



주한인도대사관
Embassy of India, Seoul
Republic of Korea

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주한인도문화원
Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre
Embassy of India, Seoul

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ABOUT SVCC

Swami Vivekananda Culture Centre (SVCC) or Indian Cultural Centre as it is popularly known is the cultural wing of the Embassy of India in Seoul promoting Indian culture in the Republic of Korea. Fulfilling a long-held desire to provide a platform to showcase India's rich cultural heritage and serve as the nodal point for cultural exchanges between India and Republic of Korea, this Centre was established on 1st July 2011. Since its inception, Centre has been providing regular classes on Yoga, Indian classical and contemporary dances, musical instruments like Tabla, Harmonium and languages such as Hindi and Sanskrit. It also organises Special Lectures, Symposiums and Workshops on diverse aspects of Indian culture, politics and society by involving renowned Indian and Korean scholars and academia. Over the years, the Cultural Centre has also built an extensive network of partnership with various cultural organisations, city administrations and provincial governments across the country intending to broaden the stakeholders and promoting Indian culture in Republic of Korea.

At this time, when the whole world is experiencing an unprecedented crisis because of the spread of COVID-19 virus, and restrictions on social gatherings, the Cultural Centre has initiated online activities in its endeavour to keep in touch with the India lovers and Indian cultural enthusiasts in Republic of Korea.

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ACHIEVEMENTS @ 75

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

January 9, 2022



Under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark the contribution of the Overseas Indian community and strengthen their engagements with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) was organised on January 9, 2022. On this occasion Ambassador of India to Republic of Korea, H. E. Sripriya Ranganathan had an interaction with Indian Diaspora in ROK which was followed by special remark by Mr. Anupam Tripathi, actor of Netflix series Squid Game and a conversation with Dr. Sushant Sahastrabuddhe, Associate Director General at the International Vaccine Institute (IVI), Seoul, who has also been recently awarded “Honorary Citizenship of Seoul” by the Seoul Metropolitan Government.

World Hindi Day

January 10, 2022



World Hindi Day was organised on January 10, 2022. On this occasion leading Indologist and Hindi Sevi Samman Awardee, Prof. Kim Woo-jo gave a special address. Other experts and scholars on Hindi from Republic of Korea also shared their views on promotion of Hindi language in ROK. The event also witnessed unveiling ceremony of the Korean translation of the great Indian Epic ‘Bhagwad Gita’ by Prof. Lim Geun-dong, Indologist and Professor at Department of Indian Studies, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.

Video Blogging Competition in Hindi

January 11, 2022



In continuation of the World Hindi Day celebrations and efforts to promote Hindi in Republic of Korea, a video blogging competition in Hindi was announced on January 11, 2022 for the Indian cultural enthusiasts in Korea. The competition is open till February 28, 2022. Final Prize winners will be announced on March 15, 2022.

159th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda & National Youth Day

January 12, 2022



A Special Programme was organised on the occasion of the 159th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda and National Youth Day commemorating the contributions of the leader from India who floored the World in 1893 with his address at the Parliament of World Religions at Chicago, whose spiritual message remains relevant in contemporary times not only for India but for the entire world. Every year January 12th is also celebrated as National Youth Day marking tribute to this legendary and iconic leader whose mantra to the Youth remains evergreen. On this occasion Ambassador of India to Republic of Korea, H. E. Sripriya Ranganathan gave remarks on Swamiji's thoughts and ideals which are timeless and remain relevant in today's world. It was followed by documentary screening along with cultural performances by the children and youth from Indian Diaspora, including musical and dance recitals.

Prakram Divas on 125th Birth Anniversary of Subhash Chandra Bose

January 24, 2022



Prakram Divas commemorating 125th Birth Anniversary of Subhash Chandra Bose, the legendary freedom fighter from Modern India was organised on January 24, 2022. On this occasion Ambassador of India to Republic of Korea, H. E. Sripriya Ranganathan gave remarks on Netaji's contribution and ideals for an independent India. It was followed by a documentary screening on the life and times of Subhash Chandra Bose.

Remembering Mahatma Gandhi on his 74th Martyrs' Day

January 30, 2022



Paying tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 74th Martyrs' Day virtual narration of 'Satyagraha - The Pathway to Global Peace' by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna was organized on January 30, 2022.

INDIA'S RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE

Surya Namaskar on Makar Sankranti

January 14, 2022



On the occasion of Makar Sankranti, members of the Embassy performed Yogic Sun Salutation (Surya Namaskar) as a part of global initiative to perform 75 lakhs Surya Namaskar world-wide marking 75 years of India's independence.

Rangoli Design Competition

January 14, 2022



Makar Sankranti was celebrated on January 14, 2022, which is the Harvest Festival in India known by different names such as *Lohri* in Punjab, *Pongal* in South India, *Bhogali Bihu* in Assam, *Uttarayan* in Gujarat, *Poush Parva* in West Bengal marking the harvesting season of crops as the winter season ends and ushers in the spring. Rangoli Design Competition was organised on this occasion and creative motifs were drawn by local Koreans and Indian Diaspora in Republic of Korea.

INDIA'S RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE

International Quiz Competition on Buddhism

January 15, 2022



International Quiz Competition on Buddhism was organised on January 15, 2022 in partnership with Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism. Given the influence of Buddhism in the Korea, the Quiz on the Life of Lord Buddha and various sites associated with his life was conducted across the country among the following three categories of citizens: I. Buddhist Monks II. Civilians and III. Student. Three winners from each category were selected who took part in a Grand Finale Quiz. The final three winners from Republic of Korea with one companion each will be sent on a five-day free of cost familiarisation tour of the Buddhist circuit in India. The tour will be sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India this year as we open up international travel for tourism and resumption of normal flights.

National Tourism Day

January 25, 2022



A Special Webinar to promote Indian tourism was conducted by the Mission on the occasion of National Tourism Day on January 25, 2022. 15 local tour operators from Republic of Korea participated in the Webinar.

Republic Day of India

January 26, 2022



Embassy of India, Seoul celebrated India's 73rd Republic Day on January 26, 2022. Physical attendance was limited to Embassy staff so as to abide by the ROK Government's COVID-19 social distancing norms in Seoul. The majority of the community members, and friends of India in Korea joined the event online. Korean dignitaries from the Blue House, National Assembly, Ministers, Governors and Mayors of Provinces and cities, CEOs and heads of Companies, Monks, Professors and other distinguished persons from various walks of life gave congratulatory messages to the Government and people of India and shared their views on the India-ROK Special Strategic Partnership. Such special messages were received from the Minister of SME and Startups Chil-Seong Kwon, Minister of Defense Acquisition Program Administration Kang Eun-ho, Mayor of Seoul Metropolitan Government Oh Se hoon, Vice Chairpersons of India-ROK Parliamentary Friendship Group Rep. Lim Jong seong and Rep. Ahn Byeong-gil, Economic Advisor to the President and Chairperson of Presidential Committee on New Southern Policy Nam Young-sook, Governor of North Gyeongsang province Lee Cheol-woo, Governor of Gangwon Province Choi Moon Soon, Mayor of Incheon Metropolitan Government Park Nam Choon, Mayor of Gimhae City Heo Seonggon, Mayor of Seodaemun District Moon Seok-Jin, CEOs of major Korean companies in India, academics and cultural personalities etc. etc. The deep-rooted goodwill and affection for India was manifest in these remarks. Extending a warm welcome to all participants, Ambassador H. E. Sripriya Ranganathan read excerpts from the President of India's Republic Day Speech. An online cultural program that celebrated India's democracy and diversity provided the finale of the event.

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