



**Consulate General of India
Birgunj (Nepal)**



On behalf of the Consulate General of India, Birgunj, I extend warm greetings and best wishes to the Indian community and friends of India in Nepal on the auspicious occasion of 74th Republic Day of India. We have organized various events under 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' since its launch on 12th March 2021 and will continue to do so till its culmination on 15th August 2023. Consulate General of India thanks the community who joined us and made the celebration a Jan-Utsav with the spirit of Jan-Bhagidari.

India now enters the 'Amrit Kaal' for the next 25 years with a vision of strong political system, stronger economy and an efficient, robust, resilient and result oriented foreign policy with the global good at the core.

To commemorate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) notable events were organized by the Consulate viz., Cycle Rally, Blood Donation Camp on the occasion of World Blood Donors Day (14 June 2022) and World AIDS Day (01st December 2022), Cricket Match, Walkathon/ Marathon, Badminton Tournament, Constitution Day, Ayurveda Day, Hindi Diwas, talk shows, interaction programs, workshops, webinars, International Yoga Day at Chitwan, Birgunj and Janakpur, Indian Cultural programs at Birgunj and Janakpur, Quiz Competitions, Essay Competitions, Photography Competitions, Poetry Competitions, Sketch Competitions. The Consulate also observed important days viz, International Women's Day (March 08), World Thalassaemia Day (May 08), World Hepatitis Day (July 28), Ayurveda Day / Dhanwantri Jayanti, World COPD Day (November 16), World Human Rights Day (December 10), etc under the AKAM.

We thank the Indian community from Nepal who participated in large numbers in the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh from 08-10 January 2023. We remind the community about launch of Global Pravasi Rishta Portal (<https://pravasirishta.gov.in/home>) with an objective to establish a network between the Indian diaspora and the Indian Missions/Posts abroad and urge them to register themselves on priority. The Portal provides latest information on the existing and new government schemes launched for the benefits of the diaspora and for collecting opinion of the diaspora on important policy issues.

The Consulate issues Registration Certificates to Indian nationals in Nepal and organizes monthly open houses for consular services by redressing their grievances. Thirteen such open houses have been held so far. Any aggrieved Indian national living in Nepal is encouraged to contact us for assistance.

The Consulate General of India is committed to support people of Nepal in the field of education, health, development of physical infrastructure, scholarships to students and provide ambulances/buses to credible organizations besides constructing river embankments, Integrated Check Posts, Railway Links and act as a catalyst in bilateral trade between the two countries.

The Consulate gifted two Ambulances in July 2022 as part of 75 Ambulances gifted by Embassy of India in Kathmandu. One ambulance was gifted to Green City Samudayik Prahari Seva Kendra of Birgunj and other to Rural Development Organization of Janakpur. We are committed to distribute more Ambulances and school buses in the near future. India had provided 200 vehicles to Nepal for logistical support to various Nepali institutions for conducting federal and provincial election of November 20, 2022.

During the visit of Chief of Indian Army General Manoj Pande to Nepal, he handed over training equipment to Nepali Army along with Light vehicles which would augment capabilities of Nepali Army personnel.

The main instruments of India's development partnership in Nepal include Lines of Credit (LoC), grant assistance, High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs), technical consultancy, disaster relief and humanitarian assistance as well as capacity building programmes under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.

The people-to-people relation and cultural connect between India and Nepal is evident. India is committed to develop Ramayan Circuit with its component in Nepal as well. Shri Ramayan Yatra "Bharat Gaurav" Tourist train with 14 coaches and 500 religious tourists onboard had reached Janakpurdhham on 23 June 2022. It was a first of its kind tourist train covering the Ramayan Circuit in India and Nepal. The next "Bharat Gaurav Deluxe Train" is scheduled to be flagged off on February 17, 2023.

The Consulate has been organizing Border Coordination Meetings between district administrations of Nepal and India on issues of topical interests. The meetings were held at Chitwan, Birgunj and Janakpur for promotion of tourism and Trade during 2022.

The Consulate facilitates smooth movement of vehicles across the border. It also mediates in case of trade disputes. The Consulate issues vehicle permits to various private and transport vehicles for their short term and long term visits to India.

The Consulate has been handing over various relief material to Government of Nepal. Recently, about 3000 Tents of different sizes and 10 inflatable Boats were handed over.

We inaugurated Government of India built school building of Shree Triveni Barah Secondary School at Mugling under the High Impact Community Development Project and laid foundation stone for construction of Embankment and Launching Apron (Dhungre Khola River Training Works) in Chitwan district during the last six months.

COVID-19, played a significant role in India's push for Self-Reliance 2.0. India completed 2 billion doses of vaccines for its citizens with the help of public-private partnership, centre-state cooperation and building awareness. India also exported a large number of vaccines and PPE to countries all over the world of which Nepal has been a beneficiary.

Nepal has adopted the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), a government-backed centralized digital payment gateway of India, accounting for the largest number of worldwide digital transactions

in 2021 at a whopping 48 billion, nearly three times bigger than China's (18 billion) and at least six times bigger than the transactions of US, Canada, UK, France and Germany combined.

India attaches foremost importance to its relationship with Nepal as part of its "Neighborhood First" policy and will continue to support the people of Nepal through various initiatives. Finally, I congratulate the newly appointed Government of Madhesh Pradesh and look forward to work closely in further strengthening of relationship between the two governments.

Jai Hind!

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