Jharkhand successfully.

Exchange of Alphabets, Sentences and Idioms: Alphabets, 100 sentences, 20 idioms of Konkani language and other information about Goa were provided to all primary and middle schools of Jharkhand. A special class on every working day from February 2018 was organized at each and every primary and middle school of Jharkhand. Documentaries on literature, culture, Lok Sangeet, Netarhat (Tourist place), ISM Dhanbad (IIT) as well as on cuisines and Recipes of Jharkhand having Konkani alphabets, hundred sentences and twenty phrases were distributed in all the primary and secondary schools of Jharkhand and special classes thereof were organized so that students of Jharkhand can have knowledge of Konkani. In addition to this, special classes are being organized on each working day in all primary and secondary schools of Jharkhand from February 2018 on History, Geography, Social Science, Health, Child & Women Welfare, Tribal Welfare, Roadways, Railways, Civil Aviation, Tourism, Cultural Activity, Sports, Agriculture, Trade etc., of Goa so that students can acquaint themselves with the knowledge of Goa.

Television : Documentary films of twenty five minutes were prepared by Television Jharkhand in various subjects of Jharkhand - like literature, culture, Lok Sangeet, Netarhat (Tourist place), ISM Dhanbad (IIT) as well as on cuisines and were sent to Goa for telecast & same are being telecast on Goa television.

Aakashwani: Aakashwani, Ranchi, Jharkhand, arranged special programmes from time to time like Charcha, Bhet Varta, depicting geographical status, environment, nature’s beauty, culture, history, cuisine & tourism of Goa. The CDs of local popular songs in Mundari and Nagpuri etc., were sent to Goa
Akashwani for broadcasting so that people of Goa can know about the Lokgeet of Jharkhand.

**Gujarat and Chhattisgarh**

Government of Gujarat as a part of EBSB shared words and sentences as exchange in Gujarati with the Government of Chhattisgarh. Government of Chhattisgarh also as a part of Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat shared sentences as exchange in Hindi with the Government of Gujarat, which would give a boost to linguistic and cultural affinity and integration among States.

**Chhattisgarhi Food Festival**

Institute of Hotel Management, Ahmedabad, was invited by Gujarat Tourism to organise and participate in Chhattisgarhi Food Festival held at IHM, Gandhinagar. Chhattisgarh State participated with three cooks and a Cultural Group. The Chhattisgarhi cooks taught live demonstration of Chhattisgarhi food items. Various food dishes like Chila, Muthia, Aamat, Bhajia, Bara, Farra, Bafauri, Khurma, and Moong dal halwa were served to people. Gujarati Food was also part of Chhattisgarhi Food Festival.

**Madhavpur Ghed Fair**

Madhavpur Ghed Fair was conducted from 25th March to 29th March. The significant village of Madhavpur on the seashore close to Porbandar is a cultural hotspot in Gujarat. The temple town is known to have been the venue of wedding of Lord Krishna with Rukmani, who came from faraway Arunachal Pradesh. The celebrations were held for five days from the day of Ram Navami. It seemed that the town blushed like a bride as the colourfully decorated Charoit with the idol of Krishna passed as procession through the village. The local folks threw colours at each other in the festive mood and also participated actively by performing various dance forms. Though Gujarat is paired with Chhattisgarh, this year in the spirit of EBSB, the Madhavpur Ghed Fair connected with the State of Arunachal Pradesh.
Pradesh was celebrated. The fair was attended by many dignitaries – Governors of Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat, Chief Ministers of Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat, Union Minister of State for Culture, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Minister of Tourism, Gujarat, Minister of Culture, Assam, Chief Secretary, Gujarat and other dignitaries and concerned citizens. The programmes in the Fair contained Manipuri dance-drama based on Rukmini-Krishna using the Zhang and Pung, Idu Mishmi religious dance performance, Neonanga folksongs of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur’s Lai Haraoba dance performance, Visit to Kirti Mandir, Porbandar, by all the Dignitaries, Visit to Madhapur Temple, Visit to Art & Craft exhibition, painting hall based on Krishna, Madhya se Madhapur North-Eastern Culture Program based on kidnapping of Rukmani by Shri Krishna, different dance forms performed by Manipur artists like Lai Haraoba, Pung Cholam etc.

**Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme - 1st to 15th March, 2018**

Chhattisgarh sent 50 students to Gujarat for Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme. 50 students from various places of Gujarat also participated in Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme. The students were on 15 days study tour under the guidance of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, Gandhinagar. The programme contained Celebration of Holy Festival in Gujarat, Cultural / Musical Programme at Central Vista, Interactive session on celebrating unity in diversity of our nation and strengthening & maintaining the fabric of traditionally existing emotional bonds between people of our country, Visits to Dandi / Gandhi Kutir, Group Discussion & presentation by each group, Sports (Friendly Badminton / Volley Ball Match), Debate Competition on EBSB, Visit to Balaji Temple & Cultural Heritage Discussion, Sports, including Kabaddi, Cultural Programme on Communal Harmony, participation in Vasantotsav Programme at Sanskruti Kunj, Panchayati Raj & Gram Sabha sessions, Provision of Constitution & Amendments session / Gram Sabha, visit to B. K. Rajyoga Centre & Biodiversity Park, participation in Women Empowerment Programme and Hon’ble CM’s Programme at Auditorium, Cultural Presentation, programme giving a glimpse of the Best Practices in Governance in the fields of Healthcare, education, sanitations and use of technology, Friendly Football/Volleyball match, discussion on Start-up India, E-Governance, Digital India, Gender Equality and Good Governance at Circuit House, Gandhinagar, visits to places
of Wild Life, Flora & Fauna, Biodiversity Park, Botanical Garden discussion, Visit to Industries, corporate houses, food procession industries, Visit of Vidhan Sabha, Gujarat, & Meeting with Honourable Ministers, MLAs & Speaker, Visit to Market, KPTL & Meeting with Red Cross, JUCIKA, Junior Chambers Club, etc., recreation & sharing Documentary Film of Partner States, Visit to the Raj Bhavan & meeting with Hon’ble Governor of Gujarat, Expert talk on National Achievement / Swachhata Mission at Environment Institute, Visit to Sabarmati Ashram, Visit to Science city and Adalaj Step well heritage site and the - Valedictory Function.

Handball Tournament
A handball Tournament was organised between the paired States across India, under the EBSB initiative. The Gujarat Handball Association organised the Handball game at Sports Authority of India, Gandhinagar on 31st March, 2018. EBSB pairs Gujarat-Chhattisgarh and Daman & Diu-Puducherry participated in the Handball Tournament events.

Maharashtra and Kerala
Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Government of Maharashtra organized a programme “Kalariyapattu- An Art of War from Kerala” under the theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat from 24th to 26th March, 2018 at Nagpur. It was participated by ten Kalariyapattu artists from Kerala.

Ministry of Culture
Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav held in Madhya Pradesh from 24th - 28th February, 2018
To celebrate the idea of unity in diversity, Ministry of Culture organised Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM) under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) matrix in Madhya Pradesh from 24th to 28th February, 2018 covering Gwalior, Bhopal and Indore. The festival showcased a variety of tribal and classical art forms from different cities and towns across the country accompanied by dance, music,
drama, entertainment and food. The festival was inaugurated by Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Mines, Government of India, at Man Mandir Fort in Gwalior.

Maan Mandir Fort, Gwalior, came live to food stalls, showcasing an assortment of regional cuisines. In addition, power-packed performances were delivered by different folk and contemporary artists. The inaugural day witnessed soulful performance of Invocation by Dhrupad Kendra, Gwalior; Dagar vani by Pandit Abhijeet Sukhdane with Pandit Sanjay Aagle on the Pakhawaj and Mallick brothers from the Darbhanga Gharana of Drupad. The guests experienced an unparalleled shopping journey viz., handicrafts, cuisines, rangoli painting, sculpture, photography, documentation and performing arts-folk. The second day of the Mahotsav witnessed the performance by young maestros like Maestro Sumeet Anand from the Guahar Bani (Dhrupad tradition), Yakhlesh Baghel and Anuj Pratap Singh (Dhrupad Jugalbandi) and Rudra Veena recital by Ustad Bahauddin Dagar. Apart from this, Ministry of Culture organized other activities like screening of films on the cultural traditions of Nagaland and Manipur and other North Eastern States. Exhibition on conservation of heritage by Archaeological Survey of India and a Food festival with traditional cuisines from different States with special focus on Nagaland and Manipur was also showcased.

After a 2-day extravaganza of promoting India’s heritage in Gwalior, Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav on 3rd day in its second leg of journey reached Bhopal for a two-day long cultural activities. The two days Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav was inaugurated by Hon’ble Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Ms Anandiben Patel,
in the presence of Member of Parliament from Bhopal Shri Alok Sanjar. The Festival brought together artists from different cultural background sharing the stage with colours of their cultural performances spreading all over making the audience getting a glimpse of the country's rich heritage. A handloom and handicrafts-utsav was also part of the event.

The festival in its first day in Bhopal, showcased musical performance of Dhrupad by Padamshri awardees Gundecha Brothers, S/Shri Sanjeev Jha and Manish Kumar. In the Dance segment, a folk dance performance of Pung Cholam Dance from Manipur was showcased. Beside this a programme of Devotional Music along with the creations of different saints was also performed. The RSM in Bhopal under the broad umbrella theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat covered a profusion of art forms from folk music and dance. On second day (27th February) Shri Vidhya Lal gave performance of Kathak along with the Tribal people of Meitis community performing a folk dance – Lai Haroaba and Khamba Thoibi from Manipur in Bhopal.

The citizens of Bhopal witnessed the flavours of folk dances from across the country. The festival saw performers sharing the stage and filling it with their colourful array of folklores by performing folk dance forms from all over India. Folk dances from different States were presented - Badhai Folk Dance and Gudaum Baza (Madhya Pradesh), Chhau folk dance and Paika folk dance (Jharkhand), Chapelli and Ghasiyaari (Uttarakhand), Kalbelia Bhavai, and Langa Mavaganyar (Rajasthan), Faag (Haryana), Bhangra and Jindua (Punjab), Pung Cholam, Thangta and stick dance (Manipur), Lawni folk dance (Maharashtra). The Mahotsav gave people an opportunity to view and understand the colourful, vibrant and authentic folk dances from diverse corners, which together make up the ethos of our country.

In its last leg of journey on 28th February, 2018 RSM ended with a dazzling closing ceremony in Indore which was graced by the esteemed presence of the Lok Sabha Speaker, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan,
as the Chief Guest. Braving showers, people participated in the valedictory function of the cultural extravaganza in large numbers. Starting its journey from the Gwalior's Maan Mandir Fort, the event showcased an amalgamation of Crafts & Art Forms, Cuisine Fest and Magnificent Performances. The festival received continuous gratitude for playing a major role to effectively connect the audience to the rich, diverse and undiscovered culture of India under the umbrella of EBSB.

The festival showcased a titanic variety of tribal and classical art forms from different cities and towns across the country accompanied by dance, music, drama, entertainment and food. A handloom and handicrafts-utsav was also part of this Mahotsav. The gastronomic culture of Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and several other partnering States was brought through a food festival. The citizens of Indore were enthralled to see the folk dances like Pandvaani from Chattisgarh, Gudum Baja from Madhya Pradesh, Bhangra from Punjab, Laai Haroba Marshal Art from Manipur, Faag and Ghoomar from Haryana, Langaa and Bhavaai from Rajasthan, Chapeli from Uttarakhand, Chaau from Jharkhand and Laavni from Maharashtra. In its journey of 5 days in Madhya Pradesh, the festival promoted India’s rich Heritage by showcasing the flavours of folk dances to the citizens of Gwalior, Bhopal and Indore and their positive effect in and around the country feeling the echo of EBSB everywhere. The festival brought together performers from across the country sharing the stage and filling it with their colourful array of folklores by performing folk dance forms from all over India.
All through the event the Seven Zonal Cultural Centres under the Ministry of Culture worked in cohesion to make this festival success under the umbrella theme of EBSB. The Mahotsav was broadcast live on YouTube Channel of Ministry of Culture on all days of its journey in Madhya Pradesh.

**Ministry of Tourism**

At the fag end of January 2018 reinforcing the principle of Tourism for All, Ministry of Tourism organised Bharat Parv at India Gate Lawns and Gyan Path in front of Red Fort in conjunction with Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The Event took in its fold tableaux, performances by the Armed Forces Bands (Static and Dynamic), a multi-cuisine food court, craft mela, different cultural performances of the country, photo exhibition by DAVP, etc. The North Zone Cultural Centre of Department of Youth Affairs also organised folk and tribal dances consisting of cultural troupes from difference parts of the country. Food court with 50 stalls was set up by States/Union Territories. National Association of Street Vendors of India showcased street foods from different regions which were also participated by Institutes of Hotel Managements and ITDC. The craft mela showcased the diverse handicrafts with 52 stalls in collaboration with State Governments/Union Territories and Ministry of Textiles (Development Commissioner, Handicrafts and Handlooms). 15 Theme Pavilions of States/Union Territories and IRCTC showcased their strength with tourism products. A live cookery demonstration area was also held promoting cuisines of different States/Union Territories of India which were enjoyed by visitors and participants alike. DAVP organised an Exhibition on the theme “Naya Bharat Hum Karke Rahenge.” The Armed Forces Bands included patriotic songs which created patriotic mood and nationalistic feelings promoting an aura of the rich cultural diversity of an united India. Another programme of classical folk dances of India was organized by India Tourism, Kolkata, in collaboration with ICCR and Netaji Club at Taldi High School Grounds showcasing the cultural diversity of India. The audience comprised travel, trade sectors, school student and their parents and also the local inhabitants from the Sundarbans area.

India Tourism, New Delhi, celebrated Teej festival with the Rajasthan Government. The activities as a part of EBSB also included celebration of Losar Festival from 16th to 19th February, 2018. During this event a festive atmosphere was created and talks were given by a Sikkim specialist on its tourism products to a selected
An event focussing on the paired State of Assam was also organized in collaboration with Regional Director (North East).

India Tourism, Kolkata, organized a programme on 23rd February, 2018 at the Indian Museum Kolkata courtyard entitled “Vasant Utsav” in which cultural programmes comprising classical and folk dances of India were showcased by the famous exponent Ms Dona Ganguly and her troupe. The audience comprised foreign tourists, travel trade and hospitality sectors. A two-day event was also organized in association with Department of Tourism, Governments of West Bengal and Rajasthan, at the end of February 2018 in Kolkata to showcase the cultural, culinary and tourism aspects of these two States along with meetings with the travel trade and hospitality members. India Tourism, Kolkata, along with the Departments of Tourism, Governments of Bihar and Tripura, organized a programme in March 2018 in Patna to showcase the culture and cuisine tourisms of both the States.

The Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Kovalam, Kerala organized 3 days Annual Food and Fun Festival- FANDANGO from 16th to 18th March, 2018. It also organized cultural programmes which included Kathakkali dance, Instrumental fusion music and Shingarimelam.

The Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Pusa, New Delhi organized a theme lunch under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat in the Institute on 16th March inspired by the State of Assam.

The Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Guwahati, Assam, organized a theme lunch on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat in the Institute on 28th March, 2018 on “Annam Bhrammam- Food is
God”.

Department of Youth Affairs

Inter-State Youth Exchange Programmes

Uttarakhand and Karnataka

Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB was inaugurated on 21st January, 2018 at Youth Hostel Campus, Mussoorie. All participants were divided into 10 groups, each group was given chart to make representation on diverse cuisine, music, dance, theatre, movies and films, handcrafts, sports, literature, festivals, paintings, sculpture etc., of each other States. After the presentation of each State debate competition on EBSB was organized.

A visit to Pani was organized with 2 kms tracking. At Youth Hostel, Mussorie, after flag-hosting ceremony all the participating youths visited Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, where cultural programmes of Uttarakhand and Karnataka pair were performed by the participants. All together 100 participants, i.e., 50 participants from Karnataka and 50 participants from Uttarakhand participated in the programmes. The programmes included Lecture Session, Debate, Field Visit, Tracking and Institutes of National Importance viz., Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, Eco Park, Dhanolti, Wadia Insitute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun.

Madhya Pradesh and Manipur and Nagaland

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Bhopal, organized 15 days Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB at WALMI Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, from 29th January to 12th February 2018. The programmes started with classical Kathak performance in which Guru Vandana, Shiv Stuti and Taal Paksh in which Ganesh Paran was performed. The participants from Madhya Pradesh, Manipur & Nagaland performed their folk culture in traditional costumes. Ravi Rana Group performed patriotic song. The cultural programmes were organized at Jawahar Bal Bhawan, Bhopal. The participants got an opportunity to interact with Ms Anandiben...
Patel, Hon’ble Governor of Madhya Pradesh, at Raj Bhavan, Bhopal. Hon’ble Governor encouraged the youth to work for Make in India, a Shreshtha Bharat by working towards its development in all major fields. She emphasized on the concept of unity in diversity through assimilating various cultures & costumes of the States of India. The programme included Lecture, Debate, Cultural Performance, Language Learning, Food habits of both the States, Sports and Games, etc. As a part of the programme a visit to Sanchi and Udaigiri was also organized for the participants. The participants also got opportunity to interact with Shri Chetan Chauhan, Cricketer. A total of 105 youths participated in the Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme.

Delhi and Sikkim

Inter-State Youth Exchange and Darshan Samiti Campus, Samadhi of Gandhi Ji and other former Prime Ministers’ Samadhis. Academic session was conducted on participatory exercise on life-skills and leadership quality. A Youth Convention was organized on the occasion in co-ordination with Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti in which various social and national issues, including flagship schemes of Government of India, were discussed. The participants were taken for field visits to Agra and Vrindavan. The participants also got an opportunity to visit the Suraj Kund International Craft Mela. The participants also visited one of the Youth Clubs at Village Maidan Garhi in South District and interacted with the Youth Club Members. The participants were taken to corporate houses in an around Delhi to understand and have an interface with big industry houses, cyber hub, Food Hub, Medical Hub and Education Hub. A unique programme of family placement of 4 days was also organized for real life time experience with the family members of Delhi. The participants visited several historical and tourist places in Delhi viz., Mughal Garden of Rashtrapati Bhawan, Rashtrapati Bhawan, South and North Block, Parliament House, Vijay Chowk, Teen Murti, Birla House, Qutub Minar, Lotus Temple, Akshardham, India Gate, etc.

Various competitions were also organized during the 15 days programme which included Declamation Contest, Essay Writing Competition, Drawing Competition, Language learning Competition and Quiz Competition on Indian Culture, History and Nation Building. A session on effective communication and
personality development was taken by Dr. Sudhir Kapoor. The programme also included organization of Youth Parliament, Cultural Programme and Sports. On 26th February, 2018 Dr. A.K. Dubey, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, Maj. Gen. Dilawar Singh, Director General, Shri Dinesh Pratap Singh, Vice Chairman, NYKS, graced the concluding function. Prizes and Certificate were distributed to the winners. All together 104 participants, i.e., 47 participants from Sikkim and 57 participants from Delhi participated in the programme.

**Haryana and Telangana**

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangtha, Ambala, Haryana, organized 15 days Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB at Bharat Scout and Guide Training Centre, Ambala Cantt, Haryana, from 2nd to 16th February, 2018. The participants were taken from the States of Haryana and Telangana. The programmes included visit of the participants to a village Dhankor, where the participants interacted with Youth Club Members and eminent persons of the village and participated in cultural Youth Exchange Programmes. They also visited Panjokheda Sahib Gurudwara. On the next day, the participants visited Krishi Vigyan Kendra where they were given information on Mushroom Culture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Product, Agriculture, Lab to Land. The programmes included Language Learning, Sports and Games, Cultural Programme. They also visited National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, and got information on Dairy production, Dairy farming, Museum and Film Show on Milk Production. The participants got an opportunity to interact with the students of Gandhi Memorial National College, Ambala, and participated in cultural competitions. The participants were taken to Chandigarh where they saw rock garden, Rose Garden, Sukna lake and Nadasahib Gurudwara. They also got an opportunity to visit Kurukshetra where they saw Jyotisar, Kalpana Chawla Planetarium, Dharohar, Shri Krishna Museum, Panorama, Bharamsarovar, etc. All together 101 participants, i.e., 46 participants from Telangana and 55 participants from Haryana participated in the programmes.

**Andhra Pradesh and**
Punjab

Nehru Yuva Kendra Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) organized Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB in Visakhapatnam from 24th January to 7th February, 2018 at Youth Hostel, Beach Road, with 100 Participants from Punjab and Andhra Pradesh. During the programmes Singing competitions were conducted and the participants participated in Republic Day parade, which was organized by the District Administration in Police Parade Grounds and also joined the Flag Hoisting. Participants got an opportunity to interact with Sri G. Srinivasa Rao, Hon’ble Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of Andhra Pradesh, at Shilparamam. They Visited Simhachalam – Lakshmi Narasimha Temple, Kaialasagiri Park, Visakha City Central Park (in which Laser show and musical foundation was seen by the participants) and Shilparamam in which different States and districts artisans manufactured items were shown to them. On the fourth day of the programme, Shri V.L.V.S.S. Subba Rao, Senior Economic Advisor, Ministry of Human Resource Development, interacted with participants and had discussions on Educational rights and related schemes. The team members visited INS Kursura Submarine Museum. On the fifth day of the programme sessions on Health Care Education, Sanitation and Preventions of Health problems etc., along with a medical camp were conducted in collaboration with local societies and hospitals. On the sixth day the team visited Tribal Museum and inter-acted with Smt. G. Komal Kishore, Special Commissioner, Department of Youth Advancement, and Nodal Officer, EBSB, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The team also participated in Dhimsa, a traditional tribal dance, and inter-acted with Tribal Youth at the Araku Valley. On 7th day a session was taken on soft skills and personality development. Dance performances and learning practices by both the partner States in Kuchipudi and Bhangra were organized. An inter-active session was conducted by Ms Kishore. She gave inspirational and motivating messages and speeches on EBSB. She distributed T-Shirts, Caps and Bags with the logo of EBSB to the participants. A Rally was also held on Beach Road, Vishakhapatnam, which was attended by the Special Commissioner also. The
Programmes inter alia covered culture, singing competitions, tourism, language, education, sports, trade, etc. Interestingly, Punjab participants trained the Andhra participants in its traditional Bhangra dance which was quite riveting. The participants participated in debate competitions on the theme of EBSB. An Interactive Session on Diversity of Food across the country and its importance in national integration was taken by Shri Ravi, Principal, Food Craft Institute, Visakhapatnam. Dr. Balamurali Krishna took a session on Health care education, sanitation and prevention of health problems, etc. A health camp was conducted in collaboration with My Cure Hospitals, Visakhapatnam, in association with M/s Gayatri Cultural & Welfare Society, Visakhapatnam. As a part of field visit to tribal area, the participants visited Borra caves (which were naturally created before 2000 years). The participants visited Best village in Visakhapatnam District which is Open Defecation Free Village of Narisipatnam Block – Dharmasagaram. Participants interacted with village formal and informal leaders, Self Help Groups and Youth Club members. The participants got opportunity for keen observation and learning of the Village’s best practices. On the 9th day Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society organised a session on awareness and precautions of AIDS. It also conducted group discussions on Government schemes in the areas of Girl Child, Sanitation, Health care, Insurance in Punjab & Andhra Pradesh. On the 10th Day, the Groups presented their consolidated report. As a part of Industrial visit, the participants were taken to Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and also the 2nd biggest Port in India, i.e., Visakhapatnam Port Trust. Thereafter the participants visited Naval War Ship with the guidance of Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam. On 11th Day various competitions like Essay writing, Elocution and Dance Competitions were organized. Thereafter further a film show was presented by the Field Publicity Office, Visakhapatnam, on Gandhi and child labour. Dr. G Bhagya Rao, Psychiatrist, King George Hospital, took session on health issues, prevention of Drug abuse, alcoholism, suicidal tendency and best Health practices. On 12th Day Prof. Dakshinamurthi, Correspondent of Gaytri Vidya Parishad Educational Institutions, conducted a session on Expert talk on national achievements. World Cancer Day was also organized to raise awareness of cancer and to encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment by co-ordinating with Department of Youth Services, Visakhapatnam. On 13th Day lectures were given on the provision of Constitution 73rd amendment Act, 1992 & 74
Amendment, Act 1992 and Gram Sabha by Mrs. Nagalakshmi, Resource Person from District Panchayat Office, Visakhapatnam. Group Discussions on the provision of Constitution 73rd amendment Act, 1992 & 74th amendment, Act 199 and Gram Sabha by Dr. E.P.S. Bhagyalakshmi, District Programme Officer, NSS, Visakhapatnam, and Mock Grama Sabha were organized by the Students of Indian Maritime University and the participants. On 14th Day Shri Sandeep Kumar, Vice Chairman (Deputy Minister), Rajasthan Youth Board, interacted with the participants and discussions on different issues like language, culture and experiences of the participants etc., were held. A rally from Youth Hostel to Andhra University was conducted in co-ordination with NSS. On 15th Day Valedictory Function was organized at Zilla Parishad Meeting Hall, Visakhapatnam. The participants got an opportunity to learn new things like partner States’ Culture, customs, language, traditions, Food. Apart from all these activities, they observed how a village can become 100% Open Defecation Free, employment opportunities by Skill development Institute, and were motivated and inspired by Eminent Persons. The participants explored Visakhapatnam’s Institutions, Companies, Organizations through visits to Port Trust, HPCL, Naval Base, Shilparamam, Tourism places, Religious Places etc., throughout the programme. They got an opportunity to know the Government Welfare schemes of both the States through Group discussions and lecture sessions, etc. Out of total 100 participants, 45 participants were from the State of Punjab and 55 participants from the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Uttar Pradesh and Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh

Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB was inaugurated on 21st January, 2018 at Sachharta Niketan, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The programme was organized from 21st January to 4th February, 2018. Declamation Contest and Essay Competition were organized for the participants followed by cultural programmes. A drawing competition was also organised. A cultural competition was also arranged for the participants to showcase their folk song, dance, music and culture. Football and Volley Ball Tournament was organised between the participants. A documentary film of the Tourism Department was also screened during the programme. The participants also got an opportunity to the taste of local food and learn the important recipes of Lucknowi food. Shri Padmakant Sharma of Hindi
Sansathan talked about cultural, literary and historical aspects of our nation and stressed the need of further strong National Integration. Republic Day was celebrated by the participants on 26th January, 2018 by flag hosting and speech by eminent personality on the occasion. This was followed by Cultural programmes. Shri Girish Mishra of Sanskaar Bharati took a session on spiritual and intellectual issues related to social development. The participants also got an opportunity to visit Shilp Gram in the Lucknow Mahotsav and viewed the handicraft and traditional dresses, local foods, and also participated in cultural programmes. Shri Chetan Chauhan, Hon’ble Minister of Youth Welfare, Vocational Training and Skill Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh, addressed the participants and gave a clarion call to the participants to get the information on flagship schemes of Government. The participants got an opportunity to visit Residency, Ambedkar Park, Imambara and Bhool Bhulaiya. They also visited the historical place of Bithur in Kanpur and got an opportunity to know about the welfare schemes of Central and State Governments. Language learning sessions of all three States were also conducted during the camp. They also visited Unnao for Ganga Darshan Programme. A mock Youth Parliament was also organised during the programmes. A total of 100 participants from the States of Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh participated in the programme.

**Chhattisgarh and Gujarat**

Nehru Yuva Kendra, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, organized Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB in Raipur from 1st to 15th February, 2018 at Ramchandra Mishan Ashram, Amleshwar Patan, District Durg, with 100 participants from Chhattisgarh and Gujarat. Sessions on Cashless Transaction and Digital India were also conducted by the experts. A Declamation Contest was organised on the occasion on EBSB followed by Cultural Programmes. Football, cricket and kabaddi matches were also organised between the participants of Gujarat and Chhattisgarh. A programme on traditional sports was also organised for the participants. A documentary film on Chhattisgarh Tourism and its culture was screened for the participants. A yoga and meditation session was organised by experts from
Ram Chandra Mission Ashram. The cultural programme included the folk, art and culture of Chhattisgarh State, including Karma, Sua and Panthi and Garba dances of Gujarat State. Language learning programme was also organised under the supervision of Dr. Surendra Dubey, Chhattisgarh Rajbhasha Aayog, and Shri Surendra Raval from Gujarati Shikshan Sansthan. A Nukkad Natak was also organised and participants were taken to Champaran to see the important place related with Shri Vallabacharya. The participants got an opportunity to visit archeologically important place, Sirpur, under the guidance and supervision of Chhattisgarh Tourism Division. The participants also got an opportunity to meet and interact with Shri Raman Singh, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, and also interacted with Shri Gauri Shankar Aggarwal, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and Shri Ajay Chandrakar, Hon’ble Health and Panchayat Minister, Government of Chhattisgarh. The programme was concluded on 15th February 2018 in the presence of eminent personalities in which certificate and prizes were distributed to the participants followed by grand cultural programmes.

**Daman & Diu and Puducherry**

Nehru Yuva Kendra Daman, Daman & Diu, organized Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB in Daman from 19th January to 2nd February 2018 at Government College, Girls Hostel, Nani Daman. Inaugural function was held on 20th January, 2018 at Swami Vivekananda Auditorium, Daman. The Programmes included Yoga/Exercise/Campus Cleaning/Community Singing, Interactive session on celebrating unity in diversity of our Nation, Strengthening & maintaining the fabric of traditionally existing emotional bonds between people of our country, Promoting the spirit of National Integration, Sports and Games like football, cricket and indoor games, Daily cultural programmes, Debate competition on EBSB, Group discussions & presentations by each group, Cleanliness drive at Devka beach and Jampore Beach, Educational tour to important historical and significant places and a number of related events towards strengthening the fabric of a united Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat. A total of 100 participants from Daman & Diu and Puducherry participated in the programmes.

**Rajasthan and Assam**

Inter-State Youth Exchange
Programme (EBSB) was inaugurated on 20th January, 2018 at Suresh Gyan Vihar University, Jaipur. The programme was organized from 20th January to 3rd February, 2018. The 15 days programme included detailed discussion and discourses on culture, tradition, food habit, language, sports and games, flora and fauna and unity in diversity of our country. It also included a joint project for its furtherance. The youth participants of both the States learnt languages of each other States in Assamese and Hindi. Interactive sessions with experts on various developmental subjects were organised. Cultural programmes were organised by the renowned artists of Assam and Rajasthan. Various competitions were organised for the participants which included sports and games, dance, essay competitions and Declamation Contest during the 15 days programme. Cultural programmes were organised by the participants of Assam and Rajasthan States which included Assamese Vandana, Group Dance, Bihu Dance, and from Rajasthan side Rajasthan Folk Song and Folk Dance were presented. The participants also shared their experiences of the 15 days camp in the programmes. Prizes, Certificates and Mementoes were given to the winners and the participants. A total of 96 participants participated in the programmes which included 45 youth from Rajasthan and 51 youth from Assam.

**Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Chandigarh**

Nehru Yuva Kendra Silvassa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, organized Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme under EBSB in Silvassa from 19th January to 2nd February, 2018 at Farmer Training Centre, Dokarmardi, Silvassa. Programmes and activities of the Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme included Yoga/Exercise/Campus Cleaning/Community Singing, Interactive session on celebrating unity in diversity of our Nation, Strengthening & maintaining the fabric of traditionally existing emotional bonds between people of our country, Promoting the spirit of National Integration, Sports and Games like football, cricket and indoor games, Daily cultural
programmes, Debate competition on EBSB, Group discussion & presentation by each group, Educational tour to important historical and significant places viz., State Legal Authority Service, Silvassa, Dudhani, Khanvel, Company visit to Parle-G Biscuit Company, M. C. Marbal Company, etc. A total of 100 participants from Daman & Diu and Puducherry participated in the programmes.

Department of Sports

Demonstration of Mallakhamb from 9th to 11th February, 2018 in Kurushthra (Haryana) under EBSB Programme

Mallakhamb has been included in EBSB programme as a Traditional Game of Maharashtra and Hyderabad. The first demonstration was organised in Kurukshetra, Haryana, from 9th to 11th February, 2018. The first demonstration was given by the teams of Haryana and Telangana comprising 50 players selected out of more than 350 players. The Opening Ceremony was attended by more than 1,500 persons, including prominent sports persons of Haryana, school children and locals. People took keen interest in the activity. The closing Ceremony concluded on 12th February, 2018 with felicitation of players and award of medals/trophies. The message of EBSB got spread. The events were witnessed by more than 2000 persons.

The event was covered extensively in the print and electronic media which had very positive impact relating to the concept of EBSB through the sports activities all over the State.

The players from Telangana and Haryana were extremely happy to be together for better understanding of culture, food habits and other related issues and this opportunity has made them friends forever. In all about 4,000 people were mobilized during the event.

Sqay Demonstration from 18th to 21st February, 2018

The Sqay Martial Art dates back to 4012 B.C. and was used by the people of Kashmir for their protection. The demonstration was organized at PJN Indoor Sports Stadium, Madgoan, Goa, from 18th to 21st February, 2018. The demonstration was given by the teams of Goa and Jharkhand comprising 50 players selected out of more than 300 players. The Opening Ceremony was attended by more than 1,000 persons, including prominent sports persons of Goa, School Children and locals. People took keen interest in the activity. In the concluding function, the players were felicitated, awarded with the medals/ trophies and assured of all possible assistance
to spread the message of EBSB all over the State. The events were witnessed by more than 2,000 persons. The Sqay Association of Goa organized beautiful cultural programmes in the Opening Ceremony as well as on Closing Ceremony. The theme of the Programme was United India. The event was covered extensively in the print and electronic media which had a very positive impact relating to the concept of EBSB through the sports activities all over the State. The players from Jharkhand and Goa were extremely happy to be together for better understanding of culture, food habits and other related issues and this opportunity has made them pals forever.

**Yachting Demonstration from 16th to 18th February, 2018, Chennai**

As per the concept of EBSB, competition and exhibition tournaments were to be organised by the respective NSFs to promote camaraderie amongst various States/UTs through sports. The Yachting Association of India (YAI) conducted Regatta exhibition in Chennai from 16th to 18th February, 2018. The paired States for the sport of yachting were Tamil Nadu-Jammu & Kashmir and Maharashtra-Odisha. The Tamil Nadu Sailing Association (TNSA) in Chennai was requested by YAI to coordinate and organize the exhibition regatta. Two of the paired States i.e. Jammu & Kashmir and Odisha do not have any sailing federations / associations/clubs affiliated with YAI to run the affairs of yachting with in those States. The YAI liaised with State authorities and made efforts to invite their probable sailors for training with the paired States and thereafter organise exhibition regatta. Towards this, the TNSA planned 10 days of coaching camp of probable sailors of Jammu & Kashmir and Odisha in Chennai from 6th to 15th February, 2018.

The exhibition regatta comprising a series of races (8 to 12 races) spread over three days was held in Chennai between the paired States from 16th to 18th February, 2018. The sailors who participated in the event were youth (below 21 years) and a mix of boys and girls. Seven team members from each of the paired States participated in the event. The sailors from Jammu & Kashmir and Odisha participated with enthusiasm in all the training and other curricular activities organized to promote camaraderie amongst various States.

The event was widely publicized through hoardings / cut-outs and social media. EBSB logo was conspicuously displayed at all event hoardings, certificates, invitation cards and boats. Also the visits of the Ministers and senior officials from the Tamil Nadu Government helped in bringing in media for wide publicity in the local
TV and print media. Doordarshan Chennai and PTI covered the event and helped in publicity.

**Extra-curricular Activities:**

**Other than the sailing** competition, the sailors were also provided various platforms to interact and participate in National integration programmes. Towards this end the sailors were taken to visits to various defence and civil establishments for interaction and understanding of culture of other States in India. The sailors visited INS Rajput, Indian Naval ship, INS Rajali at Arokonam to see the aircraft used by Indian Navy, Raj Bhavan, Governor’s House to meet His H.E. the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Pondy Bazaar – silk capital of the city and to Sri City SEZ for exposure to various industries.

**Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**

**Publications Division**

Publications Division made an Action Plan and is making worthwhile efforts to promote the spirit of EBSB by publishing multiple languages’ editions of its books and also promoting EBSB ideals through publication of articles in its journals depending upon their genre.

Publishing of books: Publications Division has been working on an action plan to bring out translated versions of some of its titles into various Indian languages, in sync with the spirit of EBSB. The titles identified highlight the culture, history and other aspects of India and focus on inspirational content for children and youth. The project is progressing well. Around 71 books in major Indian languages have already been published and many more are in different phases of publication – nearly 180 books. Of the 71 books, translations of Rani Laxmi Bai and Razia Sultan in 13 languages were released by the Hon’ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Smt Smriti Zubin Irani, at a function organised at IGNCA on the occasion of International Women’s Day on 8th March, 2018.

Publishing of articles in journals: Articles promoting EBSB messages are being regularly published in DPD journals Bal Bharati, Aajkal and Employment News, details of which are as follows:-

In Aajkal, a journal dedicated to promoting literature and culture, conscious efforts were made to publish content creating awareness about EBSB values of ultimate integrity of diverse ways of life, culture, art, heritage of the Indian people. While Ajkal (Hindi) published contents on socio-cultural movement and writings of literary personalities like Amir Khusro, Munshi Premchand etc.,
spreading the message of tolerance, national integration, composite cultural heritage etc., Ajkal (Urdu) published literary, cultural articles, short stories, poems etc., with underlying message of unity and harmony.

Bal Bharati, a children’s monthly magazine in Hindi, also contributed in spreading the message of EBSB to the younger generation through its stories and articles in its monthly issues. The magazine published short stories, articles, poems and picture strips promoting national integration, communal harmony and rational thinking. These writings included diverse subjects like the inspiring life and deeds of our national leaders and other great personalities in different fields - cultural, artistic, literary and architectural heritage, women empowerment, natural wealth – with underlying message of EBSB.

Employment News /Rozgar Samachar (in English, Hindi and Urdu) published various articles which envisaged the broad objective of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. Such themes include: Yoga, Quit India Movement and other aspects of India’s struggle for Independence, India’s 70 years of Independence, Swachh Sankalp Se Swachh Siddhi, Gandhiji’s Experiments to Integrate Environmental Concerns in Daily Life and articles on Sardar Patel and Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay. A special three series quiz contest was also conducted by Employment News to commemorate 75 years of Quit India Movement.

Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan)

Doordarshan (Prasar Bharati), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, has been conducting/telecasting a large variety of Programmes concerning Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat which include different facets of different economic sectors, States, Art & Culture, panel discussions, Events, Reports, Literary festivals, cuisines, fashion shows, traditional dress, important national days of significance, drama, languages, special live programmes and a lot of cultural traditional, art, historic, social, economic Programmes related to Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. Some programmes quoted by way of examples are as under:-

DD Rajasthan broadcast Krishi Darshan: Special on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat in reference to Agriculture.

DD Sahyadri broadcast Discussion on folk dance of Maharashtra & Odisha with visual clips, Basant Panchami Pooja with tradition at IIIT Nagpur and the preparation of typical Odiya sweet item called kakara.
DD Malyalam broadcast Himachal Pradesh Dance & Songs presented by Kendriya Vidyalaya, Thrissur.
DD North- East broadcast Literary Festival (Seminar & discussions and bytes with Rajasthan as the theme) - organised by Assam Prakashan Parishad, Samannay Setu – Discussion by Sahityakar, Advocate & Writer, Fashion show on Rajasthani Costumes presented by the students of Tezpur University.
DD Saptagiri broadcast Drama Competition with Punjab as the theme - IIT, Tirupati.
DD Punjabi broadcast Cuisines of Andhra Pradesh.
DDK Chandigarh broadcast Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat – A Contingent from Dadra and Nagar Haveli visit to the Beautiful City of Chandigarh in Chandigarh Carnival 2017.
DDK Raipur broadcast Chhattisgarh-Gujarat, Lok Evam Shastriya Nritya, Chhattisgarh-Gujarat, Sanskritik Milan, EBSB (Khanpan) - one minute clip, EBSB (Pahnava) - one minute clip.

DDK Itanagar broadcast DDK Itanagar sent a programme titled - “Ethnic Cuisines of Arunachal Pradesh (Nyishi Tribe)” for telecasting by DDK Lucknow and DDK Shillong.

All India Radio has been broadcasting various programmes relating to Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. For example, All India Radio, Vijayawada, Broadcast Programmes on tourism in Punjab, quiz on Punjab, talk on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, Lohri Festival, Inter-State youth exchanges in Visakhapatnam.

All India Radio, Visakhapatnam, broadcast programmes relating to Inter-State youth exchanges from the States of Andhra Pradesh and Punjab, Punjabi language, literature and culture.

All India Radio, Delhi, broadcast programmes on Sikkim, its linguistic diversity, it geography, folk songs of Sikkim, Music and dance of Sikkim, special festivals and cuisine of Sikkim, role of education in development, a Tribute to Sikkim.

All India Radio, Bhopal, broadcast programmes on Manipuri poetry, Nagaland culture, discussions between youths of Manipur and Nagaland, heritage of Nagaland and Manipur, Manipur State Day.

All India Radio, Shillong, broadcast programmes on Khasi folk songs of Khorsha Kordor Morbaniang under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat promoting the art and culture, tribal songs, rich heritage, culture, customs, traditions, tourism of the paired States viz., Uttar Pradesh-

**Prasar Bharati (All India Radio)**
Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya.

All India Radio, Patna, broadcast programmes on Tripura and Mizoram under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat relating to the ecology and beauty of Tripura and Mizoram.

All India Radio, Jalandhar, broadcast programmes relating to Andhra Pradesh which also included interviews with Andhra Pradesh scholars and common people of Andhra Pradesh.

All India Radio, Bengaluru, broadcast programmes on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat concerning the paired States i.e. Karnataka-Uttarakhand.

All India Radio, Delhi, broadcast a Feature Programme - the Road that Beads written by Shri Ashok Chatterjee.

All India Radio, Patna, broadcast programmes relating to the paired States i.e. Bihar-Tripura and Mizoram. The Programmes included ecology, farmer, digital technology – a game changer, quiz programmes on Mizoram and Tripura organized by Bihar Secondary Education Council, Digital India.

All India Radio, Kolkata broadcast OB Best Magazine programmes on Rajasthani dress and ornaments and Rajasthani literature. It also produced programmes on various conversations such as conversation on Rajasthani delicacy with Ms Vinita Nahata, conversation with prominent poetess Ms Mridula Kothari, conversation with Rajasthani literature and philanthropist Shri Promod Shah, conversation with Rajasthani singer Sh Sanju Kothari and conversation with Rajasthani singer Ms Sudha Sharma.

All India Radio, Vijayawada, broadcast programmes on tourist destinations in Punjab, Yuva Laya- Quiz on Punjab and morning information service “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat: Punjab talk”.

News Services Division of All India Radio and its Regional News Units are mounting special programmes relating to Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat under their current affairs slot. The RNUs have also prepared news capsules and programmes of various genre and cover the activities relating to EBSB organised in various parts of the country from time to time as per EBSB activity calendar of MHRD. NSD, AIR, also introduced a series of audio capsules on EBSB in the News Magazine programme Parikarma during the month of March 2018. News Services Division of All India Radio covered news bulletins on Madhupur Mela in Madhavpur Ghed, Ahmedabad, organized by Ministry of Culture and Government of Gujarat under
EBSB, a Bulletin on EBSB by Shri Jagdish Upasane, Political Analyst, and Shri Santosh Pathak, Journalist.

Coverage in Social Media Platforms of NSD

Social Media team of NSD, AIR, and its RNU's gave wide coverage to the events relating to EBSB and publicised through its Twitter Handle, Facebook, Soundcloud and Instagram. Social Media team also re-tweeted a series of posts by PIB and other Ministries/organisations. The special programmes generated by NSD’s Talks and Current Affairs Cell were also uploaded on Sound Cloud.

Programmes Broadcast by Regional News Units, AIR

RNU's are mounting programmes in their respective languages on the socio-cultural life, tourism of their earmarked partner States. The aim of these programmes is to spread awareness, information about other States and showcase the unity in diversity of our country.

RNU, Panaji: Under EBSB, Goa is paired with Jharkhand. Cultural exchange programmes, including Lokotsav, and culinary and folk dance workshops organised in Panaji by the Art and Culture Directorate were widely covered in regional news and weekly news-related programmes. A capsule on the theme was also broadcast from NSD HQ in News Magazine Programme Parikrama on 17th March, 2018.

RNU, Puducherry: Broadcast 8 news items, and one Newsreel programme (15 mins) was also made on the theme. Wide publicity was also made in AIRNEWS twitter. An audio capsule was also broadcast in Parikrama.

RNU, Guwahati: RNU Guwahati as a part of RBSB gave wide publicity to the developmental activities of Central as well as State Governments in its news bulletins and through other current affairs programmes like live Talk Shows (30 mins/1 hour) and Ajir Prasanga (Topic of the day) – 5 mins. In its current affairs slot, RNU, Guwahati, did two talks shows on Agricultural Terminal Mart and Water Resource Development, Information Technology and Science and Technology. And in Ajir Prasanga – RNU Guwahati - also broadcast several topics like Nabya Bharat, Skill Development Mission and Assam’s Cottage Industry, Swachh Bharat, Women in New India in 2022, Affordable Home in world perspectives, Ayurveda and Yoga, Labour
Reform in India and Expansion of Information Technology, Prime Minister’s Pariksha Par Charcha, Conservation of rain forest and environment, Safe water for good health, International Mother Tongue Day, New initiatives of Khadi Commission, Indian Jute Sector, National Science Day besides the issues on Women, International Women’s day, India’s micro, small and medium industries and affordable housing during the month of March.

RNU Shimla: It broadcast pre-publicity of EBSB on different days through FM News Headlines and News Display System. A Programme on EBSB was also broadcast in weekly Current Affairs programme Him Darshan on 10th March, 2018.

RNU Jaipur: RNU Jaipur filed story regarding counterpart State Assam comprising talk with Assamese residing in the State. Story on EBSB was sent to the NSD HQ. It was also carried out in regional news bulletins.
RNU Port Blair: Under the Pradeshik Samachar the Unit covered the activities going on under EBSB, including the visit about Andaman and Nicobar Islands Team’s visit to Lakshadweep, along with bytes.

RNU Cuttack: RNU Cuttack widely covered the story on EBSB in News Bulletins and news-based programmes. The RNU highlighted the story on EBSB as headlines in News Bulletins. RNU, Cuttack, filed a story to NSD HQ, New Delhi, on EBSB for Parikrama programme. Byte of Vice- Chancellor, Central University, Koraput, and byte of a commonman of Nagpur were also carried. Similar story was carried in Regional News bulletins also.
RNU Ahmedabad: RNU Ahmedabad gave wide publicity to Madhavpur Ghed fair in social media.

RNU Aizawl: RNU Aizawl carried the news of Madhavpur Fair extensively.

RNU Imphal: RNU Imphal covered extensively the Madhavpur Ghed Mela, including news-based programmes.

MHRD Institutions

University of Allahabad

University of Allahabad, organized a Rangoli Competition on 22nd February, 2018. The students of the University including those from Kashmir participated in the Competition. A "Talk on Kashmir" was also organized. It incorporated
information about natural beauty, natural resources, agro based industries and cultural heritage of Kashmir.

**Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, University of Delhi**

ARSD Collage, University of Delhi, organized an Essay writing competition on 27th February, 2018 under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme. The topic for the bilingual competition was “The Culture of Sikkim”, in which 31 students from various colleges participated. It gave them an opportunity to know more about the history and culture of Sikkim.

**English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad**

English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, organized a Culinary Fest “A Taste of India” on 9th March, 2018. The University is composed of students from different parts of India, so the students were asked to form teams based their region/ State. 13 teams were formed and they prepared a large number of delicious dishes. The students enjoyed each other's cuisine.

**Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow**

Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, organized a cultural event on 22nd March, 2018 depicting culture/dances of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Uttar Pradesh. Song/Dance and drama showcasing the attire and dances of the three States especially Kathak and Mizi tribes were held. Around 30 students showcased the dances and attire of all the three States. Approximately 800 audiences learnt and enjoyed the culture of all the three States. A fashion show depicting the culture and dress of the three States was also organized. 26 participants participated in the event, which was witnessed by more than 850 spectators.

**Central University of Haryana**

Central University of Haryana, organized Annual University Fest- “Spandan- 2018” on 25th to 26th February, 2018. Various folk dance/folk songs of the paired
State Telangana were performed by the students. More than 800 students of various disciplines participated in the event. The University displayed various quotes in statements in language of paired State Telangana in the main corridor and notice board of the University.

Central University of South Bihar, Gaya

Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, organized a Poster competition on 27th February, 2018 and an Essay competition in 26th March, 2018 under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The theme of the competitions were “Cultural unity and National integration of India”. Large number of students participated enthusiastically in the competition.

Indian Institute of Management, Rohtak

Indian Institute of Management, Rohtak, organised screening of a Telugu Feature film “Swarabhishekam” (which was awarded for Best Feature Film in National Film awards) on 9th February, 2018. It was witnessed by the employees and the students of the Institute. Activities for Identification of proverbs having similar meanings in the languages of both the States of Haryana and Telangana and their translation and dissemination for interchangeable use among the students and the employees were also conducted.

Indian Institute of Management, Sambalpur

Kalakriti, the cultural club of Indian Institute of Management, Sambalpur, organised a Book Exhibition under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 7th February, 2018. The objective of the exhibition was to introduce the culture of Maharashtra to the people of Odisha. Book Stalls were installed on the history, culture, literature and eminent Marathi personalities. A group of its students visited cultural and historical monuments in Nagpur with IIM, Nagpur students on 24th February, 2018. The objective of the visit was to know and understand the culture of Maharashtra. They visited Deekshabhoomi, a sacred monument of Buddhism, Zero mile stone, a monument built by British
Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode, organized a programme Echoes’18 from 2nd to 4th February, 2018. During this programme, the students from Kerala and Himachal Pradesh informed the students about their respective cultures. The programme also contained Linguistic session, Geo-Social Information sharing regarding Himachal and Kerala, translation of songs of respective languages in English and played along with subtitles, awareness programmes about alphabets and proverbs of Himachal Pradesh and Kerala.

Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta

Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, organized a three day City tour of Kolkata with the ten exchange students accompanied by ten students of IIM, Calcutta and fifteen students from State of West Bengal in February, 2018. The students visited famous tourist spots, such as Kali Ghat, National Library, Indian Museum, Eden Gardens, Victoria Memorial,

during Great Trigonometrical Survey of India in 1907, Futala Lake known for its coloured fountains built by Bhonsle Kings of Nagpur and Ganesh Tekedi Temple. They also attended a Classical Music function at Persistence IT Park. An informal interactive session was organised by IIM, Nagpur with the students of IIM, Sambalpur to share their views about their life in Institute, academics, co-curricular/extracurricular activities, faculties etc.

Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode
Botanical Garden, Howrah Bridge, Pareshnath Temple and Rabindra Bharti University Museum.

Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi

Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi, organized a programme on 25th February, 2018 to celebrate the uniqueness of Nagaland, Manipur and Madhya Pradesh. An article writing competition was also organized for the students. 17 students participated in the competition.

It also organized a programme on 11th March, 2018 to celebrate the uniqueness of Rajasthan and Assam. A Painting competition was organized for the students.

Indian Institute of Management, Nagpur

Indian Institute of Management, Nagpur, organized cultural exchange between States of Maharashtra and Odisha in collaboration with IIM, Sambalpur from 24th to 25th February, 2018. The programme included the visit to various places in Nagpur by the students of IIM, Sambalpur such as Deekshabhoomi, Ganesh Tekri Temple, Zero mile stone, Footala lake. The students also attended a classical music concert.

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, organised a programme under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 25th February, 2018. The
programme focussed on the States of Punjab and Andhra Pradesh. Traditional dances of these two States were organised and their food stalls were installed. To create awareness amongst the students and camps residents, the hoardings and details were prominently displayed at various places. Kids from around the campus were told about the customs and traditions of the two States. More than 100 kids participated in this event.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Bhilai**

Indian Institute of Technology, Bhilai, organised a workshop on Kathakali Dance, a traditional dance form of Kerala. It was organised as an activity paired between Himachal Pradesh and Kerala. Seven students participated in the workshop. It also organized a Garhwali Language learning workshop on 17th and 18th February, 2018.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar**

Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar, organised Kabbadi for boys and Dikori (7 stones) for girls in its campus on 4th February, 2018. Total seven teams (of ten members of each) for Kabbadi and four teams (of four members each) in Dikori were registered for the event. Students from different States enjoyed this event with great enthusiasm, enjoying the vibrant culture of Haryana and Telangana.

**Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad**

Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad, organised a cultural programme between paired States of Rajasthan and Assam on 11th
February, 2018. The programme contained Skit performance, Folk Dance and Speech showcasing rich culture and tradition of Rajasthan. A presentation was also made on various tourist places of Rajasthan. Students also performed Assamese Dances and recited Assamese songs. The programmes were participated by twenty five students, which were witnessed by around 250 spectators.

It also organized a cultural programme on 10th March, 2018 with the students of Jharkhand and Goa. The programme contained a presentation on various tourist places and other sites of Jharkhand, dance performance in the cultural dress of Jharkhand State and a vocal song from Jharkhand State. A presentation on various tourist places, academic institutions and research labs of Goa was also made. The programme was participated by 20 students. Another programme with the students of Bihar, Tripura and Mizoram was held on 11th March, 2018. The programme contained a presentation on various tourist places, academic institutions and research labs of Bihar, recital of song and poems and Skit performance by the group of students from Bihar. The programme also contained a presentation on various tourist places of Tripura and Mizoram and a dance performance by the team members of Tripura.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi**

Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, organised a programme under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 14th February, 2018 showcasing
the rich cultures of Tamil Nadu and Jammu & Kashmir. The programme contained performance of Bharatnatyam, a classical dance form of Tamil Nadu, rendition of Carnatic vocal music and singing of a Kashmiri song reminiscing the culture of Jammu & Kashmir. A detailed presentation on culture, clothing and cuisine of Jammu & Kashmir was also made. The event was covered by Doordarshan, which was telecast on 5th March, 2018 in their show “Good Evening India”.

It also organised a programme on 21st February, 2018 showcasing the cultures of Kerala and Himachal Pradesh. The students performed the singing of traditional song in Malayalam and rendition of poems of famous poets from Himachal Pradesh like Zahid Abrol and Nirmal Verma. A quiz was also organised on information about Kerala and Himachal Pradesh.

Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, organized an event under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 14th March, 2018, which was covered by a team of Doordarshan and was telecast on 21st March, 2018. The event comprised Carnatic Music performances and recital of poem “Devbhoomi Uttarakhand” praising the rich culture of Uttarakhand. Another team of students made local Art designs of Uttarakhand such as “Aipan Design” and “Chamunda Hast Chowki”. Other teams of students made clay models prevalent in Karnataka and masks using clay and Acrylic paints.
Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar, organized a programme under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 13th February, 2018 with the paired States of Madhya Pradesh-Manipur-Nagaland. Documentary Videos and informative photographs on the culture, tradition and heritage of Manipur, Nagaland and Madhya Pradesh were displayed. The programme also contained Manipuri group dance, recitation of popular phrases of Nagaland, Madhya Pradesh Solo and Group dance, Mono act and Medley by the Institute’s Cultural Society.

It also organized a programme on 19th March, 2018 with paired States of Delhi and Sikkim. On this occasion 35 performers including students, staffs, faculty and their family members from different age groups, cultures and States, participated in the social and cultural events of the paired States of Delhi and Sikkim. They performed dance, song, fancy dress, culture and language of the paired States. Informative videos and photograph, slide shows were displayed to make the audience to know about the paired States. More than 250 audiences attended and appreciated the entertaining performance.
PDPM Indian Institute of Technology, Design and Manufacturing, Jabalpur

PDPM Indian Institute of Technology, Design and Manufacturing, Jabalpur, organized a cultural programme under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 2nd February, 2018. The cultural clubs represented different cultures and traditions of the States of India. The Dance Club “Aavartan” presented classical dance Bharatnatyam from South India, Bhangra Dance from Punjab, Semi Classical Chhau Dance of Odisha with martial, tribal and folk origins. The Music Club “Saaz” represented the cultures of Punjab, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Dramatic Society, “Jazbaat” performed the stage act “Mai Bihari”, showcasing the life of a Bihar migrant. The programme also contained a speech in Gujarati emphasizing the development of Gujarat and a poem in Marathi. The students group “Abhivyakti” decorated the stage depicting the cultures of different States- Maharashtra’s Worli Paintings, Madhya Pradesh’s Sanchi Stupa, Kerala’s Bharatnatyam, Gujarat’s Dandiya, Rajasthani moustache, Meenakshi Temple, Krishna, Punjabi pagdi and Indian Flag in the middle to show the “Unity in Diversity” and the rich culture of our country.

Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, organized a programme under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 17th March, 2018 in its campus involving the paired States of Assam and Rajasthan. The artists from the paired States enthralled the audience with the valour of Rajasthan through various dance programmes such as Dharti Dhorari, Ghoomar, Moriya, Aacho Bolyo, Panihari, Chari, Banjaran, etc. along with Rajasthani songs. Rich traditional harmony of Assam was depicted through
various dance performance such as Sattriya, Bihu, Bhortal, Tiwa, etc. along with Assamese songs. The artists from Assam also organized merchandise stall which displayed exclusive and traditional dress/ cloth materials.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Palakkad**

Indian Institute of Technology, Palakkad, organized a cultural programme involving the paired States of Telangana-Haryana and Punjab-Andhra Pradesh on 27th March, 2018. The students of Telangana showcased the various art forms of Haryana such as Bhangra and Haryanvi Dance and the students from Punjab spoke about Ugadi and its importance and also presented a cultural programme. The programme was covered by Doordarshan and All India Radio.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar**

The students of Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar, took part in traditional games event as a part of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme on 14th February, 2018. The students from Uttarakhand and Karnataka also took part in the event. In the age of Smartphones and Play stations, the traditional classical Indian games, which are on the brink of extinction and almost forgotten, were brought up with sheer excitement and curiosity.

The students of the Institute also took part in Ugadi/Gudi Padwa Festival on 18th March, 2018. The day was observed by Drawing colourful patterns on floor “Kolamulus/ Rangoli”, Mango leaf decorations on doors “Torana”, buying and giving gifts such as new cloths, giving charity to the less privileged, preparing and sharing a special food Pachadi.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad**

Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad, organized a series of performances on 17th March, 2018 dedicated to the paired States of Himachal Pradesh & Kerala and Uttarakhand & Karnataka. Students from these paired States conducted programmes on dance, song performances and speeches.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Bhilai**

Indian Institute of Technology, Bhilai, organized a Garhwali language learning workshop on 17th and 18th March, 2018.

**Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati**

Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, organized various programmes covering the States
of Rajasthan and West Bengal in February, 2018 and of the states of Delhi- Sikkim and Assam, Tamil Nadu- Jammu & Kashmir and Gujarat- Chhattisgarh in March, 2018. The programmes included cultural showcase by folk dance and songs, classical dance and music, costume show, presentation on history and food trends, contribution to society and India as a whole, presentation of historical/important personalities and theatre/drama etc.

Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee

Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, celebrated programmes with various cultural performances on 2nd February, 2018 to cherish the heritage and culture of Himachal Pradesh and Kerala; on 9th February, 2018 to cherish the heritage and culture of Uttarakhand and Karnataka; on 9th March, 2018 to cherish the heritage and culture of Haryana and Telangana and on 16th March, 2018 to cherish the heritage and culture of Rajasthan and Assam. The programmes contained quiz competition, debate and short films on the States.

Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur

Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, organised a cultural programme on 4th February, 2018 with flute performance by Pt. Dipak Sarma. Members of NSS, MNIT, Jaipur, in collaboration with an NGO, Naya Sawera started an education drive in Kunda Basti area of Jaipur for children from 5th February, 2018. The students helped the underprivileged students of the Basti in different subjects like Science, English, Computer, Maths, Hindi etc along with inculcating values and good habits in them. They also engaged children in some fun activities like painting and playing games to make the learning more friendly and interactive. It organized an awareness trip under the aegis of “Contribution to Surrounding Areas” on 18th February, 2018. It
was organized in Jeerota Village of Sanganer Tehsil, Jagatpura, Jaipur. The main activities under this awareness programme were cleanliness, educational, medical, internet banking, sanitation knowledge etc.

It also organized a Block Printing Competition on 4th March, 2018. The event was held to explain the beautiful combination of Red and White colours in the “Assamese Gamucha” and utilize it in the block printing techniques of Rajasthan. A workshop was given on the traditional block printing art of Rajasthan, which was followed by a competition to design a block by carving out in a soap and using it to create Assamese pattern on cloth. A Photography competition on the theme “Culture of Assam and Rajasthan” was organized during 17th to 19th March, 2018. A Cleanliness drive was organized by National Service Scheme wing of MNIT, Jaipur on 17th March, 2018 in the SMS Hospital, Jaipur. More than 50 students registered in the NSS wing of MNIT, Jaipur participated in the drive. An interview by the officials of All India Radio with the students of Assam staying in the Institute was organized on 10th March, 2018 about the exchange of culture, climate, food and traditions between Assam and Rajasthan. It was broadcast on All India Radio on 10th March, 2018.

National Institute of Technology, Uttarakhand

National Institute of Technology, Uttarakhand, organised a Shadow Puppetry show from Karnataka in the Institute’s campus on 9th February, 2018. The artists from Karnataka gave wonderful performance of puppets through various effects of lights and shadows. A history on Mahatma Gandhi was narrated through shadow puppetry display with beautiful background of Kannada Music. Around two hundred number of students, guests, staff members and faculty were present during the event.

It also conducted “Virasat 2018” in association with Spic Macay, Dehradun from 7th to 10th March, 2018. The four days programme covered various regional based cultural activities, which included Qawwalis performance by Nizam Bandhu, Kathak dance by Shri Rajender Kumar Gangani(a renowned Kathak dancer and a recipient of Sangeet Natak Aakdmi Award), Gharwali folk dance and
Stage performance of Award winning play on a Rajasthani folk tale “Charandas Chor”.

**National Institute of Technology, Delhi**

As part of cultural exchange programme, National Institute of Technology, Delhi, organised a visit of its students to the North Eastern colony in Delhi inhabited by Tibetans and Sikkimese people on 7th February, 2018. The students enjoyed the food of the Sikkimese people such as momos, thukpa/Gya-thuk. The students also discussed with these people to know about each other’s cultures.

**National Institute of Technology, Nagaland**

National Institute of Technology,
Nagaland, sent a team of eight students from Nagaland along with a supervisor to participate in the cultural programme organized at ABV-IIITM, Gwalior from 22nd to 26th February, 2018. The team performed some traditional Naga cultural programmes (Folk dance and Folk songs) during the cultural event and also visited some culturally significant places of Madhya Pradesh.

**National Institute of Technology, Raipur**

The Dramatic club of National Institute of Technology, Raipur, organized an event “Maru Gujarat” on 23rd February, 2018 which contained one theatre drama named “Abhineta”, one duet play named “Divorce”, one solo act performance named “How I married your Mom” and “Poetry”. The drama “Abhineta” was about a Gujarati family and the “Poetry” was also on Gujarat. It also organized a Food Fiesta on 23rd February, 2018. The events were mainly about promoting the Gujarati native cuisine.

The Institute organized an event “Art Marathon” on 24th February, 2018. The Marathon contained three rounds on sketching, doodle and creating art using mono chrome concept. It also organized an event “Rangoli” on 24th February, 2018. 40 students participated in the event making beautiful Rangoli designs depicting Gujarati traditions.

**National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra**

National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, organized a Food Festival of Telangana on 19th
February, 2018, where the students of the Institute prepared the food items of Telangana State and delicacies were savoured by all. It also conducted an Essay writing competition on 14th March, 2018 on the history and rivers of Haryana and Telangana.

**Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur**

Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur, organized language competition on the theme of National Integration in February 2018. Around 300 students participated in the competition and expressed their thoughts in folk and regional language. Elocution competition was also arranged. It also organized a cultural programme by the students of various States on the occasion of “Chaitrarambh” in March, 2018. Folk dance, songs and many other activities were performed by the students.

**National Institute of Technology, Hamirpur**

National Institute of Technology, Hamirpur, organized Malayalam class on 26th March, 2018 and Quiz contest on Himachal and Kerala on 27th March, 2018. It was participated by 17 students and 30 students respectively.

**National Institute of Technology, Surathkal**

National Institute of Technology, Surathkal, organized Annual Cultural Festival from 1st to 4th March, 2018 to collaborate the objectives of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. It was an inter-collegiate event in which more than 2000 participants took part in different cultural events. Students form paired state of Uttarakhand got a wider platform to experience the vivid cultural of Karnataka and rest of India as well.

**Indian Institute of Information and Technology, Kalyani**

Indian Institute of Information and Technology, Kalyani, organised a programme under EBSB on 8th February, 2018 with focus on States of Gujarat and Chhattisgarh. The programme contained Speeches by students describing the history, geography, politics etc. of Gujarat and Chhattisgarh. Various types of foods, culture, tradition of these two States were displayed in photographs. The literary club of IIIT, Kalyani, “Udaan” organised a few poem recitation on the beauty of the two States. 30 students participated in the programme.
Atal Bihari Vajpayee Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Gwalior

organised an “Interactive talk” on 16th February, 2018 on Youth Empowerment and role of youth in the development of the Nation and “Extempore Competition” on 21st February, 2018 on the topics related to cultural heritage of Nagaland, Manipur and Madhya Pradesh.

It also organized a panel discussion on the theme of “Women Empowerment and Development in the States of Nagaland, Manipur and Madhya Pradesh” on 8th March, 2018 on the eve of International Women’s Day. The event was given a wide coverage by All India Radio.

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Dharwad

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Dharwad, organized a cultural programme on 23rd
February, 2018. The students were dressed up in traditional attires to represent their tradition. An extempore competition was conducted under the domain of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. It was participated by 14 students. A fashion show was also conducted. The theme of the fashion show was to represent their tradition. 31 students participated in the fashion show programme.

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, organised a cultural programme under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 14th February, 2018. The performances during the celebration included Carnatic Music, Bihu Songs, Kashmiri Folk Dance, Bharatnatyam, Ghoomar and Poem recitation in Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Assamese and Bengali languages. “Matribhasha Divas” was celebrated on 17th February, 2018 where the students recited poems, sang song and narrated stories in their mother tongues. The participants were requested to translate their presentation in English or in Hindi for the benefit of the audience.

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Kalyani

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Kalyani, organized the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme on 21st March, 2018. The proramme included the States of Rajasthan and Assam. The students gave various speeches on the history, geography, politics etc. of Rajasthan and Assam. Various types of foods, culture and tradition were shown in photographs. The literary club of IIT, Kalyani, “Udaan” organized poem recital, word mania competition and group discussions based on two States. 30 students participated in the event.

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune

SPIC MACAY, organized a performance on “Vaali Moksha” from the epic Ramayana in the “Yaksha Gana Tradition” on 17th February, 2018. “Valli Moksh” deals
with the incident leading to the killing of Valli, the King of Vanara by Rama.

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Tirupati

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Tirupati, organized a cultural programme on 13th March, 2018. It was highlighted by the enchanting Bharatnatyam performance by Ms. Lavanya Ananth.

**Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas**

**JNV, Mahe**, conducted programme on Rangoli and collage the theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 10th February, 2018 alongwith the students of JNV, Araria. The pattern of rangoli highlighted the theme of National integration.

**JNV, Sirmour, Himachal Pradesh**, organized programme on information sharing regarding different dishes of local neighbouring states and Fancy Dress Competition of the neighbouring states in February 2018.

**JNV, Hazaribagh** organized a programme at Darrang, Assam on 17th February, 2018, where the students performed Jhumur dance and folk songs in Nagpuri language.

**JNV, Dibrugarh, Assam**, organized a programme on 10th February, 2018 where the students performed Bihu dance and Hindi group dance.

**JNV, Kothipura, Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh**, organized a Film Show
on 28th February, 2018 in which a historical movie of Punjab “Char Sahibzade” was screened.

**JNV, Pathankot, Punjab,** organized a programme on 1st February, 2018 in which the students presented speeches on the lives of freedom fighters and social reformers of Rajasthan and Punjab. It also organized an exhibition on the lives of freedom fighters and social reformers of Rajasthan and Punjab on 26th February, 2018. It also organized an Essay writing competition on the freedom fighters and social reformers of Punjab and Rajasthan on 29th March, 2018.

**JNV, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh,** organized various literary competition on 15th February, 2018 such as Essay writing on Indian festivals and Historical places in India and Patriotic Songs competition in various languages like Hindi, Punjabi and Telugu.

**JNV, North Canara, Karnataka,** organized a Symposium on 17th February, 2018 where the teachers and students expressed their views on various aspects of NVS Migration Policy. It also organized a Seminar on the inculcation of the spirit of National integration through migration on 19th February, 2018.

**JNV, Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh,** organized a programme on “Pustak Anuwad” on 28th February, 2018 to encourage the students to learn the meanings of the typical words of Hindi and Telugu and to make the stories and novels translated to Telugu language from Hindi and Hindi to Telugu.

**JNV, Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand,** organized a cultural event on 14th February, 2018 where the students performed Garhwali dance.

**JNV, Dawanagere, Karnataka,** organized a Rangoli and Collage competition and exhibition on the theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 9th February, 2018.

**JNV Darrang, Assam** organized a programme on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat on 6th February, 2018 at Baithalangso, Assam where the students performed tribal dance “Karma” and on 27th February, 2018 at Bongai gaon, Assam, where the students performed the Garhwali folk song “Khuded”. Another programme was organized at Basaka, Assam on 28th February, 2018, where the students performed Haryanvi folk songs.

It also organized a painting competition on Assam’s rich heritage and famous persons at Sanik School, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan on 23rd -24th March, 2018.
**JNV, N.R. Palli, Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh**, organized a programme on Proverb Writing on 18th February, 2018 and Hindi and Telugu sentences writing on 22nd February, 2018, in which 26 boys and 15 girls participated.

It also organized a programme on Hindi and Telugu alphabets writing on 10th March, 2018 in which 2 girls and 2 boys participated.

**JNV, Banavasi, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh**, organized a programme on exchange of information on traditional agricultural methods on 15th March, 2018. The students exchanged the information on the climate, crops, seasons and type of soils of Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

**JNV, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh**, organized a programme on sentence structure on 15th March, 2018 where the students from Andhra Pradesh wrote sentences in Hindi while the migration students wrote sentences in Telugu.

**JNV, Chittadurga, Karnataka**, organized a programme of translation of award winning poems and songs from Hindi to Kannada such as “Pushp ki Abhilasha” by Shri Makhanlal Chaturvedi, “Kadam Mila kar Chalna hoga” by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, “Insan ka Insan se Ho Bhaichara” by poet Pradeep, etc. and presentation by the students on 9th March, 2018.

**JNV, Chikkamagaluru**, organized a Story writing competition in Kannada for junior and senior category and workshop on translating Hindi sentences into Kannada on 15th February, 2018. It also organized agricultural field trips on 3rd March, 2018 in which the migration students visited the gardens in the vicinity of the school and were shown the indigenous species of plants grown locally including cash crops like coffee, arecanut, cardamom and pepper. They also interacted with the farmers who grew these crops and exchanged information on agricultural practices.

**JNV, Chamrajnanagar, Karnataka**, organized Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Essay writing competition on 12th February, 2018. The topic of the essay was "How to make our India as Ek Bharat as well as Shreshtha Bharat". It was conducted in Hindi, English and Kannada languages.

**JNV, Chamrajanagar, Karnataka**, organized an exchange of information on traditional agricultural practices on 3rd March, 2018. Local students acted as Karnataka farmers with their traditional costumes and the migrated students acted as Uttarakhand farmers with their traditional costumes. They interacted in a very beautiful way.
on Karnataka and Uttarakhand agriculture practices and displayed samples of varieties of primitive agriculture tools, food crops, plants, fruits etc.

**JNV, Kauni, Faridkot**, organized a speech competition on 28th February, 2018 on the life history of the freedom fighters of Uttar Pradesh. Eight students including the four migration students from JNV, Aligarh took part in the competition.

**JNV, Washim**, organized various activities such as Khelo India pledge, Matrubhasha Marathi Diwas, World Thinking Day and How to Improve Concentration Technique in February, 2018. They also organized Holi celebration, Gudi Padwa celebration and Mahavir Jayanti celebration in March, 2018.

**JNV, Barnala Punjab**, organized a programme on 9th March, 2018 in which the students of the partnering school JNV, Banda visited the holy city Amritsar. They also went to Jallianwala Bagh, Golden Temple, Durgiana Mandir and Wagah Border.