

INDIA MATTERS

PUBLICATION OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA IN DUBAI

Volume 05 | Issue 02 | 2021



India at Tokyo Olympics 2020

India getting all set for its participation at EXPO 2020

Marriages at the Consulate

Awareness Camp for Workers

Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

India Korea Business Meet

Statue of Unity, Kevadia Gujrat

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CONTENTS

Cover Story

04 India at Tokyo Olympics 2020

EXPO 2020

08 India getting all set for its participation at EXPO 2020

Community

10 An experience of pleasantness and hope at BLS Centre, Al Khaleej

12 Marriages at the Consulate

14 The Summer of 2021

16 Surrendering of Indian Passport

17 Awareness Camp for Workers

18 Prerna, We-Inspire

19 Samskritam



India @75

20 Celebration of 75 years of Independence of India, Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

Super Brands

22 Leading the Fight Against Neglected Diseases

Business & Economy

24 India Korea Business Meet

26 India's Evolution as an enterprising Fintech Nation

Travel & Tourism

30 Statue of Unity, Kevadia Gujrat

Quiz

32 INDIQTIVE

FOREWARD

FOREWARD



From Consul General's Desk
Dr. Aman Puri

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the second digital edition of 'India Matters'. We appreciate all the positive feedback received for the first edition.

This week we celebrate India's 75th Independence Day and as we reminisce about the legacy of our freedom fighters and the glorious growth story of India, we reaffirm our commitment to contribute to the nation building. We organized a Documentary Screening and an Art and Craft Exhibition on the theme 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' in the month of July.

The cover story celebrates India's best ever medal haul in the Olympics in decades. We witnessed India's remarkable performances both in the individual and team sports, with first ever gold in Athletics and a medal in Hockey after ages. Women athletes led from the front with a medal landing on the first day at the world's biggest sporting stage. This momentum should persist and we expect to see India soar higher in the next Olympics in Paris.

Our preparation for Expo 2020 has hit top gear with the visit of the Official delegation from India to Dubai, led by the Commissioner General of India at Expo 2020 Dubai. In the run up to Expo 2020, we also organized a Business Meet in association with the Consulate General of Korea, Dubai and Korea International Trade Association MENA that was attended by leading Indian and Korean business professionals in Dubai and provided a platform to work together in future.

This edition also features articles on Bharat Biotech, a leading Indian vaccine innovator; Prerana, an initiative of the Consulate to support and empower differently abled individuals and their families and Samskrita Bharati, who has played an important role in promoting Sanskrit in the UAE.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the contributors and readers, for your interest and I encourage you to continue to send us your invaluable feedback and ideas for further improvement of the Magazine.

I hope you will enjoy reading this edition!

Happy reading!



INDIA AT TOKYO OLYMPICS 2020

A special thank you to the Government and people of Japan, especially Tokyo for hosting the well-organised games. To host it so successfully, in such times, gave out a strong message of resilience.

As the world underwent a harsh bout of the pandemic in 2020, the Olympic games were postponed to 2021. After a year's delay, the Tokyo summer Olympics are set to proceed and the Olympic fanfare is now set to begin from July 23 through August 8. The world's best athletes will once again compete in the pool, on the track, around the velodrome and high above the trampoline. This year, India is going big at the Olympic Games—literally by sending its largest-ever contingent. India has been sending a large contingent for the last three edi-

tions of the Summer Olympics. The Tokyo Olympics 2020 will see a 228-member strong contingent from India where 127 Indian athletes will be taking fierce and long strides to represent the country across 18 sporting disciplines. Athletes include legendary female boxer Mary Kom and tennis ace Sania Mirza, among many others. India will be taking part in 69 cumulative events, the highest ever for the country. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi connected with India's Olympics contingent through a video conference on 13 July 2021. He said sports is at the heart of our national character



and that our youths are creating a strong and vibrant culture of sports. He encouraged them and wished them on behalf of all Indians. As the first batch of athletes departs from India to Tokyo, a formal send-off ceremony at New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport on 17 July 2021 was given by Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, and Minister of State, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Nisith Pramanik. They were joined by Shri Narinder Dhruv Batra, President of Indian Olympic Association, Shri Rajeev Mehta, Secretary General of Indian Olympic Association and Shri Sandip Pradhan, Director-General of Sports Authority of India. About 22 athletes and six officials from the Indian contingent attended the opening ceremony for the Tokyo Olympics.



Mirabai Chanu won silver medal in women's 49 kg category weightlifting.



Mirabai Chanu

Boxing champion Mary Kom and Indian men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh led the Indian contingent out as they marched through Tokyo's National Stadium on the evening of 23 July 2021. Athletes Tarundeep Rai, Atanu Das and Praveen Jadhav represented the men's team. Whereas, Deepika Kumari who is currently ranked no. 1 in world archery, represented the women's team. Manipur-based Saikhom Mirabai Chanu clinched a silver medal on day 1 of the Tokyo Olympics in the 49 kg weightlifting category and gave India its perfect start. Mirabai Chanu is India's only representative in weightlifting at Tokyo 2020. Ranked second in the world, the former world champion is among the favourites for a medal in the women's 49kg weight division. She is the first Indian weightlifter to win silver at the Olympics.



Bronze medalist PV Sindhu

Reigning world champion PV Sindhu, who had won a silver at the Rio Games five years ago, once again made India proud by winning the bronze medal match against China's He Bing Jiao at the Tokyo Olympics. She won the crucial encounter 21-13, 21-15 to become the first Indian woman ever to win two individual Olympic medals. The people of India are still having high expectations and high aspirations from Team India.

“ I am on the top of the world, says PV Sindhu after winning historic bronze

COVER STORY

Manipur-based Saikhom Mirabai Chanu clinched a silver medal on day 1 of the Tokyo Olympics in the 49 kg weightlifting category and gave India its perfect start. Mirabai Chanu is India's only representative in weightlifting at Tokyo 2020. Ranked second in the world, the former world champion is among the

favourites for a medal in the women's 49kg weight division. She is the first Indian weightlifter to win silver at the Olympics. Hockey has traditionally been India's best sport at the Olympics, and a history was etched in the memory of every Indian, when Men's hockey team bagged silver medal at Tokyo Olympics. Every Indian is proud of the Indian contingent for their stupendous per-

formance at the Tokyo Olympics games. They laid the best example of skill, teamwork and dedication. Team India had given it's best performance ever and have also made debut in several games. The government of India is working hard to further popularise sports at the grassroots so that new talent emerges and gets the opportunity to represent India in the times to come.



Top to Bottom - Neeraj Chopra, Ravi Kumar Dahiya, Mirabai Chanu, Bajrang Punia, PV Sindhu, Lovlina Borgohain and Indian Hockey Team.

“Neeraj Chopra, who clinched the India's maiden athletics medal to become only the second Indian to win an individual gold in the Olympics



INDIA GETTING ALL SET FOR ITS PARTICIPATION AT

EXPO
2020
DUBAI
UAE

EXPO 2020

Expo will provide India and Dubai an ideal platform to expand economic cooperation and boost their global profile to showcase their capabilities on the world stage.

India's preparations for the EXPO 2020 Dubai have moved into top gear with less than twelve weeks remaining for the grand opening on October 1, 2021. Displaying strong commitment to India's participation at the Expo, a high-level Indian delegation led by Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce & Commissioner General for India, Shri S Kishore, and Ambassador of India to the UAE, Shri Pavan Kapoor, called on Her Excellency Reem Al Hashimy, UAE's Minister of State for International Cooperation & Director

General, EXPO 2020 Dubai on July 7, 2021. Consul General of India in Dubai & Deputy Commissioner General for India, Dr. Aman Puri, and Secretary General, FICCI, Shri Dilip Chenoy were also part of the delegation along with other senior government officials. The delegation held a detailed review meeting on programming and operations with Mr Omar Shehadeh, Chief International Participants' Officer, at EXPO 2020 Dubai and his team and visited India Pavilion to assess the ongoing work. Located in the Al Forsan Park adjacent

to the Opportunity district, the construction work of India Pavilion, having built up area of 8736 square meters started in Aug 2019. The structural and dynamic façade work is now complete, and the interior work is currently going on and is expected to be completed by third week of July, which will be followed by fit out and work on visitor's experience etc. which is expected to be completed by end of August 2021. The high-level delegation also interacted with representatives of the Indian business community in the UAE to explore their colab

oration with the India Pavilion, given the huge opportunity it offered them as part of their on-going integral role in the India-UAE strategic partnership. The India Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai will showcase the country's achievements, over the last 75 years, innovative technologies, and business opportunities it offers, as well as its cultural diversity and ancient treasures. From age-old yoga to India's foray into space, the pavilion will bring alive a vibrant and ambitious India. From Indian State Governments to corporates, the Indian Pavilion will showcase a modern, robust India, high on technology while simultaneously exhibiting the beauty of Indian art, culture, and cuisine during the 183 days that the event will run. Expo 2020 Dubai will witness mega Diwali and Holi celebrations. The external façade of India Pavilion, made up of 600 individual colourful blocks capable of kinetic movements symbolizing the themes, will showcase an India on the move.



Indian Delegation in discussion with UAE Minister of State for International Cooperation's team.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE INDIA PAVILION LOGO

The logo's circular form represents unity, commitment and the community which form the central pillars of the Indian nation; and, signifies continuity and evolving lifecycles in one of the world's most vibrant democracies and fastest growing business centres. The design channelizes the chakra / the wheel that reflects strength, courage

and progressive movement. The colours have been taken from the Indian flag, where Saffron symbolises strength and courage; White indicates peace and truth; and Green represents fertility, growth and auspiciousness. Overall, the logo is a visual representation of the Indian ethos: Openness. Opportunity. Growth.

EXPO
2020
DUBAI
UAEindia
Openness. Opportunity. Growth

”

S. Kishore assured Reem Al Hashimy that India's participation in Expo 2020 Dubai is being closely monitored and prioritised at the highest levels in India and New Delhi is fully committed to participating in the event in a big way.

An experience of pleasantness and hope at BLS Centre, Al Khaleej

Am having an appointment at the BLS centre for the purpose of passport renewal. Having arrived ahead by half an hour, I am waiting in the hall ,after the gracious permission by the security staff, simultaneously studying others around me. Two families with young kids are sitting ahead of me. Appear to be knowing each other for they are conversing animatedly but quietly, at times with the masks slipped off. Another family sitting behind has a mother with a constant jabber and a shrill voice clearly audible from behind the mask. I am busy observing the surroundings silently, in the hope of being able to grab some story for my write-ups. My reverie is gently disturbed by a cultured male voice, "Excuse me Madam. You have an appointment at 9 O clock." It was a polite question cum statement. Gathering my thoughts, I look at the voice and find a gentleman, well dressed with an Indiansed jacket, courteously enquiring of me. I nod in the affirmative. He further inquires about the readiness of my application and leaves smoothly to enquire the same from another applicant sitting a few seats away. The dignified courteous mannerisms leave a mark with me, that instantaneously shifts to the background, in the brain, as I get involved in other thoughts . My token number is called, I reach the counter. The girl behind the counter is friendly. I notice the trainee badge on her dress. She scans my application,finds some minor mistakes and informs me that the application needs a retype as the handwritten edits are not permissible. In the meantime, the regular duty staff takes over from the trainee and rescans the application. I am impressed by the professionalism and meticulous working of the staff and enquire if retyping is really required. Suddenly, an authoritative voice from behind me informs her that the application does not need retyping and should be accepted after hand made corrections duly signed by the applicant. I turn around to find the same gentleman taking care of these types of issues, at different counters and mingling with the other applicants around. Thanking his helpful interference, I proceed with the other formalities at the counter. As I leave the counter, I hear again a decent voice asking,"Hope you are satisfied with your experience here." I find the same amiable face, behind the mask asking me the question. Wanting to give genuine feedback ,for I was very much satisfied with the process, I nod affirmatively, but also share the initial misguidance by the trainee girl, which though unintentional, yet needed to be clarified and properly communicated to the trainees. The gentleman listened patiently and then proceeded to tell me calmly that he was not a BLS employee, but the Vice Consul from CGI (Consulate General of India)!! Taken aback, sheepishly, I begin apologising for my mistake and yet, have the audacity to ask his name.

He turns out to be Mr.Ashish Dabas !!

Thank you Mr.Ashish,
For your Kindness,
Gentleness,and
Thoughtfulness,
towards your fellow persons !!
You have restored my faith in भारत and भारतीय !!!

Dr. Meenu Agarwal.
(Pediatrician, UAE)



On 21.07.2021, Dr. Aman Puri, Consul General of India appreciated M/s. BLS International Services Limited for their services rendered during ongoing the COVID-19 pandemic.

PASSPORT & ATTESTATION SERVICES RENDERED BY CONSULATE DURING MONTH OF JULY, 2021:

Sl. No.	Service	Number of services rendered
1.	Passports	15,107
2.	Emergency Certificates	149
3.	Birth Certificates	875
4.	Miscellaneous passport services	544
5.	Attestation	8813

Since COVID-19 pandemic, the Consulate issued approximately 2,50,000 passports, 3300 Emergency Certificates (EC's)/Outpass, 15,500 Birth Certificates and 6,000 Miscellaneous certificates.

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING CONSULAR ATTESTATION SERVICES (ON FRIDAY'S) IN NORTHERN EWMIRATES IN MONTH OF AUGUST, 2021 :

Sl. No.	Date	Location
1.	06.08.2021	Indian Association, Sharjah (0900 hrs - 1400 hrs)
2.	13.08.2021	Indian Association, Sharjah (0900 hrs - 1400 hrs)
		Indian Association, Ajman (1000 hrs – 1300 hrs)
		Indian Association, Umm Al Quwain (1400 hrs – 1600 hrs)
3.	20.08.2021	Indian Association, Sharjah (0900 hrs - 1400 hrs)
		Indian Relief Committee, Khorfakkan (100 hrs – 1200 hrs)
		Indian Social Club, Fujairah (1330 hrs – 1530 hrs)
		Indian Association, Kalba (1600 hrs – 1800 hrs)
4.	27.08.2021	Indian Association, Sharjah (0900 hrs - 1400 hrs)
		Indian Association, Ajman (1000 hrs – 1300 hrs)
		Indian Association, Ras Al Khaima (1400 hrs – 1600 hrs)



Bride and Bridegroom taking oath in present of Consul (Consular) Shri Jitender Negi, who also happens to be the marriage officer at the Consulate.

”

Prospective couples approach Consulate to solemnize their weddings.



Prospective Couple signing marriage certificate.

MARRIAGES AT THE CONSULATE

A marriage certificate is more than a civil contract. It is bond of love and commitment.

Consulate General of India in Dubai provides several consular services for the large Indian diaspora in the United Arab Emirates. Amongst these services, Consulate, also conducts solemnization of marriages. The number of marriages being registered/solemnized at the Consulate General of India in Dubai has been increasing with every year. The number of couples married at the consulate in 2020 was 395. Many couples marrying in the consulate are

cross-border couples or Indians belonging to different states and different religions.

Everything you need to know to get your marriage registered at the Consulate:

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR MARRIAGE SOLEMNIZATION/REGISTRATION:

1. Passport Copy of Bride & groom
2. Visa copy of Bride & Groom
3. Notarize NOC from parents of Bride & Groom with parents ID copy
4. Bachelorhood Certificate of Bride & Groom
5. 4 passport size photos for bride & groom respectively
6. For Bride/Groom of other nationality, singleness and non impediment certificate from respective Consulate attested by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dubai.
7. Three witnesses (holding residence visa of UAE) with their original valid passports and passport photocopy.
8. For Marriages solemnized

outside Consulate in religious institutions viz Churches, Temples, Gurudwara or Dubai Court, a marriage certificate issued from such institution is required in addition to the documents mentioned above. Marriage certificates issued by Church or Dubai Court is required to be attested by MOFA.

WHAT IS A BACHELORHOOD CERTIFICATE?

If bride and groom are from India, generally Bachelorhood certificate is required from respective district magistrate and attested by Home Department in India. However in UAE, most

of the people who come for marriage registration are born and brought up in UAE and their families have been residents of UAE since decades. In such cases, as a practice, we are accepting their sworn affidavit specifying their marital status (single, divorcee, widow/widower) attested from IVS Global based on their self declaration, passports and parents NOC.

WHAT IS NOTICE PERIOD?

After submission of all the required documents, newspaper advertisement is to be given by the individuals for publication in local English Newspaper as well as English Newspaper in India/

concerned country in the place of permanent residence indicated in the passport. The advertisement should contain the full text provided by the Consulate. Date of marriage is fixed after 30 days of waiting period from the date of publication of marriage notice.

Prospective couples can approach the Consulate through e-mail, walk-ins or phone for enquiries. Link on Consulate's website for detailed procedure on marriages is as below:

<https://www.cgidubai.gov.in/page/marriages/>

THE SUMMER OF 2021

THE INDIAN HIGH GROUP OF SCHOOLS, DUBAI

Summer vacation is the best time for children to relax, refresh, rejoice and reconnect.

Summer of 2021 requires some 'blue sky thinking' to creatively engage our assiduous young learners when most families have shelved their annual travel plans for second year in a row. Schools need to develop curiosity, imagination, resilience and self-regulation that can build competencies for jobs that have not yet been ideated, for technologies that have not yet been conceived. The past 18 months have given a greater push to consider wellbeing as a prerequisite for holistic development in response to the global conversation about pandemic-induced mental health issues.

Techniques for meeting and navigating intense emotions both at home and school, practices that cultivate positive states of mind like gratitude, kindness, joy & compassion. Grounded in the wellness practice, yoga and mindfulness sessions help improve overall well-being, foster inner balance & equanimity, reduce stress, and bolster emotional intelligence. The world is an oyster for the stellar minds with access to online taekwondo classes or violin classes or even joining the karate club to earn the black belt. Students are profoundly passionate donning the role of young chef to budding writers through the enormous range of activities that promote the learning potential. **Activities must include the below listings:**

- **Make Health your priority**
- **Join a book club**
- **Work on a personal project**

• **Get outdoors for historical adventures**



• **Reconnect with friends and family members**



• **Talk about adult for a suitable career**



• **Enjoy nature**



1. Young minds can build their linguistic skills through fun activities that include hero stories like Watching 'The Kindness Diaries,' a documentary television series on Netflix. "My Kindness Project".
2. Engagement in art and music

promotes human connections, cognitive exercise, emotional development, expressiveness and creativity that ultimately enhances quality of life, confidence, health and well-being.

3. Creative and thought-provoking projects based on inspiring TEDx Talk helps to nurture new ways of thinking using a bank of easy-to-use resources and strategies, with minimal preparation required.
4. In a few years the Internet has grown to become the main meeting place for ethical discussion. The Internet is the ethical marketplace where every kind of opinion, attitude and view can be found and the onus is on educators to support students with a superior tool that will stimulate ethical education.
5. Cooking with kids is a great way to educate them about good nutrition, what's in season, planning and preparing meals, and reading food labels. We can bring together students who share a common love for food by organizing various activities that encourages them to actively explore their passion for cooking and raising their awareness towards healthy cooking habits that leads to a strong and healthy life.
6. Engagement in art and music promotes human connections, cognitive exercise, emotional development, expressiveness and creativity that ultimately enhances quality of life, confidence, health and well-being.

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF GENUINENESS CERTIFICATE

Indian nationals who wish to work or pursue higher education in the U.A.E. or if they are due for promotion at their office etc. may require to equalize the educational certificates obtained by the candidate from

their Indian Universities. For equalization process, a genuineness certificate from the Consulate General of India, Dubai is one of the mandatory documents required to be submitted to the local authorities in the U.A.E.

Genuineness certificate is issued by the Education Wing of the Consulate General of India, Dubai. The steps and procedures for obtaining the Genuineness Certificate are as follows:

STEP 1 - SUBMISSION PROCESS:

The applicant is required to visit the IVS Global attestation centre, in person between 8.00 a.m. and 2.00 pm.

LOCATION:

Business Atrium, No. 201, 202 on 2nd floor, Oud Metha, Dubai.

THE APPLICANT IS REQUIRED TO CARRY FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ALONG WITH:

1. Filled application form and a xerox copy of the same.
2. Photocopies of all certificates (back to back) including mark sheets of all years – two copies.
3. A copy of the passport with visa page – one copy
4. Original passport & certificates to be shown at the time of submission
5. University verification fee in Demand Draft (If required as mentioned in the application proforma) and a photocopy of the same
6. Consulate verification fees Dhs 58/- and IVS fee of Dhs. 4.50/- and International Courier Charges of Dhs 50 to be paid for each application after scrutiny of the particulars of the application.

STEP 2 - AFTER THE SUBMISSION:

1. All documents submitted by the applicant along with a covering note from the Consulate, is then forwarded to the University in India for verification report.
2. A clear and genuine verification report once received from the Indian University (approx. between 60 – 90 days), a Genuineness Certificate is then issued by the Consulate (approx. 7 working days) and is forwarded as e-mail to the Ministry of Education in U.A.E with a copy to the applicant.

SURRENDERING OF INDIAN PASSPORT ON ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN NATIONALITY

Indian Citizenship Act 1955 does not provide for dual citizenship. It is an offence under the Citizenship Act 1955 and the Passports Act 1967 for foreign nationals to hold Indian passports. Indian nationals are, therefore, required to surrender their passports on acquisition of foreign nationality. Such passports when surrendered will be cancelled and returned to the passport holder, along with surrender certificate.

PROCEDURE FOR SURRENDERING INDIAN PASSPORT/ CITIZENSHIP:

APPLICATION FORM:

Fill the application carefully and submit the form online. Take printout of the online submitted application form.

PHOTOGRAPH:

Paste recent coloured photograph with white background at the designated place. Size of photo should be 51mm*51mm.

APPOINTMENT:

Visit the website of BLS and book an appointment for desired time slot, date and location for submission of application using link <https://blsindiavisa-uae.com/appointmentbls/appointment.php>

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION AT THE BLS CENTRE:

Visit the nearest BLS Center on the scheduled time and date.

- Submit the application along with the requisite documents & prescribed fee.
- Signature on the application should be appended before the BLS staff at the designated places during the submission.
- Follow the link for required documents to be submitted along with the application: <https://blsindiavisa-uae.com/passport/passport-Surrender-of-Indian-passport.php>

DELIVERY OF SURRENDER CERTIFICATE:

Surrender Certificate will be issued with in **three working days** and dispatched through the mode as chosen by the applicant.

Note: No penalty will be imposed by Government of India for late surrendering of Indian passports after acquiring foreign nationality.



AWARENESS CAMP FOR WORKERS

The Consulate General of India in Dubai focuses to regulate and protect the rights of Indian workers in the United Arab Emirates.



VC Ishwar Dass distributing PBSK leaflets to workers.

The Consulate General of India in Dubai works towards facilitating every need of the large Indian work force in the United Arab Emirates. In the month of November in 2020 Pravasi Bhartiya Sahayta Kendra (PBSK) was shifted to the Consulate's premises to make the services of PBSK more robust and accessible specially for the workers in the UAE. PBSK in collaboration with the Consulate have been organizing several awareness camps every fortnight for the upliftment and wellbeing of the Indian workers in the UAE. These camps mainly focus on physical health, financial literacy and emotional wellbeing.



On 30 July 2021 PBSK and the Consulate General of India, Dubai organized an awareness camp for 200 workers at Balmer Lawrie Workers Accommodation, Al Quoz, Dubai. The event started with a formal introduction by Balmer Lawrie officials. Consul Labour Ms. Tadu Mamu, talked about various welfare measures by the Indian Consulate and encouraged them to avail the benefits of Upskilling initiative of the Consulate.

Shri. Anish Choudhury spoke about PBSK and Consular services available for workers. Dr. T C Satish gave a presentation about the ill effects of alcoholism and smoking. State Bank of India official Shri. Prahlad Dave talked about financial literacy importance of Pension, insurance. Around 130 SBI NRE/NRO Bank Accounts were opened for the workers. The event was concluded with cultural performance by workers. The Event was well received and appraised by all participants.



PRERANA – 'WE INSPIRE'

Be an enabler for families & people of determination to live life as full and active members of our community and beyond.



Consul General Dr. Aman Puri in a virtual meeting with PRERANA family

M PRERANA – 'We inspire', an initiative of the Consulate General of India, Dubai, was started in 2009 to support and empower differently abled individuals and their families. Its aim is to help create an inclusive environment which would enable differently abled individuals to develop their talents and abilities and be active members of the society. Over the last 12 years, PRERANA has developed various programs and collaborative initiatives to fulfil these objectives. During the Covid pandemic, PRERANA pursued its programs through online platforms to ensure that the much-needed

interactions between its members continued. On-going initiatives such as the 'Best Buddies' program with The Millennium School, Dubai and the 'Take Care' event with the Dubai Medical College were continued online. Many online workshops were organised on themes such as Yoga and Dance Movement Therapy. PRERANA also celebrated its 10-year journey with online seminars conducted over 10 days, which were led by distinguished experts from various disciplines. International disability day on 4 Dec 2020 and International Day of Yoga on 21 June 2021 included as part of the ongoing virtual activities. PRERANA in collaboration with

AIMS Media is conducting free digital literacy workshops, designed to introduce participants to various digital art forms. The upcoming workshop on 21st August 2021 focuses on Digital Painting, and is open to all. PRERANA, a community initiative, requests readers to come forward and support the specially-abled, who in the UAE are rightly called the 'People of Determination'.

Compiled by Ms. Meeta Chopra
Coordinator PRERANA
For more details and information on PRERANA Initiative – contact N.Mohan Chief Coordinator -PRERANA on mobile No: +97150 5517848



Sanskrit classes organized by Samskritam in association with the consulate.

SAMSKRITAM

अयं निजःपरो वेति गणना लघुचेतसाम्।
उदारचरतिनां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥

Satyameva Jayate (Truth alone triumphs) adorns our National Emblem, Vasudaiva Kutumbakam (The World is one family) defines India's view of the world. These and many more enlightening phrases emerges from Sanskritam literatures. Sanskritam is one of the largest repository of India's rich literature, history, culture, art and scientific achievements. One of the myths pertaining to the study of language has been that it is a written language, not a spoken language. In fact, the mere meaning of "bhasha" is "bhashate anena" or "that which is spoken". Large number of Indians residing in UAE have shown their interest in learning the language. In response to this, Indian Consulate, Dubai has been collaborating with Samskrita Bharati and actively promoting Samskritam

since 2015. Ten Day Samskrita Sambhashana shibiram and Balakendram (weekly classes for children) are conducted as a foundation course to break this myth and to provide an atmosphere to pick up Samskritam as a spoken language. Once the foundation course is completed, students are encouraged to enroll for the four-level certification courses, with exams conducted twice a year for both Children and adults. In addition to these courses, competitions for children are organized as part of the International Yoga day (IYD) celebrations and prizes are distributed to encourage them. Samskritamanthanam which is a series of Samskritam lectures are organized four times a year, for which learned scholars from India are invited to share their knowledge with the students through lectures, seminars and

interactive sessions. Samskritotsava is also celebrated every year, in which students of all age groups come together and perform various cultural programs in Samskritam like skits, songs, story-telling, fancy dress, dance etc. As a part of the initiative, a library (Samskrita granthashala), with more than 1,200 books has been set up in the Consulate Office which further adds in enhancing the knowledge of the language among the Samskritam Enthusiasts. People of any age can enroll for these courses, no background of Samskritam is required. Interested people are encouraged to make use of these learning opportunities made available through various courses and supporting resources.

For any queries, please email
Soochanapatram@gmail.com

CELEBRATION OF 75 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE OF INDIA, 'AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV'

Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav is an embodiment of all that is progressive about India's socio-cultural, political and economic identity.



Premier of Last Poem at the Consulate

India@75 is an initiative by the government of India that would run globally over the next two years to celebrate the people, history, culture and achievements of India and Indians around the world. It will focus on five pillars: The Freedom Struggle, Ideas@75, Achievements@75, Actions@75, and Resolves@75. The Consulate General of India is organizing series of events under this initiative that will give an opportunity to large Indian diaspora in the UAE to be the part of this Jan-Utsav, in the spirit of Jan-Bhagidari. In the month of July Indian Consulate hosted two

events, to mark the celebration of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'

SCREENING OF THE DOCUMENTARY, "LAST POEM"

The Consulate General of India in Dubai, in collaboration with Dubai-based AMC Media, organized a special premiere of the documentary "Last Poem" at the Consulate Auditorium on 11 July 2021. As India marks the celebration of 75 years of its independence, the special screening of the film, showcasing Asia's first-ever Nobel laureate and Indian liter-



Consul General Dr. Aman Puri and Mr. Khalil Abdul-Wahid, Director of Fine Arts, Dubai Culture and Arts with 9 participating artists for Art & Craft Exhibition.

ary icon Rabindranath Tagore and his lasting impressions on Russia, highlighted India's traditional and timeless spirit of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" and the great legacy of the Indian polymath.

The experimental documentary, predominantly shot in the multicultural Mecca of Dubai and with Apple iPhone8, narrates the story of how a timeless song evolved for years to a totem of culture and universalism, with its main protagonist Chakraborty's relentless pursuit to find the genesis of the soulful creation being the focal theme. Also featuring Uzbek national cultural icon Farrukh Zokirov, one of the first performers of the song in the erstwhile Soviet Union, the song is also a profound testimony to the fact that music has got the pivotal power to transcend the barriers of languages, cultures, regions, countries, and continents and is a great leveller. Consul General Dr. Aman Puri said "Rabindranath Tagore happened to have been born in India. But I truly believe that he



belongs to entire humanity" he further said, this film is also a testimony to the fact that art and culture connect people beyond language, beyond nationality and UAE has created a fertile ecosystem for people from more than 200 nationalities to come and live together in peace.

The event was attended by members of the diplomatic community as well as representatives from Indian universities in Dubai and members of the Indian community in Dubai and the Northern Emirates. Ms Somdatta Basu, the Director and founder of Symphony Sargam in Dubai, mesmerized the audience by singing Rabindra Sangeet.

ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION SERIES

Consul General Dr Aman Puri and H.E. Mr. Khalil Abdul-Wahid, Director of Fine Arts, Dubai Culture and Arts Authority, inaugurated the Art & Craft Exhibition at the Indian Consulate Auditorium on 15 July 2021. Nine Indian artists in UAE, who were short-listed from 650 entries, displayed their creativity, depicting vibrant colors of Indian culture, tradition, heritage and its people, in this exhibition. The exhibition displays impressions of different techniques and art styles, bringing forward a vivid confluence of traditional and modern Indian artwork. The participating artists are Atul Panase, Anjani P Laitu, Punam A Salecha, Vidisha Pandey, Swapnil Jawali, Shrutika Gosawi, Masarratfatima Sulaimani, Soumya Shree and Akshay Arora.

Mr. Atul Panase, who was the curator for this exhibition and has been practicing art in Dubai for 20 years, expressed his gratitude on behalf of all artists for this opportunity presented by the Indian consulate to be the part of this grand celebration of India@75 by showcasing their artworks and said that this exhibition reflects the nine flavors

of art expression. Each piece on display speaks of a different style of art, including, traditional Warli painting, abstract form, pen, and ink-work, and much more. The guest of honour at the event, H.E. Mr. Khalil Abdul-Wahid, Director of Fine Arts, Dubai Culture and Arts Authority, said: "It was an honor to see how the Consulate is both a diplomatic and cultural hub. I enjoyed meeting the artists, it was an experience pleasing to the eye and interacting with the artists was a learning process for me. We are lucky that we live in the UAE, which is a multicultural place." Consul General Dr. Aman Puri personally congratulated all artists for their valuable participation in the exhibition and being a cultural ambassador of India in UAE. The audience enjoyed the exhibition and appreciated the richness of Indian art and culture.

A Kathak dance performance was presented by students of Gurukul Studio, which added more color in the event and all attendees: members of Diplomatic community, representatives from Indian Universities, members from Indian diaspora and art lovers in Dubai and Northern Emirates, enjoyed the event. It was a great show put together by collective efforts of everyone.



Inauguration of Art & Craft Exhibition

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST NEGLECTED DISEASES

As India celebrates 75 glorious years of Independence, Bharat Biotech re-affirms its relentless dedication to continuously innovate, develop and manufacture world-class, safe, efficacious, novel life-saving vaccines with uncompromising quality against viral diseases for the world population.



Bharat Biotech International founded by Dr. Krishna M. Ella and Mrs. Suchitra Ella in 1996, after leaving a successful career in the US to establish a life sciences startup to create innovative vaccines and bio-therapeutics. Now, the company in its 25th year, is a leading vaccine innovator, and multidimensional innovation-oriented biotechnology specializing in R&D, manufacturing, marketing, and distribution of vaccines and bio-therapeutics, with a world class Bio-Safety Level 3 manufacturing, and vaccine supply and distribution.

BREAKTHROUGH NOVEL VACCINES FROM BHARAT BIOTECH

Typbar TCV®, a 4th generation vaccine against typhoid disease,

is proven to provide long-term protection to adults and infants, 6 months and older children against typhoid. Typhoid is caused by the bacterium *Salmonella typhi*, and is responsible for **over 12 million new infections and more than 130,000 deaths each year**.

ROTAVAC®: Rotavirus causes diarrhoea among infants and children throughout the world, causing over 450,000 deaths worldwide annually. ROTAVAC® was developed from an Indian rotavirus 116E strain G9 P [11] isolated in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi in 1986-88. Launched by the **Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi** in New Delhi in March 2015 and is one of the first novel vaccines to be completely developed in India.

The pandemic of COVID-19 has caused an unprecedented

public health burden in several countries across the globe. The spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) has infected millions of people worldwide.

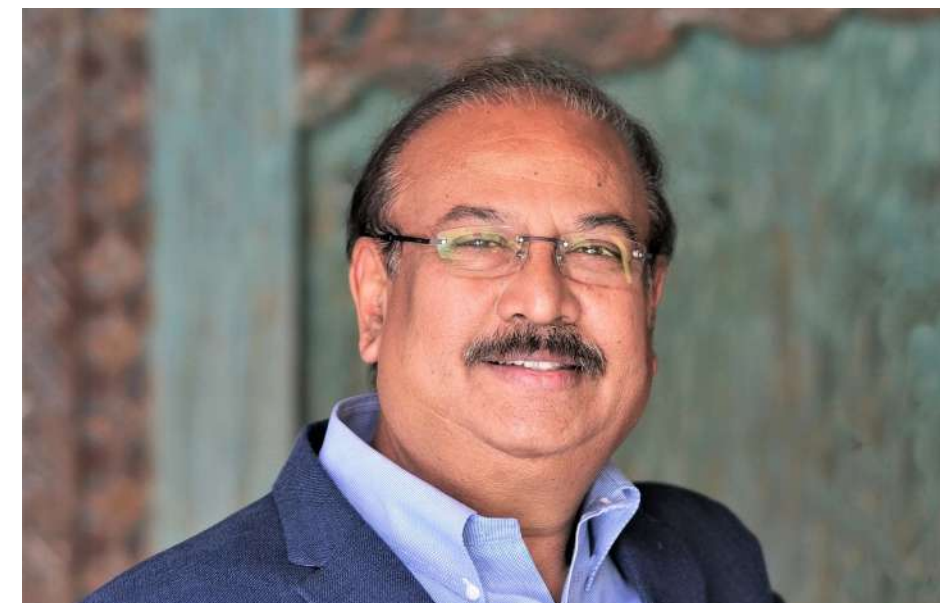
Bharat Biotech was proud to swiftly develop **COVAXIN®**, India's first indigenous vaccine against COVID-19 in collaboration with ICMR and NIV. A highly purified and inactivated 2 dose SARS-CoV-2 vaccine, manufactured in a Vero cell manufacturing platform, **COVAXIN®**, is developed and manufactured in Bharat Biotech's BSL-3 (Bio-Safety Level 3) bio-containment facility, one of its kind in the world.

COVAXIN® was evaluated in approximately 1200 subjects in Phase I and Phase II clinical trials, and 25800 volunteers across India for the largest phase III efficacy trial ever conducted for any vaccine in India.



The final analysis for **COVAXIN®** efficacy from Phase 3 Clinical Trials was recently announced, efficacy analysis demonstrated **COVAXIN®** to be 93.4% effective against severe symptomatic COVID-19 and, 77.8% effective against symptomatic COVID-19. Efficacy against asymptomatic COVID-19 established 63.6% protection and confirmed 65.2% protection against the **Delta variant**.

COVAXIN® is under way with additional clinical trials to establish safety and efficacy in children between 2-18 years of



Dr. Krishna M. Ella (Founder Bharat Biotech)

age. The company is driven by science and validated by empirical evidence. Its commitment to data transparency has been proven again with 10 publications on **COVAXIN®**, covering all aspects of product development, all within 12 months.

COVAXIN® is a true reflection of Bharat Biotech's ability to develop novel vaccines and sustain long-term product development against infectious diseases.



Bharat Biotech Hyderabad Campus



Consul General Dr. Aman Puri & Consul General of Republic of Korea Mr. Byung Jun Moon with representatives of business houses from India & Korea

INDIA KOREA BUSINESS MEET

India & Korea shares a history of more than 2000 years and in the altered landscape of the post pandemic world, both nations must foresee a stronger bilateral relationship with each other.

The leaders and representatives of the Korean and Indian business houses gathered together for 'India Korea Business Meet' on 29th July, 2021 at the Consulate auditorium. It was jointly organized by the Consulate General of India, Dubai, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Dubai along with the Korea International Trade Association. The businessmen represented a wide spectrum of sectors including steel, construction, investments,

supermarkets, healthcare, logistics, food distributors, personal care and business groups. The Indian side was represented by trade bodies and companies like KEF Holdings, Lulu Group, VPS Healthcare, Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Tata Ltd., Indian Business Promotion Council, Confederation of Indian Industries Dubai, Al Adil, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Nikai Group of Co., Arab India Spices, Ajmal Perfumes, New India Insurance, Zepth Tech & Design and Oriental Insurance. The Korean side

was represented by Korea International Trade Association, Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency, Korea Business Development Center, GS Global Corp., POSCO International, STX Middle East FZE, LX International Corp. among others. DP World also marked their presence to support the event. India - Korea relations have made great strides in recent years and have become truly multi-dimensional, spurred by a significant convergence of interests, mutual

itself post 2020, the need for greater cooperation and for the two tigers to roar and hunt in tandem is being felt more than ever before. The two countries share a history of more than 2000 years and in the altered landscape of the post pandemic world, India and Korea must foresee a stronger bilateral relationship with each other. Mr. Byung Jun Moon, Consul General of Republic of Korea during his address emphasized on the strong diplomatic relations between India and Korea. He stated that strengthening mutual relations

goodwill and high level of exchanges. In the last five years, the bilateral trade volume between India and Korea has constantly crossed USD 20bn, with a slight decline in 2020 to USD 17.5bn. Many Korean firms are already well-established in India's manufacturing landscape. Companies like Hyundai, Samsung and LG are household names in India. In addition, there are around 600 large and small Korean firms, which have offices in India. Indian companies too, have been active players in the mergers and acquisition space in Korea. Novelis, which is a Hindalco subsidiary, Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Motors have invested in acquiring Korean companies in the various areas of manufacturing. Other prominent Indian businesses whose

presence is strongly felt in Korea include the Indian Overseas Bank, State Bank of India besides major IT firms like L&T Infotech, Wipro Technologies, TATA Consultancy Services etc. In his address Dr. Aman Puri, Consul General of India stated that there are vast commercial opportunities for both the nations in the fields of shipbuilding, steel, nuclear energy, heavy electrical machinery, IT, space, defence and energy sectors. He also highlighted the initiative 'Korea Plus' proposed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in June 2016 in India to promote and facilitate Korean investments in India. It is not a mere coincidence that India and the Republic of Korea share the tiger as their national animal. Dr. Aman Puri, further said that as the world resets

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Consul General Dr. Aman Puri said, there are vast commercial opportunities for both the nations in every field of business.



Consul General Dr. Aman Puri addressing the business delegation.

between India and Korea will create new avenues for cooperation and will provide mutual benefits with additional growth. The Consul General remarked that the India Korea Business Meet will be a head start to success and will pave way for many such events and opportunities in the future. Expo 2020 Dubai will be the first major global event that will herald a post pandemic economic recovery. The six-month duration of Expo 2020 will provide a unique global platform for both India and Korea to join hands and attract investments,

forge agreements and promote international cooperation. The mega event will also serve as a venue to discover how businesses can capitalize on untapped areas from emerging markets in the foreseeable future. The interactive meet provided a platform to explore further opportunities for collaboration between Korean and Indian companies based in UAE. The trade bodies from both the sides also expressed their willingness and interest to work together in future with sector specific focus for mutual benefits.



INDIA'S EVOLUTION AS AN ENTERPRISING FINTECH NATION

The last decade has seen unprecedented growth in the number of startups. Startups enable innovation and job creation which are important pillars of economic growth. Today, India is the third largest startup nation in the world and boasts over 50 unicorns. Despite the pandemic disrupting the economy, 16 startups have entered the unicorn club this year. Many sectors including edtech, healthtech, logitech have received much attention from domestic and overseas investors, but the one that outperformed others was Fintech. Fintech raised a record amount of USD 2 Billion in 2021, a 4x increase from USD 495 Million compared to the first five months of last year. With the confluence of finance and technology, fintech in India has taken the centre stage offering the

most convenient and flexible options in financial services for its citizens. India has the 2nd highest number of fintech startups founded in the last three years, a total of 2,174 fintech startups exist as of June'20. The impact of fintech is apparent in many consumer-facing services. Digital payments and digital lending are leading the fintech space by offering a wide variety of services improving customer experience and making doing business easier. There are over 375 payment startups in the country and payments apps such as Paytm, PhonePe, and Google Pay are some of the top Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-enabled mobile apps. Similarly, fintech in lending are targeting the unmet demand of customers that were otherwise far excluded from the system. Focus on low ticket size loans and young population

with negligible credit history and delivering customised product portfolios have helped drive their top-line growth. New lending models based more on credit scoring data -such as behaviour and social data, aims to increase the lending threshold by 15-20 per cent which presents a huge market opportunity. Growing personal wealth and an increasing need for personal finance management have propelled the wealthtech industry. India is already the fifth-largest Asian market in terms of affluent, high-net-worth (UNW) and ultra-high-net-worth (UHNW) individuals. Beyond these core segments, new areas of opportunity lie in insurtech, agritech, healthcare and proptech (real estate) which are vital sectors of the economy and are on the verge of disruption. Several startups are foraying into these sectors disrupting

the ways of doing business. India's evolution as an enterprising fintech nation is due to several initiatives taken by successive governments in recent years. The Prime Minister's repeated emphasis on the use of technology to revolutionize the financial ecosystem in the country is a testimony to the present government's intent towards driving this change. Landmark initiatives in the recent past by the government have been instrumental in accelerating the speed at which the country is adopting technology in the financial sector.



Steps such as demonetization, Jan Dhan and higher internet penetrability have led to a dramatic rise in digital transactions and higher transaction volume. In 2020, the transaction volume share in India stood at 15.6 per cent and 22.9 per cent for instant payments and other electronic payments respectively and this figure is expected to grow to 71.7 per cent by 2025. Financial inclusion programs ensur-

ing access to financial services and building scalable platforms to move money (IMPS, UPI, etc.) and finally, allowing banks and fintechs to access platforms like UPI to innovate have all aided this revolutionary growth. In India, the financial journey has only begun and fintechs can play an important role in bridging the demand gap in financial services. India has over 500 million smartphone users as of 2019,

which means over 77 per cent of the population has internet access. Furthermore, due to the low cost of data and increased internet access, WhatsApp usage in rural India has doubled over the last year. More than 65 per cent of India's population is rural and live in the remotest parts of the country and could benefit from digitised financial services. Fintechs can make a significant impact by bringing the unbanked population into the formal banking system. Their platforms and services can also be leveraged in providing wages and in undertaking utility transactions. India, along with China, accounted for the highest adoption rate of 87 per cent (global adoption rate is 64 per cent) out of all emerging markets in the world. As a country with the world's fastest fintech adoption rate, 3rd largest fintech ecosystem globally and with a considerable population on the verge of transitioning to the digital finance space, India is set to march towards witnessing a paradigm shift in the financial sector.



Author - Remya Lakshmanan,
Strategic Investment
Research Unit

JULY 2021

15107 Passports Issued

110 Visas Issued

44 OCI Cards

8813 Attestation Services

875 Birth Registrations

149 ECs Issued

197 Death Registered

535 Consular cases

36 Marriages Registered

146 Labour Cases Registered

108 Death Compensation Cases

21 Destitute Housemaid Cases Provided Assistance

29 Medical Cases

15 Air Ticket Issued

09 Mortal remains sent to India at Govt. cost

102 Helpline enquiries responded

**Snapshot of
Consular services
provided by CGI, Dubai
in the month of
July 2021**

KEVADIA

The unique and fastest developing tourist destination in Gujarat famous for the world's tallest statue of ironman of India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel known as Statue of Unity. The Statue is - 182 metre high (approx. 600 feet). Statue of Unity is a humble commemoration of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel by his countrymen, saluting his contribution to bring everyone together. Nestled between the Satpura and Vindhya mountain ranges, the Statue of Unity overlooks the vast surrounds and the river basin of the Narmada River and the sprawling Sardar Sarovar dam in Kevadia. It stands on the Sadhu Bet hillock, connected by a 300-metre bridge, which offers access from the mainland to the statue. In an outreach programme, the State Government of Gujarat requested Indian farmers to donate their used farming equipment to collect iron needed for the statue of Sardar Patel and it is believed that about 5000 tonnes of iron is believed to be collected. Details of the construction and history of the leader can be seen in an in-house museum, inside the statue.



Statue of Unity Kevadia, Gujarat

STATUE OF UNITY
KEVADIA, GUJARAT

The Statue will stand high, not just in metres and feet, but much more in terms of academic, historical, national and spiritual values.

Kevadia, where the Statue of Unity is located has been developed as a family destination suitable for every age group. The main attractions includes Laser Light and Sound Show, Tour of Valley of Flowers (Also known as Bharat Van), Tour of Sardar Sarovar Dam, Nauka Vihar , Dino Trail, Jungle Safari, Valley of Flowers, Butterfly Garden, Vishwa Van, Cactus Garden, Ekta Nursery, cycle tracks etc. makes the destination more attractive and fascinating. Laser Light and Sound Show using laser technology projected on the Statue of Unity takes place everyday in the evening 07:30

pm onwards except Monday. The colourful laser lighting system is accompanied by an excellent narration of the history and life of Sardar Patel and his contribution to the Independence Movement and the unification of India as one nation. The Valley of flowers is spread over 24 acres of land and have around 22 Lakh of plants. The spot resembles a rainbow of flowers setup on earth. The Sardar Sarovar dam, the third highest concrete dam in India is one of the must visit attraction in Kevadia. The each and every attraction situated around Statue of Unity in Kevadia is well developed and a must visit.



Since Kevadia is accessed from Ahmedabad (approx. 195 kms) or Vadodara (90 kms.) it also allows you a chance to visit these historically rich cities of Gujarat. Declared as India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, Ahmedabad or Amdavad is steeped in history and tradition. A seamless blend of spectacular architecture of centuries-old mosques and contemporary

avant-garde design, Gujarat's biggest city is a bustling cosmopolitan hub. Ahmedabad is divided into two parts, cut into distinct sections by the Sabarmati River. On the eastern bank of the river stands the quaint old quarter, which is marked by winding lanes throbbing with tradition and culture, and on the western side is the sprawling new town that has created

a niche for itself with world-class urban planning. One can visit Jhulta Minar (shaking Minarates), Adalaj Stepwell, Ahmed Shah's Mosque, Jama Masjid, Sidi Saiyyed Mosque, Sabarmati Ashram etc. Add to this a vibrant array of street-food and colourful bazaars, and Ahmedabad becomes a tourist hub where one would be spoilt for choices.

How to reach
Statue of Unity

- By Air:** The closest airports to the statue of unity is Vadodara which is 90 kms away.
- By Train:** The nearest railway station is Bharuch and Ankleshwar on the western line.
- By Road:** There are many state run buses from all major cities of Gujarat to Kevadiya colony.



Timings

8:00 AM and closes at 6:00 PM from Tuesday to Sunday (except Monday). The Statue of Unity is closed on Mondays for maintenance work.

VADODARA

Vadodara Speckled with gorgeous palaces, grand monuments and historical temples, the ancient city of Vadodara is stretched along the banks of the Vishwamitri River. Vadodara is renowned all over the world for the awe-inspiring Statue of Unity, the tallest of its kind in the world that stands against a picturesque backdrop of Vindhya and Satpura mountains. One can visit UNESCO World Heritage Site of Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park, which

is a well-preserved Islamic pre-Mughal city. Deep dive into the culture of the city and explore its artistic heritage - from exquisite lacquer work to beautiful beadwork, there's a lot on offer for shoppers. The city also boasts a busy and vibrant culinary scene and sampling delicacies like kansasa (a dessert), khandvi (a savoury prepared with mustard seeds, sesame seeds, coriander etc.) and makai chevada (a snack made with corn cobs) is a delightful experience.



Laxmi Vilas Palace, Vadodara, Gujarat

indi@tive

KNOWING INDIA

This quiz is compiled by **Murali Krishnan Sankaran**.

India is one of the oldest civilizations in the world with a kaleidoscopic variety and rich cultural heri- tage. As the largest democracy in the world, it has achieved all-round socio-economic progress since Independence. Yet, there is so much to know about Incredible India – this quiz attempts to help you discover more about our great motherland!

1 As we commence celebrations for the 75th Anni- versary of Indian Independence (Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav), with a focus on becoming self-suffi- cient (Aatmanirbhar Bharat), our country has tak- en over an important role in a body at the United nations for the month of August and set to host signature events in three major areas of maritime security, peacekeeping and counterterrorism during the month. Which important UN body are we talking about?



3 This sportswoman’s family identified her strength when she was just 12, watching her easily carry a huge bundle of fire- wood home when her elder brother found it hard to even pick it up. The diminutive lady from Manipur, lifted a total of 202kg and etched her name in history by becom- ing the first ever Indian to win an Olympic silver medal in weightlifting. Identify this woman who made India proud by winning a medal on the first day of Tokyo Olympics.

4 We know that Mumbai was known as Bombay before being renamed in December 1995. What was the name given to Bombay by the Portuguese explorer Ferdinand de Almei- da who reached this area in 1508, before it passed into the hands of the British?

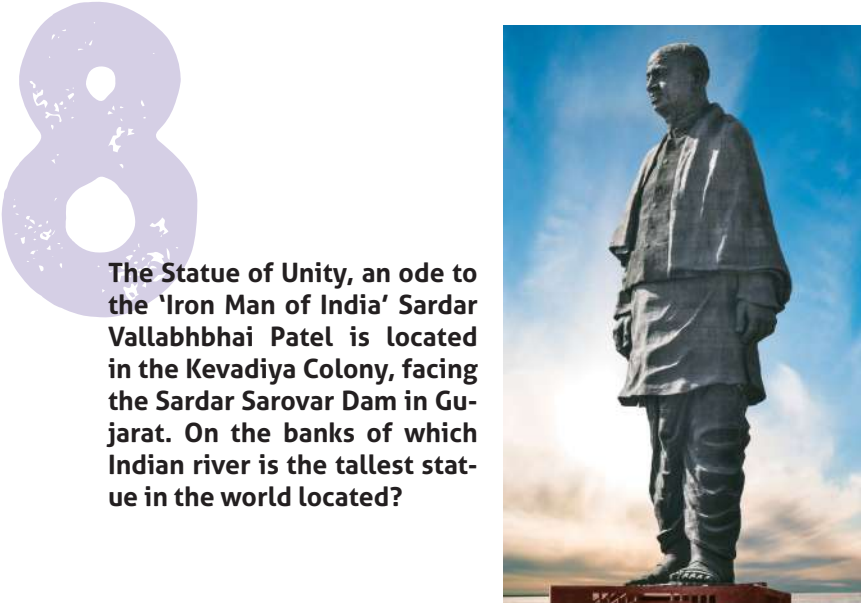


2 The Redfort built on the banks of River Ya- muna in Delhi is fortified by a 2.4 km long, and 21 metres high wall made of red sand- stone. From this amazing castle, the prime minister of India addresses the nation on Independence Day. Which Mughal emperor commissioned construction of this Fort in 1638, when he decided to shift his capital from Agra to Delhi?



5 A museum stands on the beach of Visakhapa- tnam, Andhra Pradesh which is the only one of its kind in Asia. Only the USA, the UK and Russia have such museums. What are we talking about here?

6 As we eagerly await resumption of the suspended edition of the greatest sporting extravaganza, BC- CI’s ‘Indian Premier League’ in the UAE from Sep- tember 19 for a 27-day window to complete the 31 remaining matches, could you guess the name of the only team in IPL, that has never changed its captain?

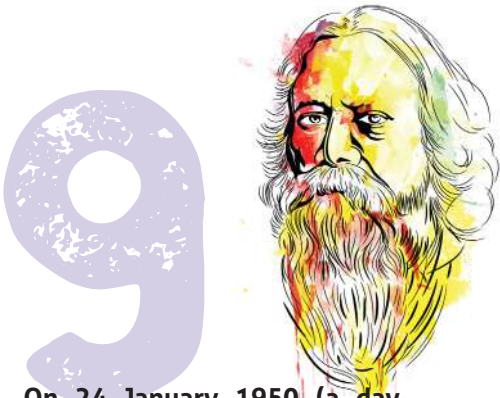


8 The Statue of Unity, an ode to the ‘Iron Man of India’ Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is located in the Kevadiya Colony, facing the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Gu- jarat. On the banks of which Indian river is the tallest stat- ue in the world located?

10 Held usually every November at the time of the Kartik Purnima full moon, this Fair is one of India’s most highly-rated travel experiences, a spectacle on an epic scale, attracting thousands of _____ and vis- ited by lakhs of visitors from all over the world. This town is also a pilgrimage site for Hindus and Sikhs, famous among the holy sites is the red-spired BrahmaTem- ple & Gurudwaras for GuruNanak and Guru Gobind Singh. Fill in the blank.



7 Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2016, the Khangchendzonga National Park, in the heart of the Himalayas, is one of the largest national parks in India. Noted for its spectacular wildlife like snow leopard, red panda, great Tibetan sheep, musk deer among others, this national park comprises 18 glaciers and 17 alpine lakes. Situated in Sikkim it contains the tallest mountain in In- dia. Name the mountain.



9 On 24 January 1950 (a day before India’s first Republic Day), Tagore’s “Bharoto Bha- gyo Bidhata” was officially de- clared as the National Anthem of India by the Constituent As- sembly of India. The original was written in Bengali and the full song has 5 stanzas. How many stanzas were adopted in the final version of the Indian National Anthem?

ANSWERS

1. UN Security Council
2. Shah Jahan
3. Saikhom Mirabai Chanu
4. Bom Bahai; The group of islands was named Bom Bahai which meant 'good harbour'. Later the British anglicized the name to Bombay. Bombay has always been known as 'Bambai'
5. A Submarine Museum - INS Kursura, commissioned in the Indian Navy as its fourth submarine was decommissioned in 2001 and rests majestically in an enclosed area.
6. Chennai Super Kings
7. Kanchenjunga
8. Narmada River
9. Only one, the first stanza
10. Camels (and Cattle) at Pushkar, Rajasthan.



UPCOMING EVENTS

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Green Manufacturing Challenge

🕒 **Aug 20, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Global Sustainable Housing Design Competition

🕒 **Sep 25, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Global Photography Competition on Inclusivity and Diversity

🕒 **Oct 7, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Business Plan Competition for Social Enterprises

🕒 **Oct 25, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Future Universities Design Competition

🕒 **Nov 7, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Digital Services Design Competition

🕒 **Nov 30, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Success Stories of Rural Women in India

🕒 **Dec 7, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Global Yoga Competition for children

🕒 **Dec 20, 2021**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Agri Waste Management Technology Competition

🕒 **Jan 7, 2022**

India @ Expo 2020 Dubai: Ocean Pollution Mitigation Competition

🕒 **Feb 10, 2022**