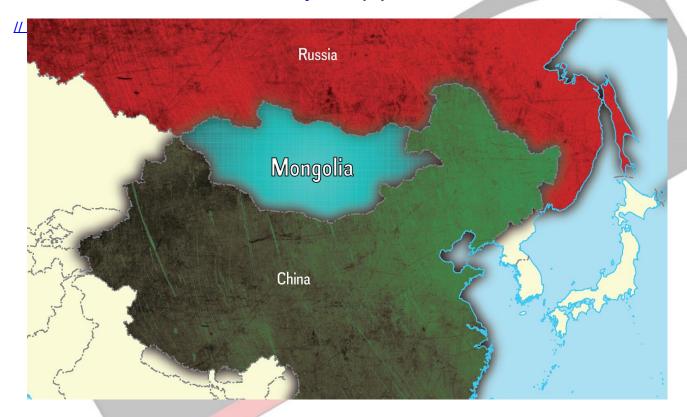


# **Mongolian Kanjur Being Reprinted**

### Why in News

The **Ministry of Culture** has taken up the project of reprinting **108 volumes of Mongolian Kanjur** by March 2022 under the **National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM).** 

 Some copies were presented to the government of Mongolia on the occasion of Guru Purnima, also known as <u>Dharma Chakra Day</u>, on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.



## **Key Points**

#### Mongolian Kanjur:

- It is a <u>Buddhist</u> canonical text in 108 volumes and is considered to be the most important religious text in Mongolia. It is a source of providing a cultural identity to Mongolia.
- In the Mongolian language 'Kanjur' means **'Concise Orders'** the words of Lord Buddha in particular.
- It has been translated from Tibetan and is written in classical mongolian.
- Cultural Relations Between India and Mongolia:
  - Buddhism was carried to Mongolia by Indian cultural and religious ambassadors during the

- early Christian era. As a result, today, Buddhists form the single largest religious denomination in Mongolia.
- India established formal <u>diplomatic relations</u> with Mongolia in 1955. The publication of Mongolian Kanjur by the Government of India for the Government of Mongolia will act as a **symbol of cultural harmony between India and Mongolia** and will contribute to furtherance of bilateral relations during the coming years.

### **National Mission for Manuscripts**

- The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) was launched in February 2003 by the Government of India with the mandate of documenting, conserving and disseminating the knowledge preserved in the manuscripts.
  - A manuscript is a handwritten composition on paper, bark, cloth, metal, palm leaf or any other material dating back at least seventy-five years that has significant scientific, historical or aesthetic value.

The Vision

- Lithographs and printed volumes are not manuscripts.
- Manuscripts are distinct from historical records such as epigraphs on rocks, revenue records which provide direct information on events or processes in history.
- One of the objectives of the mission is to publish rare and unpublished manuscripts so that
  the knowledge enshrined in them is spread to researchers, scholars and the general public at
  large.

It is under the Ministry of Culture.

**Source: PIB** 

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