

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Week (20-26 January 2023)



o "Sangeet Sukoon" featuring performances of the Indian band Carnatic 2.0 and Nepali band Kutumba was held at Army Auditorium on 20 January 2023. The event was attended by Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister of Nepal Mr Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', former Prime Ministers Mr K.P. Sharma Oli, Mr Madhav Kumar Nepal and Dr Baburam Bhattarai, and senior leader Mr Mahantha Thakur. Among other dignitaries, Hon'ble Foreign Minister Ms Bimala Rai Paudyal, Hon'ble Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Supplies Mr Damodar Bhandari, and Chief of Army Staff of Nepali Army General Prabhuram Sharma also attended the event. Carnatic 2.0 also performed at Patan Durbar Square on 21 January 2023.



o A five-kilometer Run for LIFE was held at Pashupatinath Temple Complex on 21 January 2023 to spread the concept of LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment) where over 1000 people participated.



o Embassy in collaboration with INTACH organized an International Seminar on Knowledge Sharing on "Conservation of Natural and Cultural Heritage".

Ambassador's Message

As we celebrate the 74th Republic Day of India, I would like to extend warm greetings to my fellow Indians and friends of India in Nepal.



India and Nepal have civilizational ties anchored by shared cultural and religious traditions and strong people-to-people linkages. These ties have been bolstered in modern times by a multifaceted partnership. India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy places a special emphasis on our relationship with Nepal. The last year has witnessed a continuation of the tradition of high-level visits by leaders of both countries including visits by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Nepal and by former PM of Nepal Rt. Hon'ble Sher Bahadur Deuba to India. These visits have imparted a new momentum to our partnership. The Chief of Army Staff of the Indian Army, General Manoj Pande, was conferred the title of Honorary General of the Nepali Army by Rt. Hon'ble Smt. Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of Nepal in September 2022, continuing the unique tradition between the two countries.

India-Nepal Development Partnership remains an important facet of our relationship. Since April 2022, 75 Development Partnership Projects in Nepal have been successfully inaugurated, including 48 post-2015 earthquake reconstruction projects. These projects cover diverse sectors. The launch of the first cross-border broad-gauge passenger railway service between Jayanagar and Kurtha by Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Sher Bahadur Deuba, introduction of the RuPay card in Nepal, inauguration of Solu corridor transmission line, groundbreaking of Nepal's National Police Academy as well as the motorable bridge connecting Darchula in Nepal with Darchula in India will further enhance the partnership between our two countries that will help further catalyze economic engagement for mutual benefit and also strengthen our people-to-people linkages. Guided by Joint Vision Statement on Power Sector Cooperation, export of hydropower from Nepal on a large scale last year signals the start of a new chapter in our partnership. Such exports are only expected to further increase in the coming years.

Our partnership now extends beyond the bilateral sphere to include cooperation and coordination in multilateral arena as well. Nepal has been invited as a partner in the G20 Finance Track under India's Presidency of the G20 this year. The theme for the G20 under India's Presidency is "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth - One Family - One Future", reflecting India's age-old ethos. During the Presidency of G20, it will be India's endeavour to share its developmental experiences including the successful large-scale adoption of digital public goods with our partners, including Nepal.

As we look forward, India will continue to build on the momentum achieved in our bilateral partnership and work together with all our friends and stakeholders in Nepal for a shared, prosperous future.

(Naveen Shrivastava)



o Connecting with the Diaspora: "Chhatra Pragma Partyogita" involving essay and painting competition for Indian diaspora students in Nepal.



o India-Nepal Startup Connect was held in association with the Confederation of Nepalese Industries Young Entrepreneurs Forum (CNIYEF) to bring together the startup ecosystems of both countries.



o Embassy in collaboration with Centre for South Asian Studies organized the "India-Nepal Development Partnership Conclave" in Kathmandu.



o India-Nepal Artisan Exchange was held to promote experience sharing between the artists of the two countries.

Cultural Connect



o Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre has been organizing monthly activities in association with three prominent Nepali institutions--Nepal Cultural Corporation, Pashupati Area Development Trust, and Budhanilkantha Temple to promote art, culture and festivals of India and Nepal.



o 'Fun & Learn' Personality Development Camp for children where 66 students from Government, CBSE and private schools participated in the 05-day camp and had sessions on Yoga, Dance, Music, Traditional Games and Calligraphy.

India-Nepal Development Partnership

Development Partnership remains an important facet of India-Nepal relationship. 75 Development Partnership Projects in Nepal have been successfully inaugurated from April 2022 to January 2023. This includes 17 schools under High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP) and 48 post-2015 earthquake reconstruction projects (30 schools across 7 districts and 18 health facilities across 4 districts of Nepal) that were inaugurated during India-Nepal Development Partnership Conclave in January 2023. Overall, Government of India has committed a grant assistance of US\$ 100 Million divided equally for reconstruction of education and health sector projects in 11 districts of Nepal affected by the 2015 earthquake.

Jayanagar-Kurtha-Bijalpur Railway Line

o Jayanagar (India) - Kurtha (Nepal) rail section (34.9 kms) was inaugurated / flagged off jointly by Prime Ministers of India and Nepal on 2 April 2022. The rail link is constructed as part of Jayanagar-Bijalpur-Bardibas rail link project at the cost of NRs 8.77 Billion.



National Police Academy Ground Breaking Ceremony

o Ground breaking ceremony of National Police Academy Project, at Kavrepalanchowk, Nepal which is being built under Government of India grant assistance of almost NRs. 1000 Crores. This Academy campus will come up in an area of approx. 84 acre land with a total built-up area of approx. 27 acre.

Gift of Ambulances & School Buses

o In the last one year, Government of India gifted 75 ambulances and 17 school buses to Nepal. Since 1994, 940 ambulances and 184 school Buses have been gifted to various beneficiary organizations spread across Nepal.



Gift of Flood Relief Materials

o India handed over consignments of flood and disaster-relief material, including 3000 tents, to Nepal in July 2022.

Solu Corridor Transmission Line Project, Solukhumbu

o India-supported 132kV Solu corridor transmission line was inaugurated in April 2022 and symbolizes India's commitment to development partnership with Nepal in power and energy sector.



High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP)



Election Vehicle Support



o India provided 200 vehicles to Nepal for logistical support to various Nepali institutions for conduct of elections held in November 2022.

Darchula bridge



o Groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of an India funded 110 metre long motorable bridge over the Mahakali river connecting Dharchula (India) with Darchula (Nepal) was held in September 2022.

Strengthening Sectoral Cooperation



9th Meeting of Joint Committee on Water Resources and 7th Meeting of the Joint Standing Technical Committee in September 2022 comprehensively reviewed the bilateral water-sector cooperation between India and Nepal.



6th India-Nepal Coordination meeting between DG-SSB and IG-APF begins at APF HQ at Kathmandu in September 2022.

Defence Cooperation



The Chief of Army Staff of Indian Army General Manoj Pande was conferred the title of Honorary General of the Nepali Army by Rt. Hon'ble President of Nepal Smt. Bidya Devi Bhandari in September 2022.



SURYA KIRAN: 16th iteration of the India-Nepal Joint Military Exercise 'Surya Kiran' was conducted in Nepal in December 2022 where an Infantry Battalion each from the Indian Army and the Nepali Army trained together to enhance inter-operability and share experience on Counter Insurgency and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations.

Educational Exchanges



Around 1500 scholarships/seats are provided every year by Government of India through the Embassy of India, Kathmandu to Nepali nationals for undergoing various courses at the PhD/Masters, Bachelors/Diploma courses and Plus-two levels in India as well in Nepal. These scholarships/seats are provided for a wide spectrum of studies ranging from Engineering, Medicine, Agriculture, Nursing, Agriculture, Food Technology, Computer Application, Business Administration, Music & Fine Arts etc.

For study in Nepal

500 Under the Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship Scheme (MGSS) for studying in XI & XII.

For study in India

700 For various Undergraduate, Postgraduate and PhD courses.

200 Under Golden Jubilee Scholarship Scheme (GJSS) for various Undergraduate courses.

33 For studying in Army Public Schools in India.