

Newsletter - January 2024

India in Nepal Highlights



Official Visit of Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India to Nepal (4-5 January, 2024)



Hon'ble External Affairs Minister (EAM) of India, Dr. S Jaishankar visited Nepal on an official visit from 4 - 5 January, 2024, on the invitation of the Hon'ble Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal, H.E. Mr. N.P. Saud. The two Ministers cochaired the 7th meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Commission. EAM paid courtesy calls on Rt Hon'ble President of Nepal, Mr. Ram Chandra Paudel and Rt Hon'ble Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'. EAM inaugurated 59 post-earthquake reconstruction projects in the education, health and culture sectors, including the new building of the Tribhuvan University Central Library.









Republic Day Celebrations at the Embassy of India



The 75th Republic Day of India was celebrated at the Embassy of India in Kathmandu on 26 January 2024. The celebrations began with the unfurling of India's national flag by Shri Naveen Srivastava, Ambassador of India to Nepal. Ambassador Srivastava also conveyed his greetings on the occasion to the members of the Indian Diaspora in Nepal. This was followed by a video of the address to the nation from President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu. During the celebrations, Ambassador felicitated widows and next of kin of deceased soldiers by disbursing their dues of NRs. 5.04 crore and blankets. The celebrations witnessed cultural performance by students of Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) of the Embassy and Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kathmandu.











Republic Day Celebrations at CGI Birgunj and PPO Dharan



The 75th Republic Day of India was celebrated by Consulate General of India, Birgunj and Pension Paying Office (PPO) of the Embassy of India in Dharan on 26 January 2024. At CGI Birgunj, students of eight schools and colleges from Birgunj and Janakpurdham presented cultural performances during the celebrations. PPO, Dharan celebrated the 75th Republic Day along with Veer Naris, BhuPuus and their next of kins and local Indian community. PPO also organized a Mobility Aid Distribution Camp in which six aids were gifted to Divyangjan ex servicemen.







Inauguration of School & Hostel Buildings of Shree Lamjung Secondary School, Lamjung District



Hon'ble Shri Dhanraj Gurung, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Nepal; Shri Purna Bahadur Gurung, Chief, District Coordination Committee, Lamjung; and Shri Prashant Kumar Sona, Second Secretary, Embassy of India, Kathmandu formally inaugurated the school and hostel buildings of Shree Lamjung Secondary School, Besishahar Municipality, Lamjung District, built with Government of India's financial assistance of NRs. 21.60 million under 'Nepal-India Development Cooperation' on 12 January 2024.









Inauguration of Maheshfaat Irrigation Project-Galchhi Rural Municipality, Dhading



Maheshfaat Irrigation Project-Galchhi Rural Municipality, Dhading District, built with Government of India's financial assistance of NRs 8.82 million under India-Nepal Development Cooperation was inaugurated by Galchhi Municipality Chairman Mr Kedarnath Khatiwada and Mr Prashant Sona, Second Secretary, Embassy of India, Kathmandu on 29 January 2024.

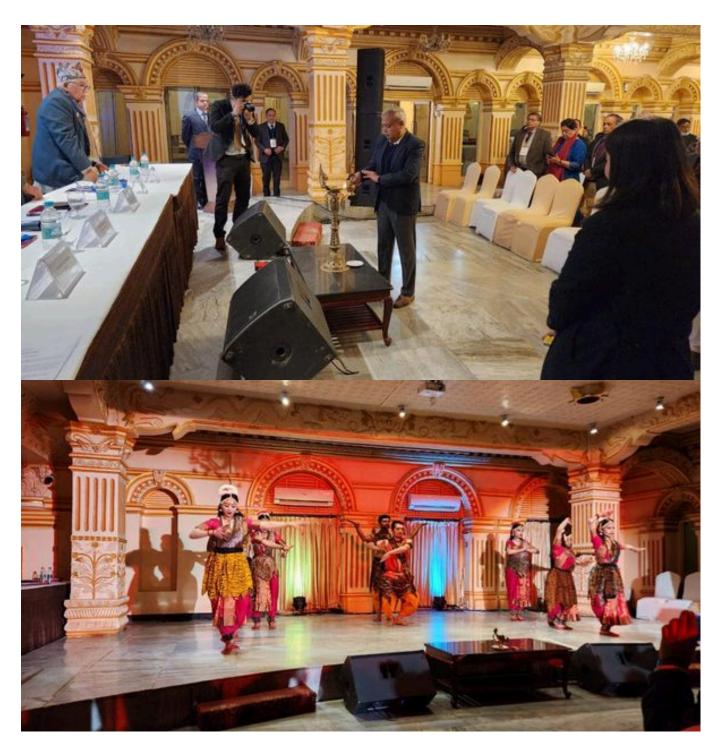








IIT Roorkee Alumni Event



Ambassador of India in Nepal, Shri Naveen Srivastava attended the IIT Roorkee Alumni Event on 27 January 2024 where a souvenir brought out by Association of Nepal (IITRAAN) to commemorate the 175th Year celebration of IIT Roorkee and the Silver Jubilee of IITRAAN was launched. Students of Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) of the Embassy also presented a cultural performance on the occasion.









Meeting of the India-Nepal Inter-Governmental Sub-Committee (IGSC) on Trade, Transit, and Cooperation



The India-Nepal Inter-Governmental Sub-Committee (IGSC) on Trade, Transit, and Cooperation to Combat Unauthorised Trade convened its latest session in Kathmandu on January 12-13, 2024. Shri Vipul Bansal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, led the Indian delegation, which included senior officials from various ministries and the Embassy of India in Kathmandu. The Nepali side was headed by Mr. Ram Chandra Tiwari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Government of Nepal, accompanied by key representatives from different Nepali Ministries and Departments. The meeting aimed at bolstering trade and investment ties.



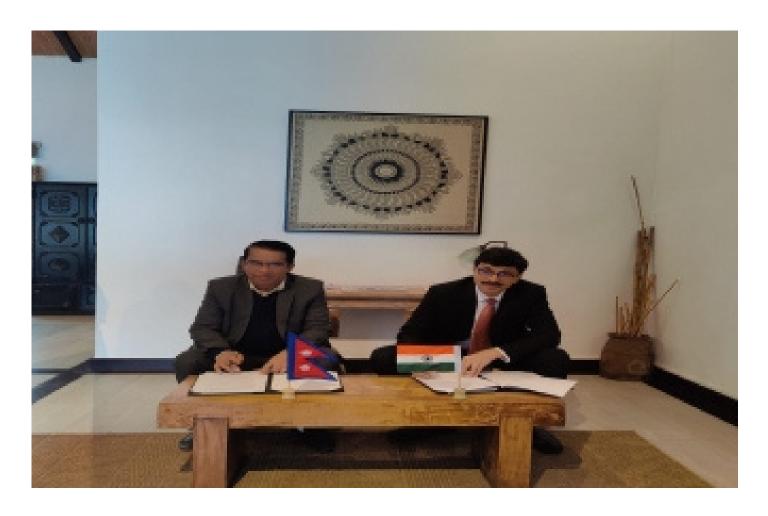








11th meeting of the Joint Steering Committee on Power Sector Cooperation (JSC)



The 11th meeting of the Joint Steering Committee on Power Sector Cooperation (JSC), co-chaired by Shri Pankaj Agarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India and Mr. Gopal Prasad Sigdel, Secretary (Energy), Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, was held in Chitwan on 05 January 2024. The meeting followed the signing of the Agreement on Long Term Power Trade between India and Nepal on 04 January 2024. This was preceded by the 11th meeting of the Joint Working Group on Power Sector Cooperation (JWG) held on 03 January 2024 that was co-chaired by Dr. D. Sai Baba, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power and Mr. Nabin Raj Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Government of Nepal in Kathmandu.











Celebration of World Hindi Day



Embassy of India, Kathmandu in association with Central Hindi Department, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu celebrated World Hindi Day at the Embassy on 10 January 2024. Hon'ble Chairman of Language Commission, Government of Nepal, Dr Gopal Thakur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Deputy Chief of Mission, Shri Prasanna Shrivastava read the message of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi on the occasion. As a celebration through the universal language of poetry, 'Nepal-Bharat Kavi Sammelan' was organized on the occasion which was presided over by renowned poet from India Shri Dixit Dankauri who captivated the audience by his eloquent ghazals. The event served as a platform for Indian and Nepali poets to express their poetic thoughts, emotions and experiences through the eloquence of words giving the message of peace, harmony and friendship.









Live Screening of Pariksha Pe Charcha - 2024



Embassy of India, Kathmandu organized live screening of 7th edition of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha 2024' with PM Shri Narendra Modi on 29 January 2024 at the Embassy which witnessed enthusiastic participation of students of Kendriya Vidyalaya and Modern Indian School, Kathmandu. The event was attended by Principals and teachers of the schools and also parents of the students. Senior officers of the Embassy were also present on the occasion. The participants benefitted from inspirational insights and guidance for managing examination stress given by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.







Swachhata Pakhawada Drive organised by Embassy of India, Kathmandu



As part of Swachhata Pakhawada drive, a Shramdaan and plogging run (Swachhata Walk) were organized at the Embassy of India, Kathmandu on 31 January 2024. Ambassador Shri Naveen Srivastava participated in the event along with officials of the Embassy. Officers and staff members of the Embassy enthusiastically participated in plantation drive, shramdaan and Swachhata Walk.









Official Visit of Lieutenant General AK Singh, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, GOC-in-C Southern Command and President Gorkha Brigade to Nepal



Lt Gen AK Singh, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, GOC-in-C Southern Command and President Gorkha Brigade, Indian Army arrived in Kathmandu on 16.01. 2024 on an official visit to Nepal. In a solemn ceremony on 18.01.2024, Lt Gen AK Singh laid a wreath and paid homage at War Memorial (Martyr's Memorial) at Pension Paying Office, Pokhara. Lt. Gen also addressed an Ex-servicemen Rally, of Nepali Domiciled Gorkha Ex-servicemen. He virtually inaugurated Type-E ECHS Polyclinic Baglung. Lt. Gen paid a courtesy call on Gen Prabhu Ram Sharma, COAS, Nepal Army (NA) at the NA headquarters on 19 January 2024. Lt Gen Singh concluded his successful and productive visit to Nepal on 22 January 2024.







Participation in 6th Nepal International Agritech Expo



The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), New Delhi led an Indian business delegation of 48 exporters to the 6th Nepal International Agritech Expo organised from 26-28 January, 2024 at Kathmandu. The Indian pavilion was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development of Nepal Mr Beduram Bhusal. Nepal International Agritech Expo is Nepal's Largest Exhibition on Agriculture, Farm Machinery, Dairy, Poultry, Livestock, Farm Equipment & Technologies.









Participation in regional meeting of UN Regional Centre for Peace & Disarmament (UNRCPD)



Representatives from India participated in regional meeting of UNRCPD (UN Regional Centre for Peace & Disarmament) in Kathmandu from 23-25 January on UNPoA on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) International Tracing Agreement (ITI). The delegation engaged in discussions with Asia & Pacific region countries to formulate a way ahead for 4th Review conference of UNPoA at New York. India's concerns regarding illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons contributing to cross border terrorism were highlighted. The delegation shared India's national best practices to regulate SALW & expressed the need to strengthen regional and global cooperation including adherence to ITI and shared capability enhancement









Celebration of Swami Vivekananda Jayanti



In a programme organized by Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), Embassy of India, Kathmandu celebrated Swami Vivekananda Jayanti on 12 January 2024 by offering floral tributes to Swami Vivekananda. On the occasion, Dr Asawari Bapat, Director, SVCC humble tributes to the great spiritual leader and highlighted his contributions, vision, ideals, thoughts and teachings which continue to inspire generations especially the youth.









Musical Programme on 'The Journey of Sarangi'



As a part of its monthly Kala Samvad series, Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Embassy of India, Kathmandu organized a musical programme 'The Journey of Sarangi' wherein Shri Khadga Bahadur Gandhari, a renowned Nepali Folk Sarangi player along with his band gave performances at the Nepal-Bharat Library, New Road, Kathmandu on 31 January 2024. Shri Gandhari also shared his experiences as Sarangi player and shed light on Nepali folk music. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation of people from different walks of life including musicians, singers and music students.









Interactive Feedback session with the officials of Armed Police Force, Nepal



Embassy of India, Kathmandu hosted a group of officials of Armed Police Force, Nepal who were trained by the National Security Guard (NSG), a counter-terrorism unit of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs. This training programme was organised under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme which is the leading capacity building platform of the Ministry Of External Affairs, Government of India. The interactive session was held on 24 January 2024 in which the participants shared their highly enriching and insightful views about the programme.









Orientation Session with Nepali Police Officials



The 10th,11th and 12th batch of Nepali Police officials who were on training at Rashtriya Raksha University, Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat (India) were hosted by Embassy of India, Kathmandu for an interactive orientation and experience sharing session. Ideas and insights for furthering cooperation between security officials of both countries were exchanged. The interactive session was held at the Embassy on 10 January 2024.









Blood Donation and Cervical & Breast Cancer Screening Camp at PPO, Dharan



Embassy of India, Pension Paying Office, Dharan organized a Grand Blood Donation and Cervical and Breast Cancer Screening Camp on 06 January 2024. 304 blood pints were collected and 192 women were benefited from the Cervical and Breast Cancer Screening. Eastern Nepal Ex-Servicemen and citizens participated enthusiastically making the event a grand success.









75th Republic Day Parade (26 January 2024)



President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu led the nation in celebrating the 75th Republic Day from Kartavya Path in New Delhi on 26 January 2024. French President Emmanuel Macron was the Chief Guest at the parade which showcased India's rich cultural diversity, unity and progress, its military prowess, and growing Nari Shakti. Based on the twin themes of 'Viksit Bharat' and 'Bharat - Loktantra ki Matruka', this year's parade witnessed the participation of around 13 thousand Guests.

See More...

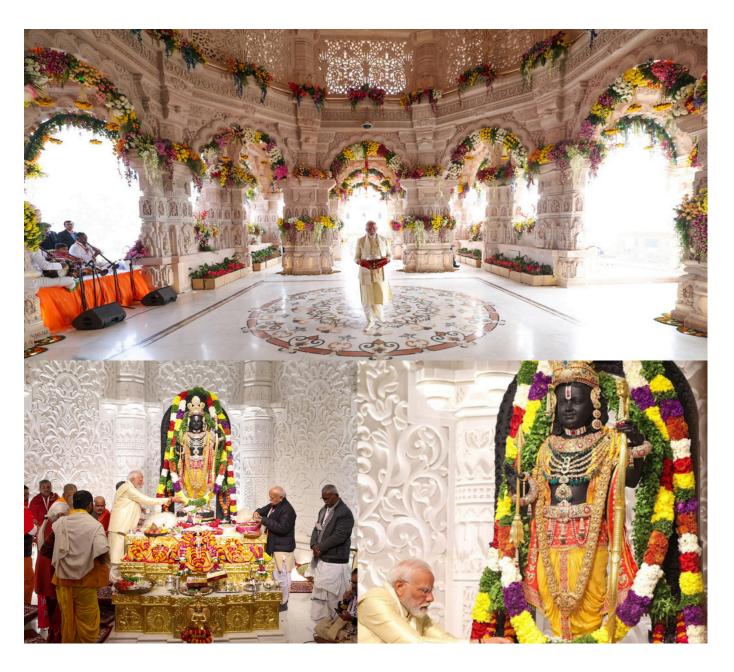








Pran-Pratishtha of Ram Lalla at Ayodhya



The Pran Pratishtha ceremony of Ramlalla was held on 22 January 2024 in Ayodhya with Prime Minister Narendra Modi leading the rituals in the newly constructed magnificent temple. The Prime Minister also unveiled the Ramlalla idol in the sanctum sanctorum at the temple.

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Vibrant Gujarat Summit



The Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 10th edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar on 10 January 2024. The theme of this year's summit was 'Gateway to the Future' and included the participation of 34 partner countries and 16 partner organizations.

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International Kite Festival, Gujarat (8-14 January 2024)



The International Kite Festival is one of the biggest festivals of Gujarat in which the skies over most cities of the state are seen with kites from dawn till dusk. Kite festival is organized during the 2nd week of January which marks the days in the Hindu calendar when winter begins turning to summer, known as Makar Sankranti. The International Kite Festival of India has been listed in National Geographic's '10 Unmissable Events Worth Travelling for in 2024'.

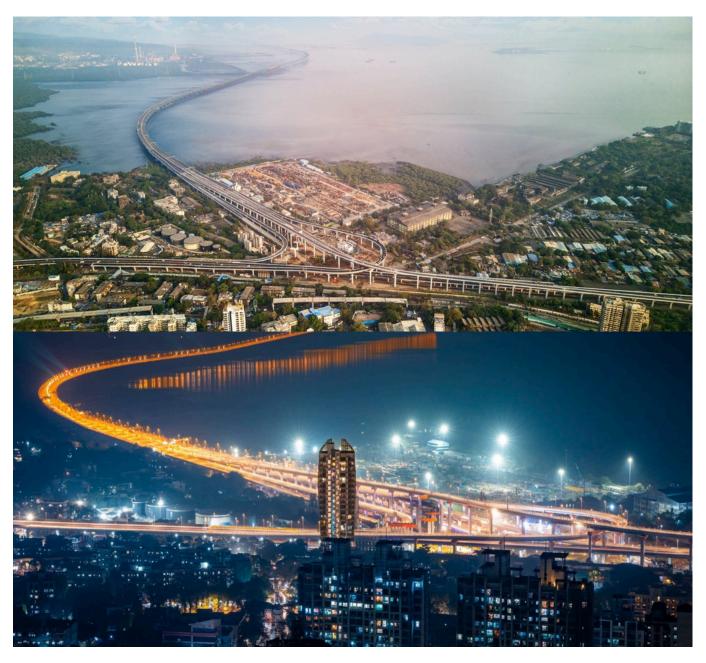






Did you visit?

Mumbai Trans Harbour Link or Atal Setu, Mumbai



An engineering marvel, about 21.8 km long, the 6-lane Atal Setu is the longest sea bridge in India, and among the longest in the world. It was inaugurated on 12 January 2024 by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.







