

ISSUE 1 · AUGUST 2020

INDIA IN TORONTO

Newsletter of the Consulate General of India, Toronto

Celebrating 74th Independence Day

India's 74th Independence Day was celebrated with great fervor in Canada. Various events were held throughout the country to commemorate Indian Independence Day including illumination of landmark destinations.

A Flag hoisting ceremony was held at the Consulate premises. The event was streamed live on Facebook and Twitter for public participation. The tri-color was also unfurled at the Toronto City Hall.



Flag Hoisting at the Consulate



Tri-color Illuminates Niagara Falls

The Indian Flag was hoisted for the first time at Niagara Falls which was also illuminated with the Indian Tri-Colour. The event was organised by the Consulate in association with Indo-Canada Council of Arts, Niagara Parks Commission and city of Niagara Falls.

Some of the other events included Meal Delivery to seniors by Canada India Foundation, Car Rally by My Indians in Canada Association, planting of 74 trees to commemorate 74th Independence day by Gujarat Public Affairs Council. A token of appreciation was presented by the Consul General to the building staff, ensuring uninterrupted functioning of the Consulate during the pandemic.



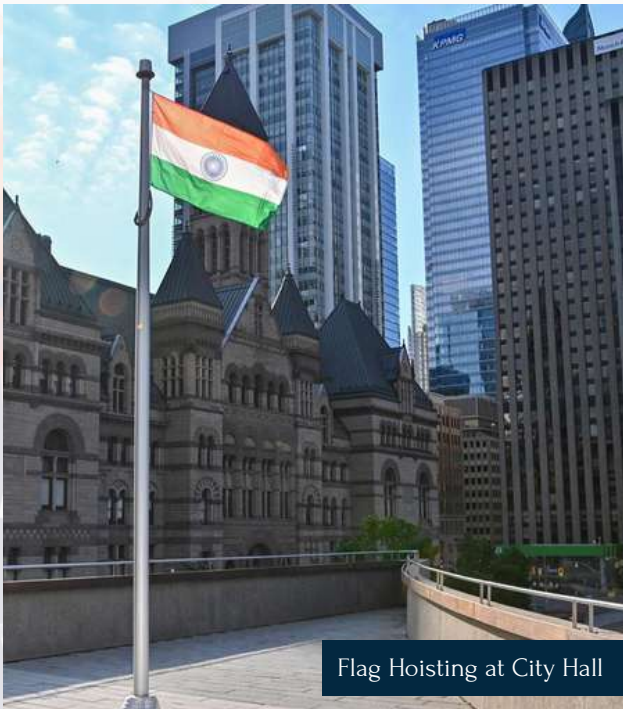
Indian flag hoisted for the first time at Niagara Falls



Tree Planting



Meal Delivery to Seniors



Flag Hoisting at City Hall



Car Rally



Appreciating Essential Workers

Celebrations go Virtual

Taste of India hosted a week-long virtual food festival featuring celebrity chefs, nutritionists who shared their insights and expertise on Indian food to make the festival enjoyable and memorable for everyone.



CN Tower



Panorama India India Day Parade



Panorama India with the support of the Consulate, took India Day celebrations virtual this year with participation of over 50 community organisation representing the different states of India. Various competitions like painting, quiz, photography etc were conducted on themes of India.

To celebrate India Day Parade, CN tower and the iconic Toronto Sign in Nathans Philips Square were illuminated in the Indian tri-color.



Toronto Sign - Nathans Philips Square

50 Flights of Vande Bharat Mission

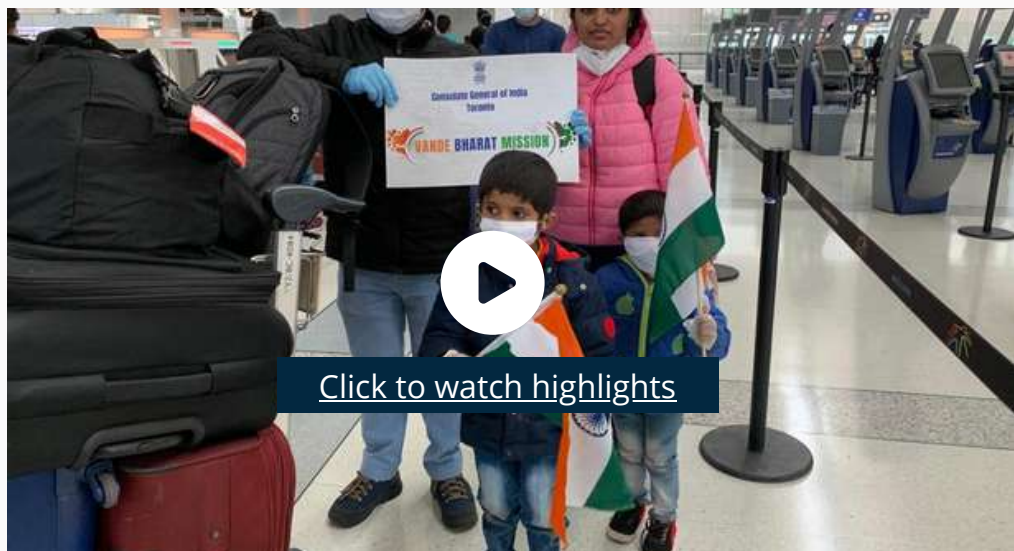
50 special flights as on 24 August, 2020 under Vande Bharat Mission from Toronto to different destinations in India have facilitated the return of around 9500 stranded Indians and Indian origin foreigners. More flights have been announced and repatriation efforts continue.



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I want to thank the entire team at Indian Consulate Office, Toronto and Airindia for helping me out in these unprecedented circumstances. It is all with their tireless team work, that I will soon get to be with my family and friends.

*Priyanka Sharda
Student, University of Toronto*



[Click to watch highlights](#)

Art & Essay Competition on the teachings of Guru Nanak Dev Ji

The Consulate organized an Art and Essay competition to commemorate the 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji which was launched during the Sikh Heritage month in Canada. We received enthusiastic response and are delighted to announce the winners of the competition. Winners received a certificate and prizes from the Consulate. Click [here](#) to view all winning entries.

ART COMPETITION

BASED ON THE TEACHINGS OF GURU NANAK DEV JI

GROUP A - AGES 4 TO 10	GROUP B - AGES 11 TO 16
1st Prize Menon Lojan	1st Prize Nilaksh Nagpure
2nd Prize Kanishka	2nd Prize Aditi Shah & Riya Patel
3rd Prize Chinna	3rd Prize Shivani Somasale

GROUP C - AGES 17 TO 24	GROUP D - AGES 25 & ABOVE
1st Prize Khushbu Soni	1st Prize Natvarlal Amrutlal Patel
2nd Prize Navya Navya	2nd Prize Promod Nagpure & Vaishali Somasale
	3rd Prize Hetal Patel

ESSAY COMPETITION

Based on the teachings of Guru Nanak Dev Ji

GROUP A - AGES 7 TO 11	GROUP B - AGES 12 TO 17
1st Prize Adhiraj Mahendra	1st Prize Sara Gehlaut
2nd Prize Kanwarveer Singh Walia	2nd Prize Keerat Kaur & Tarini Sacha
3rd Prize Soham Parmar	3rd Prize Japjot Singh

GROUP C - AGES 18 TO 24	GROUP D - AGES 25 & ABOVE
1st Prize Dylan Menezes	1st Prize Jatinder Kaur & Manbir Mahendra
2nd Prize Jasmeen Randhawa	2nd Prize Daisy Menezes
3rd Prize Shweta Sharma	3rd Prize Nisarg Patel



श्लोकस्पर्धा Samskritam 'shloka' Competition 2020

Consulate General of India & Samskrita Bharati (Canada) is organizing a Samskritam 'shloka' (video) Competition 2020. Create a short video of upto 75 seconds by reciting any Sanskrit Shloka, submit your video and win exciting prizes! More details [here](#).

Consulate General of India
Toronto

संस्कृतभारती
इकोइकोरा भारती

संस्कृतम्

SHLOKA COMPETITION

SUBMIT SHORT VIDEOS AND WIN EXCITING PRIZES

LAST DAY:
SEP 5

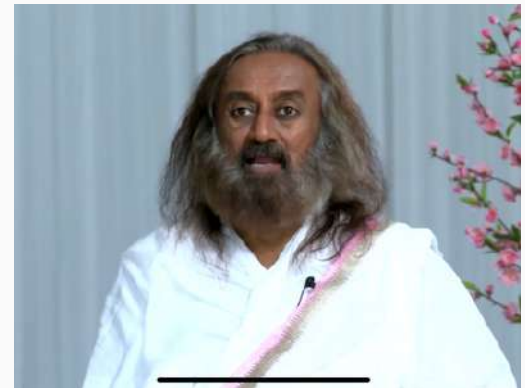
CATEGORIES

1. अतिशुभश्लोकः (अतिशुभश्लोकः) (upto 1st grade)
2. शिशुश्लोकः (शिशुश्लोकः) (2nd - 4th grade)
3. बालश्लोकः (बालश्लोकः) (5th - 8th grade)
4. युवाश्लोकः (युवाश्लोकः) (9th - 12th grade)
5. प्रमुखश्लोकः (प्रमुखश्लोकः) (all others)

Celebrations for 6th International Day of Yoga



The celebration of 6th International Day of Yoga 2020 went virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. High Commission in Ottawa and Consulates in Toronto and Vancouver organised 54 individual programmes in 15 days in association with Yoga institutions throughout Canada. The most anticipated events were exclusive sessions with Baba Ramdev, Brahmakumaris Sister Shivani and a special message from Guru Dev Sri Sri Ravishankar. IDY 2020 was also celebrated in Niagara Falls and in Toronto in insulated domes practicing social distancing. A photo contest was also organised which saw enthusiastic participation.



Article Corner

[India is a Constructive, Dependable Actor Globally](#)

Shri Harshvardhan Shringla, Foreign Secretary

[India's Soft Power as a Pillar of Foreign Policy](#)

Ambassador Yogendra Kumar

[Visionary Approach](#)

Ambassador Anil Wadhwa

[India's Response to Pandemic: Using Crisis as an Opportunity](#)

Shri Manish Chand

[AatmaNirbhar Bharat: Turning the Tables](#)

Shri Vinayak Surya Swami

Announcements

According to latest guidelines issued by Govt, of India, PCC can be issued only after receipt of a 'Clear' report from Police authorities in India which is to be made available in the system by the concerned Passport office. This process may take 6-8 weeks. In view of this, applicants are requested to assess their requirements for obtaining PCC for India well in advance and submit their applications accordingly at the BLS. PCC is valid for a period of 6 months and can be applied in advance for any requirement. For more information click [here](#).



There has never been a better time to invest in India: PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address during “India Ideas Summit” hosted by the US-India Business Council (USIBC) highlighted that even during the pandemic, India had attracted foreign investment of more than 20 billion dollars between April and July this year. He also underlined that each year, India is reaching record highs in FDI, adding that FDI inflows in India in 2019-20 were 74 billion dollars, which is an increase of 20 per cent over the previous year. Read the full article [here](#).



Bombardier wins contract to supply 201 metro cars and signalling for the Agra-Kanpur Metro lines in India

Rail technology leader Bombardier Transportation has received a Letter of Award from India's Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation to build and deliver 201 metro cars and an advanced signalling solution for the Agra-Kanpur Metro projects. The Letter of Award is valued at approximately INR 2051 crore (\$275 million US) and the customer has a provision to exercise an option of an additional 51 metro cars. Manufacturing and supply of 67 high-end state-of-the-art modern train sets of three cars each, manufactured in Savli, India by Bombardier shall be a feather in “Make in India” dream of India.”



Union Cabinet on 29 July 2020 gave a nod to India's new National Education Policy 2020

The first National Educational Policy of the 21st Century reflects sweeping reforms in school and higher educational structure laying significant importance on development of creative potential of each individual. The policy proposes revision and revamping of all aspects of education to focus on the principle that education must develop both, foundational capacities of literacy and numeracy as well cognitive capacities such as critical thinking, problem solving there by also including social, ethical, emotional capacities. The policy with strong emphasis on early childhood and care and education (ECCE) demonstrates more activity and inquiry based learning with less content taking at the centre stage as the foundation of learning. Read the full report [here](#).

Prime Minister launched a platform for “Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest”

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 13th August 2020 launched a platform for “Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest” aimed at bringing about major reforms in tax administration. In addition to several tax reforms carried out by Government of India in recent years, there were a range of measures introduced to reduce tax rates and simplified direct tax laws to facilitate ease of doing business and instill trust in the taxpayers. Read the full article [here](#).

Prime Minister launches National Digital Health Mission

PM Modi on 73rd Anniversary of Independence announced the launch of the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) under which every Indian will get a health ID that will store the individual's medical records. It will help reduce problems in getting treatment in various health facilities in the country and herald a new revolution in the sector. Every test, disease and diagnosis, and medical reports along with medicines will be stored in every citizen's health ID. Read the full article [here](#).