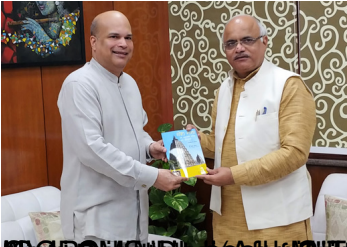




Sri Lanka's High Commissioner to India Milinda Moragoda met with the President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe on Wednesday (10) to discuss the ways and means to further strengthen cultural cooperation between Sri Lanka and India. Director General of the ICCR Ambassador Dinesh K. Patnaik was also present at the meeting.

Founded in 1950, the ICCR, is an autonomous organization of the Government of India, involved in India's external cultural relations, through cultural exchange with other countries and their peoples. Over the years, a large number of Sri Lankan students have benefited from ICCR scholarships in various academic disciplines. The ICCR offers approximately 200 scholarships to Sri Lanka for undergraduate and post-graduate studies in India annually.

The discussion between High Commissioner Moragoda and ICCR President Dr. Sahasrabuddhe focused on inter alia enhancing the number of scholarships provided by the ICCR to Sri Lanka, compiling of a comprehensive publication on the Buddhist sites throughout India, and jointly celebrating the centenary of the first visit of Rabindranath Tagore to Sri Lanka next year. The High Commissioner also requested the President of ICCR to support enhancing Hindi and Sanskrit language capabilities of the higher education institutions in Sri Lanka.



High Commissioner Moragoda (left) presenting the book 'The Indian Council for Cultural Relations' to the President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (right).