



Embassy of India Nur-Sultan

NEWSLETTER

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Successful completion of General Election 2019 for 17th Lok Sabha in India

The Chief Election Commissioner, Shri Sunil Arora, accompanied by Election Commissioners Shri Ashok Lavasa and Shri Sushil Chandra, met the President of India on May 25, 2019. A copy of the Notification issued by the Election Commission of India in terms of Section 73 of the Representation of People's Act, 1951, containing the names of Members elected to the House of the People – following General Elections to the 17th Lok Sabha – was submitted by them to the President.



The President congratulated the Chief Election Commissioner and the other Election Commissioners on the successful completion of the electoral process and of the largest democratic exercise in human history. On behalf of the entire country, he appreciated the efforts of the Election Commission, its officials and members of its staff, other public officials who were involved in management and superintendence of the campaign and polling, and police and security personnel, Central and state, for working tirelessly and diligently to uphold the sanctity of the people's ballot and successfully completing a free and fair election. Above all, he commended hundreds of millions of voters who participated in the election process in such large numbers. This, the President noted, was entirely in keeping with our Constitution and India's deep and unshakeable democratic traditions.

Mr. Narendra Modi swears-in as the Prime Minister of India

Mr. Narendra Modi was sworn in as the Prime Minister of India on 30.05.2019 for the consecutive second term after a landslide victory in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr. Narendra Modi and his Council of Ministers. After Prime Minister Modi, BJP president Mr. Amit Shah, Mr. Rajnath Singh, Mr. Nitin Gadkari and former foreign secretary Mr. S Jaishankar, Mr. D V Sadananda Gowda, Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman and Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan were administered the oath of office.



Present at the glittering ceremony, held at the forecourt of the Rashtrapati Bhavan were high-profile world and national leaders and personalities. These included leaders from the BIMSTEC countries, opposition leaders Mr. Rahul Gandhi and Ms. Sonia Gandhi, Chief Ministers, corporate honchos and film stars. Sri Lankan President Mr. Maithripala Sirisena and Bhutanese Prime Minister Lotay Tshering attended Prime Minister Narendra Modi's swearing-in ceremony. Bangladesh President Abdul Hamid was also in attendance as Narendra Modi and his council of ministers took oath. Others leaders included Special Envoy of Thailand, Minister Grisada Boonrach, Myanmar president Mr. U Win Myint.

With a massive mandate in the Lok Sabha elections 2019, the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) won 353 of 543 seats in the lower house of Parliament with a 45 per cent vote share.

ICAT - A World Class Automotive Testing Centre

The automotive industry is the sunshine industry in India has huge focus to facilitate and grow this industry. Creation of new automotive test centres in the country under NATRIP project, is an important step forward by the Government to support the need of the automotive industry in the backdrop of tightening regulatory framework and technology shift driven by market forces. ICAT is an important element of the automotive sector, with its world-class infrastructure and domain expertise providing services in development, testing, validation and homologation.



The International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT), Manesar, located in the northern automotive hub of India, is a leading world class automotive testing, certification and R&D service provider under the aegis of NATRiP (National Automotive Testing and R&D Infrastructure Project), Government of India.

ICAT continues its endeavour towards knowledge sharing and dissemination, through seminars and events, on important topics like Power Train, Emission, HEV and EV technology, NVH, Crash, Lighting, Inspection & Certification and Fatigue.

As India moves towards adopting complete electric mobility by 2030, ICAT's Power Train lab/ COE, EMC lab and Automotive Electrical and Electronics labs have started rendering testing and developmental services in this domain. With Centres of Excellence (CoE) in Component, Powertrain, NVH and Tyre, ICAT intends to eventually transform it into an automotive product development centre.

Automotive electrical and electronics lab (AEEL)

The AEEL is an important lab considering the rapid increase in the use of electrical and electronics in vehicles. The lab offers services for certification and validation for wide range of E&E components including systems, E-motors, ECUs, Batteries and RFIDS. It also provides consultancy services to the customers for product development and improvements.



Tyre Test Lab (TTL)

ICAT has world class tyre test facilities being operated and managed by highly skilled and experienced team to deliver quality and swift services to customers. Tyre Test Lab is providing services to the tyre industry, vehicle manufactures and Bureau of Indian Standards. ICAT has transformed this lab into centre of excellence by developing new capabilities including the dual station endurance test rig and tyre rolling resistance test rig.



Passive Safety Lab (PSL)

Passive Safety Lab is dedicated to support automotive industry for their needs of Crash Testing (Regulatory as well as Developmental), pedestrian protection testing, sled testing and airbag deployment testing. The PSL has state of the art test facilities capable of conducting crash testing of vehicles as per Indian and international regulations. Some of the services offered are frontal impact crash test, side impact crash test, side pole impact, rear impact test, static rollover and pedestrian protection testing. The lab has successfully completed correlation activities with renowned OEMs.



PSLV-C46 successfully launches RISAT-2B

India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C46) was successfully launched the RISAT-2B satellite from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh on 22.05.2019. This was the 72nd launch vehicle mission from SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota and 36th launch from the First Launch pad.

PSLV-C46 lifted-off at 05:30 Hrs (IST) from the First Launch Pad and injected RISAT-2B into a orbit of 556 km, about 15 minutes and 25 seconds after lift-off. After separation, solar arrays of RISAT-2B were deployed automatically and ISRO Telemetry Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) at Bengaluru assumed control of the satellite. In the coming days, the satellite will be brought to its final operational configuration.



RISAT-2B is a radar imaging earth observation satellite weighing about 615 kg. The satellite is intended to provide services in the field of Agriculture, Forestry and Disaster Management.

ISRO Chairman Dr K Sivan congratulated the launch vehicle and satellite teams involved in the mission. With this launch, PSLV lofts 50 tonnes to space by launching 354 satellites, including national, student and foreign satellites.

Dr. K Sivan also commended the efforts of the team involved in the realization of the piggyback payload carried onboard this mission namely, Vikram processor and low cost MEMS based Inertial Navigation System (INS) developed by Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), Chandigarh and ISRO Inertial Systems Unit, Thiruvananthapuram respectively. "RISAT-2B is an advanced Earth Observation satellite with an advanced technology of 3.6m radial rib antenna", he added.

A total number of 5,000 visitors witnessed the launch live from the Viewer's Gallery, which is opened to the public.

ISRO is now gearing up for the launch of Chandrayaan-2 onboard GSLV MkIII during the window of July 09, to July 16, 2019, with an expected Moon landing on September 06, 2019.

Launch of Fourth Scorpene Class Submarine - VELA

Vela, the fourth Scorpene class submarine being constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited for the Indian Navy, was launched on 06 May 2019, by Mrs Veena Ajay Kumar, wife of Dr Ajay Kumar, IAS, Secretary Defence Production, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion. VAdm AK Saxena, CWP&A was also present during the launching ceremony. This event reaffirms the steps taken by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) in the ongoing '*Make In India*' programme, which is being actively implemented by the Department of Defence Production (MoD).



The submarine was towed to Mumbai Port Trust, for separation from the pontoon, after which she will undergo rigorous trials and tests, both in harbour and at sea before delivery to the Indian Navy.

The contract for the construction and Transfer-of-Technology for six Scorpene class submarines in series, has M/s Naval Group (formerly DCNS) of France as 'Collaborator' and are being built by MDL.

Cmde Rakesh Anand, Chairman and Managing Director, MDL said on the occasion that with the launching of the P15 B Destroyer 'Imphal' on 20 April 2019 and the, launching of Vela on 06 May 2019, were indeed some of the major events for MDL so far this year.

Presently Eight Warships and five submarines are under construction at MDL. MDL is one of the India's leading shipyards with a capacity to meet requirements of the Indian Navy.

The Scorpene class of submarines can undertake multifarious tasks typically undertaken by any modern submarine which include anti-surface as well as anti-submarine warfare. The transfer of technology involves appropriate technical support by Naval Group to MDL in the field of construction, integration and tests of the submarines in India which is achieved through transfer of technical data package to MDL through information system as well as on job training to MDL's personnel on critical technologies.

Leveraging the experience and the transfer-of-technology of the Scorpene project, with enhanced and upgraded infrastructure, MDL, is ready for undertaking construction of the future submarines.

Ambassador's interview to Astana Times

Astana Times published interview of Ambassador Prabhat Kumar on 24.05.2016. In his interview Ambassador said that "India and Kazakhstan have interacted for a long time. The relations are more than 2,000 years old. In the ancient times, we had many people going from this part of the world to India, especially the Sakas and the Kushans. They went to India and established kingdoms. Also, the Buddhist monks travelled from India to China through Kazakhstan. In the Middle Ages, India got one of its rulers from here - Mirza Muhammad Haidar Dughlat, who established his reign in Kashmir and was its ruler for 10 years.



Further he added that "We have established excellent and very strong relations between the two countries, which is manifested in many ways. One is, of course, visits at the highest level. Kazakhstan's First President visited India five times and our Prime Ministers have also visited Kazakhstan. Specifically, all our Prime Ministers have travelled to the country. There is a very good bilateral relationship at the top level, good economic relationship and good cultural relationship. In all spheres, we are doing very well."

In terms of trade and cultural relations between the two countries, he said "We are looking forward to increasing the trade much more. In the last two years, we had a 22-25 percent increase and we hope that it will be increasing. We have a lot of interaction in culture, especially Indian dance groups that come to Kazakhstan and Kazakh dance groups that go to India. Of course, Indian movies and shows are very popular here. I see a lot of appreciation of Indian culture in Kazakhstan. Similarly, there is a lot of appreciation of Kazakh culture in India."

As regards the connectivity between India and Kazakhstan, he said, "We have a connectivity problem. We have air connectivity, but land connectivity is not very good. So, we are working in the International South corridor starting from Iran through Russia. Kazakhstan will be one of the branches of the route. The purpose is to decrease the transportation period for cargo to 20 days, which will improve trade between our countries."

He mentioned that India is the world's third largest energy consumer and the country would like to invest in the Kazakh energy sector. Both nations are doing well in space and are interested in coordination.

The countries can also improve cooperation in nuclear energy technology and IT technologies, especially with Kazakhstan choosing the digitalisation path. India has established the Centre of Excellence in Information Technologies, a key project implemented in Kazakhstan in 2015. The centre recently trained Kazakh IT engineers via video conferences in big data analytics.

Ambassador highlighted relations are good not only with Kazakhstan, but all Central Asian countries. India and Uzbekistan organised an event in Samarkand Jan. 12 inviting all the region's foreign ministers, the former's first dialogue with the countries at the foreign minister level. The next meeting will take place in New Delhi in 2020.

As a part of diplomatic cooperation, he mentioned that Journalists from the countries were subsequently invited to India. Diplomats from the region have been invited to India for training. He informed that India has proposed to establish the Central Asia Development Fund and a number of projects can be taken under this fund.

Tree Plantation Event by Embassy

Indian Embassy in collaboration with Akimate of Saryarka District organized a Tree Plantation event as a run-up to World Environment Day, on 18 May 2019 at Kutpanov St. -Karasai Batyr St. intersection (Suitcase Garden), Nur-Sultan. The event commenced with tree plantation by Mr. Yegemberdi Yergali, Akim of Saryarka District, Nur-Sultan city, Mr. Prabhat Kumar, Ambassador of India and the other participants. This was followed by Akim's and Ambassador's address on the occasion. Ambassador, in his speech, urged that plantation of plants should not be restricted only to World Environment Day but should be part of our day today life. He assured that Embassy will keep holding such events in Nur-Sultan. He thanked Mr. Yegemberdi Yergali for supporting the event. A short cultural show organized by Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Nur-Sultan was also enjoyed on the occasion.



Presentation by AIFC in the Embassy

A presentation was held at the Embassy on 18th May 2019, by Mr. Aslan Kokayev, Director, Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC) and Mr. Merey Kuandykov, Senior Manager of AIFC Expat Centre (AEC) for the benefit of the Indian Community. AEC is the authorized organisation of the AIFC providing government and non-government services in English language on a "one-stop-shop" principle. The event was organized on the initiative of Ambassador Prabhat Kumar, to spread awareness among the Indian community about the AEC. The members of the Indian community who attended the presentation expressed their appreciation and were unanimous in their opinion that the presentation was very useful to them and that knowledge about the AEC would in no small measure help them in solving issues related to services such as Visa, obtaining individual identification numbers (IIN), electronic digital signature (EDS), soft landing infrastructure and many more services designed to expedite the integration of expats into Kazakhstani society.



Celebration of 158th Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore

The 158th Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore was celebrated at Zhastar Park, Ust-Kamenagorsk in Almaty on 07 May by Embassy of India, Kazakhstan. The statue of Rabindranath Tagore was set up in 2009. The tributes were led by an Indian NCC delegation visiting Kazakhstan. The military cadet department of East Kazakhstan Technical State University wholeheartedly assisted the efforts of the embassy. Poems of Gurudev were read out on the occasion and floral tribute laid.



Rabindranath Tagore was a Bengali polymath, poet, musician, and artist from India. He single-handedly reshaped Bengali literature, music and Indian art. He is the only known person to have written the national anthems for two different countries. He wrote 'Jana Gana Mana', the national anthem of India, 'Amar Sonar Bangla', the national anthem for Bangladesh and 'Nama Nama Sri Lanka Matha', in Bengali, for Sri Lanka.

Here are some of his famous quotes:

1. Clouds come floating into my life, no longer to carry rain or usher storm, but to add color to my sunset sky.
2. If you cry because the sun has gone out of your life, your tears will prevent you from seeing the stars.
3. Let me not pray to be sheltered from dangers, But to be fearless in facing them.
Let me not beg for the stilling of my pain, but For the heart to conquer it.
4. It is very simple to be happy, but it is very difficult to be simple.
5. You can't cross the sea merely by standing and staring at the water
6. I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.
7. Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark.
8. The butterfly counts, not months but moments, and has time enough.
9. Reach high, for stars lie hidden in you. Dream deep, for every dream precedes the Goal
10. Love's gift cannot be given, it waits to be accepted.

Rabindranath Tagore died on August 7, 1941, aged 80, but his work and legacy will live forever.

Incredible India Destination: TAWANG

Tawang is both historically and naturally endowed. It is located at a distance of 185 km from Bomdila and is situated at an altitude of 3025 m above sea level. The natural beauty and solitude of Gudpi and Chong-Chugmi ranges, Tawang Chu River and Tawang Valley are very mesmerising. There are many beautiful glacial lakes in and around Tawang with crystal blue waters such as Sela Lake, P.T.Tso Lake, Sangetser Lake, Banggachang Lake and many more. These remain frozen in winters while in summers they become a haven for migratory birds.



The inhabitants of the districts are all of Monpa tribes. There are two major religious festivals of the Monpas, Losar and Torgya. Both festivals are celebrated annually. Losar is celebrated for the commencement of the New Year. Every third year of Torgya, the festival of Dungyur is celebrated. Both Dungyur and Torgya festivals are celebrated at the premises of the Tawang Monastery with traditional gaiety and enthusiasm. Gorgeous vistas, beautiful mountain yaks and warm Monpas tribals make up for the best vacation time in Tawang. Area of the district is approximately 2085 sq. km. bordered by Tibet in the North, Bhutan in the South-west and the Sela ranges separate the West Kameng District in the East. It is a haven for migratory birds and a treat for photography lovers.

TAWANG MONASTERY

Tawang Monastery is the largest monastery in India and second largest in the world. It is situated on a mountain in the town of Tawang at an altitude of over 3000 m.

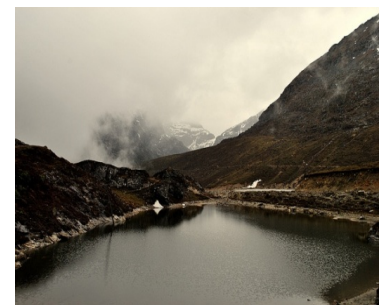
Tawang Monastery is known in Tibetan as Galden Namgye Lhatse, which translates to "celestial paradise in a clear night." It was founded by Merak Lama Lodre Gyatso in 1680-1681 in accordance with the wishes of the 5th Dalai Lama, Ngawang Lobsang Gyatso. It belongs to the Gelug school of Mahayana Buddhism.

The monastery is three stories high and is enclosed by a 282 m long compound wall. The library of the monastery has valuable old scriptures, mainly Kangyur and Tengyur. Torgya is the most elaborate and colourful festivals celebrated in the monastery and is frequented by the tourists.



SELA PASS

Sela Pass is amongst the most frequented tourist destination in the whole of Arunachal Pradesh. It owns the credit of being the only high-altitude mountain pass in the world that is motorable. This is the only way to gain access to Tawang by road. The views from Sela Pass are spectacular. If you venture to this place in winter, you will have before you a stunning view of snow-clad Sela Pass. You will find Paradise Lake on your way to Sela Pass. The lake, for the most part would be frozen during winter. The sunrays kissing the mountaintop give you a different version of the mountain. Summer or winter, you are sure to love the experience. Sela Pass is rightly called the 'Heaven on earth'.



NURANANG WATERFALLS

Tawang has to offer every form of nature at its best to your eyes. Nuranang Waterfalls is one such wonderful attraction that Tawang offers. This spectacular 100 meter-high waterfalls is located 40 kms away from Tawang and it is also called as Jang Falls since it is close to Jang, a town between Tawang and Bomdila. Originating from northern slopes of the famous Sela Pass, Nuranang River forms the waterfalls and then plunges into Tawang river. The Hydel power station nearby is open for visits.



BUMLA PASS

Bumla Pass is situated 37 kms away from Tawang. The Indo-China border that lies at 16000 ft altitude is the right place for you to assess your fitness level if you love adventure. As you go higher, you will be short of oxygen and your vehicle may not be your best companion to take you beyond a certain point. You might have come prepared for a trekking but may not be for the lack of oxygen and the chilliness of the snow that penetrates deep inside. Since the road to Bumla may not be in the best of conditions throughout the year, the ideal time to visit the place to enjoy its limitless beauty would be from May to October. Bumla Pass was the passage used by Dalai Lama to escape from Tibet and to enter India.



BAMBOO AND CANE PRODUCTS

Many tribesmen make their own hats, which are often extremely decorative, adorned with the beaks and feathers of birds or with tufts of hair dyed red. They also make varieties of baskets, bags and other containers. There is a wide range of cane belts, woven and plain, tribals have even elaborately woven brassieres of cane and fiber. Cane and bamboo are strictly men's craft and the most commonly made objects are baskets for storing and carrying paddy, fuel and water, vessels for preparing local liquor, rice plates, bows and arrows, headgear, mats, shoulder bags, etc. ornaments and necklaces made of fine strips of bamboo and grass are also popular. The Nocte and the Wancho tribes mostly use dyed cane strips for their headgear, waistband, headband, armlet, etc.



TREKKING

Adventure seekers are regular visitors who come here to explore the numerous trekking routes located in the mountains. In Tawang a visit to Tawang War Memorial, Urgel Ling monastery, the birth place of the 6th Dalai Lama, and many big and small monasteries are popular attractions. While trekking, tourists are able to see the scenic splendours of Bhutan and panoramic views of towns in Tibet. Sela Pass and Gorichen Peak offer thrilling trekking opportunities for adventure seekers. These routes also offer panoramic views for those who like to capture Arunachal's wild and pristine beauty in their cameras.



PHOTO FEATURE

FEATURE

Ambassador meeting with Mr. Almaz Nurazkhan, Director, National Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 29.05.2019



Ambassador attending Eurasian Media Forum Meeting in Almaty on 23- 24th May, 2019



“The Raghu Dixit Project” from India participated in “The Spirit of Tengri” Music festival held in Almaty on 25-26 May 2019



Embassy organized Tree Plantation event in collaboration with Akimate of Saryarka District on 18 May 2019



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