

Newsletter - February 2025

Bilateral Exchanges



Meeting of External Affairs Minister of India with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nepal

Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India, Dr. S. Jaishankar met Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nepal Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba, on the sidelines of the 8th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) 2025 in Muscat, Oman on 16 February 2025.





India Energy Week 2025, New Delhi

Minister for Energy, Water Resources & Irrigation, Government of Nepal, Mr. Dipak Khadka participated in the India Energy Week 2025, held in New Delhi from 11-14 February 2025. During his visit, Minister Khadka also held meetings with Mr. Manohar Lal, Minister of Power and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, and Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India.





BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025

BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025 with the theme 'Youth as a Bridge for Intra-BIMSTEC Exchange' was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India from 7-11 February 2025. A nine-member delegation from Nepal participated in the summit.



77th Indian Army Day celebrations

Embassy of India, Kathmandu celebrated the 77th Indian Army Day in Kathmandu. Prasiddha Prabal Janasewa Shree General Ashok Raj Sigdel, Chief of Army Staff, Nepali Army and Honorary General of Indian Army also graced the occasion.





Aero India - 2025

Aero India 2025, Asia's premier aerospace and defence event was inaugurated on 10 Feb 2025 at the Air Force Station in Yelahanka, Bengaluru. Mr Rameshwar Dangal, Defence Secretary, Govt of Nepal and Lt Gen Nirmal Kumar Thapa, Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS), Nepali Army witnessed the dynamic aerobatic performances by the Indian Airforce. During their visit, they also held meetings with their counterparts, Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, India's Defence Secretary and Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani, VCOAS of the Indian Army, respectively on the sidelines of Aero India 2025.





Visit of Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, NCC to Nepal

Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, National Cadet Corps (NCC) arrived in Nepal on 23 February 2025 to take part in 262nd Raising Day Celebrations of Nepali Army from 23-28 February 2025. During his visit, Lt Gen also called on Rt. Hon'ble President, Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Defence Minister of Nepal.





Indian Army Band contingent participation at 262nd Nepali Army Day Celebration

Indian Army Band contingent comprising 36 members led by Major Jaskirath Singh Makol & Major Sanjay Raj Bhusal participated in 262nd Nepali Army Day Celebration on 28 February 2025.

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10-day International Training Programme for delegates from Nepal at National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad

A 10-day International Training Program for delegates from Nepal began at National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj on 26 February 2025. The program focuses on capacity building in agriculture & governance, strengthening India-Nepal ties.

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MoU between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) signed an MoU on 19 February 2025, which aims to boost scientific and technological ties between India and Nepal.



Development Partnership



Inauguration of school and office buildings of Shree Galainath Secondary School, Darchula

The school and office buildings of Shree Galainath Secondary School, Darchula were inaugurated on 07 February 2025 jointly by representatives from India and Nepal. This High Impact Community Development Project (HICDP) is built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs.27.3 million under 'Nepal-India Development Cooperation.'

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Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of Kuri Health Post-Birthing Centre building at Khaniyabas Rural Municipality, Dhading

Foundation stone for the construction of Kuri Health Post-Birthing Centre building at Khaniyabas Rural Municipality, Dhading was laid on 07 February 2025 jointly by representatives from India and Nepal. This HICDP is being built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs.25.10 million.

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Inauguration of Earcoat Health Post building, Naugad Rural Municipality, Darchula

Earcoat Health Post Building at Naugad Rural Municipality in Darchula was inaugurated on 08 February 2025 jointly by representatives from India and Nepal. This HICDP is built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs.25.36 million.





Inauguration of school building of Shree Janata Belaka Secondary School, Udayapur

The school building of Shree Janata Belaka Secondary School, Udayapur was inaugurated on 16 February 2025 jointly by Dr.Narayan Khadka, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Prasanna Shrivastava, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Kathmandu and Mr. Ashok Karki, Mayor, Belaka Municipality, Udayapur. This HICDP is built with Government of India's financial assistance of NRs.37.99 million.

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Economy and Commerce



Second India-Nepal Startup Connect: Curtain Raiser for Startup Mahakumbh (SMK) 2025

Embassy of India, Kathmandu organized the 2nd India-Nepal Startup Connect: Curtain Raiser for Startup Mahakumbh (SMK) 2025 on 07 February 2025. Hon'ble Minister for Communication and Information Technology, Government of Nepal, Mr. Prithvi Subba Gurung was the Chief Guest at the event.

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Cultural and People-to-People Engagements



Ghazal evening on the occasion of Jashn-e-Ghalib 2025

Embassy of India, Kathmandu, in collaboration with Nepal Urdu Academy, Kathmandu organized a ghazal evening on the occasion of Jashn-e-Ghalib 2025 on 01 February 2025 at the Nepal Bharat Library.





A session on Mahakumbh 2025: A blend of Spirituality and Modernism

On 03 February 2025, Embassy of India, Kathmandu organized an event on Mahakumbh, titled "Mahakumbh 2025: A blend of Spirituality and Modernism" with participation by representatives of Nepal Tourism Board, as well as tour operators, journalists, and social media influencers from Nepal.





Nepal-Bharat Rang Mahotsav

Nepal-Bharat Rang Mahotsav, jointly organised by India and Nepal, was inaugurated on 05 February 2025 by Hon'ble Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Government of Nepal, Mr. Badri Prasad Pandey. Ambassador of India to Nepal; Additional Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India; Chancellor of NAMUDA and Registrar of NSD, New Delhi were also present at the ceremony. The week-long Mahotsav which featured 6 plays from India and Nepal, concluded on 12 February 2025.

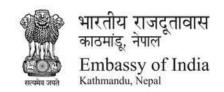




8th Edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha

The 8th edition of "Pariksha Pe Charcha", an initiative by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, to help students navigate exam-related stress, was live-streamed at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Modern School and other CBSE schools in Nepal on 10 February 2025.





Developments in India



Global Investors Summit – 2025 -Invest Madhya Pradesh

Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and addressed the Global Investors Summit 2025 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on 24 February 2025.





Third edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam

The 3rd edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS 3.0) was held in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh from 15-24 February 2025. The event aimed to celebrate and strengthen the age-old bond between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, two of India's most ancient centers of learning.





Mahakumbh 2025

Mahakumbh in Prayagraj which began from 13 January concluded successfully on 26 February 2025 on the auspicious occasion of Maha Shivratri. Embassy of India, Kathmandu facilitated the visit of social media influencers and journalists from Nepal to Prayagraj, who took holy dip in Sangam on 9 and 23 February respectively. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also penned his thoughts on the conclusion of the spiritual gathering.



Sports



ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup 2025

The Indian cricket team was crowned champions of the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup 2025 after a nine-wicket win against South Africa in the final at the Bayuemas Oval in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 02 February 2025.

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Scholarships Alert





Embassy of India, Kathmandu, invites online applications for the following scholarship schemes of ICCR for academic year 2025-26

- ★ Atal Bihari Vaipavee General Scholarship Scheme: For Under Graduate courses
- Sushma Swaraj Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme: For Post-Graduate & Doctorate courses
- Lata Mangeshkar Dance & Music Scholarship Scheme: For study of Indian Culture such as Dance, Music, Theater, Performing Art, Sculpture, Indian Languages, Indian Culsing atc.
- Online Applications may be submitted through A2A Portal (www.a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in).
- Last Date for submission of application is 30 April 2025 (Wednesday).



ICCR scholarships for 2025-26

Embassy of India, Kathmandu invites online applications for scholarship schemes of ICCR from Nepali nationals to study in Indian Universities/Institutes for the Academic Year 2025-26. The Last Date for submission of application for these scholarships is 30 April 2025.

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Coming up in India



Startup Mahakumbh: 3-5 April 2025

Scheduled from 3-5 April 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, this landmark event is set to shape the future of India's startup ecosystem under the theme, 'Startup India @ 2047: Unfolding the Bharat Story.' The curated program will showcase sectoral pavilions focused on AI, Deeptech & Cybersecurity, HealthTech & BioTech, AgriTech, Climate Tech, Incubators & Accelerators, D2C, FinTech, Gaming & Sports, B2B & Precision Manufacturing, Defence & Space Tech and Mobility.





Coming up in India

World Audio-Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) - 2025 Film Poster Making Competition



The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, in collaboration with the National Film Development Corporation – National Film Archive of India (NFDC-NFAI) and ImageNation Street Art, is organizing the International Film Poster Making Challenge under the World Audio-Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES). The participants can submit their Artwork by 31 March 2025.

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Prime Minister's Yoga Awards 2025



Applications are invited for the Prime Minister's Awards for Yoga 2025 for the individuals/organisations with outstanding contribution to the promotion and development of Yoga. The last date of submission of the application is 31 March 2025.



