

## Newsletter - December 2024

#### **Meetings and Visits**



#### Regional meeting on Global Framework for Through Life-Conventional Ammunition Management Asia-Pacific

Indian delegation led by Group Captain Srihari Vemparala from Ministry of Defence, Government of India participated in the Informal Regional meeting on the Global Framework for Through Life-Conventional Ammunition Management Asia-Pacific at Kathmandu, Nepal on 04-05 December 2024.

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## Visit of Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), Nepali Army to India

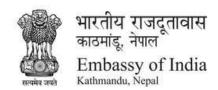
General Ashok Raj Sigdel, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) of the Nepali Army, visited India from 11-14 December 2024. On 12 December 2024, Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu conferred the Honorary Rank of General of the Indian Army on General Ashok Raj Sigdel, COAS, Nepali Army.

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## 18th edition of 'Exercise Surya Kiran', joint military exercise between India and Nepal

The opening ceremony of 18th edition of Exercise Surya Kiran, a joint military exercise between India and Nepal, was held on 31 December 2024 at the Nepal Army Battle School, Shaljhandi. The exercise took place from 31 December 2024 to 13 January 2025.



#### **Development Partnership**



# Laying of foundation stone for the construction of Khamlalung Health Post Building at Aathrai Rural Municipality, Terhathum

Foundation stone for the construction of Khamlalung Health Post Building at Aathrai Rural Municipality, Terhathum was laid jointly by representatives from India and Nepal on 06 December 2024

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#### Handing over of High Impact Community Development Project (HICDP) in Kathmandu

The Campus and Hostel Buildings of Sushma Koirala Memorial Nursing Campus, Kathmandu built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs.29.24 million was formally handed over to Campus Management Committee by representatives from Embassy of India, Kathmandu on 13 December 2024.

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#### **Commerce & Economy**



#### First India-Nepal Tourism Meet

Embassy of India, Kathmandu in association with the Nepal Tourism Board jointly organized the 1st India-Nepal Tourism Meet on 10 December 2024 in Kathmandu. Hon'ble Minister of State for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Government of Nepal Mr. Arun Kumar Chaudhary was the Chief Guest at the plenary session of the Meet.



#### **Culture**



### Second edition of India-Nepal Cultural Festival

Embassy of India, Kathmandu in collaboration with the Lumbini Development Trust celebrated the 2nd edition of the India-Nepal Cultural Festival on 8 December 2024 in Lumbini.

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## Cultural performances by Kathak dance exponent Ms. Shikha Sharma and her troupe from India

As part of India-Nepal Cultural Festival, Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Embassy of India, Kathmandu invited an 8-member Kathak dance troupe led by Kathak exponent Ms. Shikha Sharma from 8-12 December 2024 to perform dance recitals at Lumbini and Pokhara and also give lecture-cum-demonstrations at the schools built with grant assistance from Government of India.

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#### First World Meditation Day celebration

Embassy of India, Kathmandu in collaboration with Sri Chinmoy Centre, Kathmandu, organized a meditation programme on 21 December 2024 at the Embassy premises to mark the inaugural World Meditation Day.



#### **Orientation & Feedback Sessions**



## Orientation program for 50 doctors from Nepal

On 5 December 2024, Embassy of India, Kathmandu organized an orientation program for 50 doctors from Nepal (3rd batch) who were to attend ITEC network Course on "Public Health Management Development Program" at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh from 10-14 December, 2024

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## Feedback session with Nepali diplomats & officers

On 20 December 2024, Embassy of India, Kathmandu organised a feedback session with 26 diplomats & officers from different Ministries of Government of Nepal who had participated in the 1st Special Training Programme curated by Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, New Delhi from 20-30 November 2024.

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#### **Environment**



## Official launch of International Big Cat Alliance website

On 13 December 2024, Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Government of India official launched website of International Big Cat Alliance (ibca.world). The website will serve as a comprehensive resource for conservationists, researchers, policymakers, and wildlife enthusiasts, providing valuable information and promoting collaboration across borders.



#### Space



## PSLV-C60 successfully launches SpaDeX

SpaDeX's historic mission onboard PSLV-C60 delivers breathtaking visuals, showcasing India's strides in space exploration. SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment) is a pioneering mission to establish India's capability in orbital docking, a key technology for future human spaceflight and satellite servicing missions.

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#### **Sports**



## Gukesh Dommaraju - Youngest FIDE World Champion

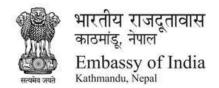
India's Gukesh Dommaraju created history by becoming the youngest and World's 18th FIDE Champion on 12 December 2024 at the 2024 FIDE World Championship in Singapore.





## Koneru Humpy - 2024 FIDE Women's World Rapid Chess champion

Koneru Humpy capped a wonderful year for Indian chess, emerging as champion in the 2024 FIDE Women's World Rapid Championship in New York on 28 December 2024.



#### Incredible India - Fairs & Festivals of India

#### Maha Kumbh, 13 January - 26 February 2025 Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh



The divine energy intensifies as Prayagraj prepares for humanity's most sacred gathering. Witness Maha Kumbh 2025, a phenomenon where faith transcends boundaries and souls find their divine purpose.





#### Did you miss!



#### 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, 8 – 10 January 2025, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention was held from 8 – 10 January 2025 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The theme of the 18th PBD Convention was "Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat".

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#### Congratulations!



## Mr. Nikhil Kumar Das, winner of 5th edition of 'Bharat Ko Janiye' (BKJ) quiz, from Nepal

Mr. Nikhil Kumar Das from Nepal was among the final 30 winners of the 5th edition of Bharat Ko Janiye (BKJ) Quiz. Mr. Das is currently on 14 days BKJ Yatra being held from 7 -21 January 2025, sponsored by Government of India.

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#### **Coming Soon!**



### 8th Edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha 2025

Join the 8th edition of Pariksha pe Charcha 2025 and get unique exam tips from Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.

