



## Indian Council for Cultural Relations

Award giving ceremony for H.E. Dr. Ergogie Tesfaye Woldemeskel, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Social Affairs of Ethiopia.

### Press Release

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is an autonomous body under Ministry of External Affairs mandated to propagate culture of India abroad. ICCR under its Distinguished Awards programme administers five awards, namely, Distinguished Alumni Award, Distinguished Indologist Award, World Sanskrit Award, Award for Promotion of Buddhist Studies and Annapurna Award. Ever since the inception of Distinguished Alumni Award, in 2015, ICCR has conferred the award on 32 alumni from different countries across the globe. The Distinguished Alumni Award is given to ICCR's alumni who have studied and completed a course in India under ICCR's massive scholarship programme. The nominees should have made significant achievements in his/her chosen field of endeavour and/or should have made outstanding contribution to the promotion of understanding, goodwill and friendship between Indian and their country. The Award comprises a Plaque and Citation and a provision of one week long hospitality to India including domestic travel and stay in India.

For the year 2021, H.E. Dr. Ergogie Tesfaye Woldemeskel, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Social Affairs of Ethiopia is one of the five Distinguished Alumni Awardees. Hon'ble Minister completed her PhD in Anthropology from Andhra University during 2013-2016 under ICCR Scholarship Programme.

H.E. Ergogie Tesfaye has been serving as Minister for Women and Social Affairs since October 2021. Prior to her present portfolio, she held the portfolio of Minister of Labour and Social Affairs from October 2018 to October 2021.

Before she was appointed as Minister, she held the position of Vice President (Research and Community Service) in Wachemo University, Director (Gender and HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control) and Senate Secretary in St. Mary's University, Addis Ababa. She also served as a lecturer in St. Mary's University. She has conducted research and produced documents especially pertaining to Women, HIV, etc.

She has been actively involved in addressing the issues related to HIV, Gender Strategy, Sexual Reproductive Health Strategies, Anti-Sexual Harassment Policies, etc. She was instrumental in organizing "**Artificial Limb Fitment Camp**" in **Addis Ababa**

**(November/December 2019). The camp was set up by Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), of Jaipur Foot fame under 'India for Humanity' project. The camp provided service to more than 500 persons with disabilities.**

Hon'ble Minister will be visiting India from August 7-13, 2022. She will be conferred award by Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, ICCR at an award giving ceremony being organized at 1800 hrs on August 8, 2022 at Conference Centre, North Campus, Delhi University, Delhi-110007. Vice Chancellor of Universities in Delhi, Senior Government Officers, Heads of Diplomatic Missions in New Delhi and International Students are likely to attend the ceremony. On the occasion President, ICCR will also present India Alumni Cards and Bamboo Rakhis to the passing out foreign students.

**5<sup>th</sup> August, 2022  
New Delhi**

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