

Message of HE Mr. Satish C. Mehta, Ambassador of India to Kuwait, on the Independence Day of India

Dear Fellow Citizens,

On the joyous occasion of India's 67th anniversary of the Independence Day on August 15, I extend my warm greetings to all members of the Indian community in Kuwait and thank our Kuwaiti and other friends for their sincere good wishes. This is a sacred day



for us to remember our freedom fighters; rejoice at our achievements since our independence on this historic day in 1947; and rededicate ourselves to build an India in which every citizen will be free of want and full of happiness.

Achievements of the past 66 years are many and significant. From an agrarian economy we are now a knowledge economy, with services playing a major role in the economy as well as its growth. Not just are we the third largest economy in the world in purchasing power parity terms, we have been amongst the fastest growing economy in the last two decades with an average growth rate of 7%. India has become synonymous with Information Technology. The world turns to India for doing research and development whether it is in engineering or medicine or biotechnology. We have mastered the full range of technologies in nuclear and space sciences. To ensure the benefits of our growth reach all citizens, equal emphasis is being given to equity through a variety of programmes.



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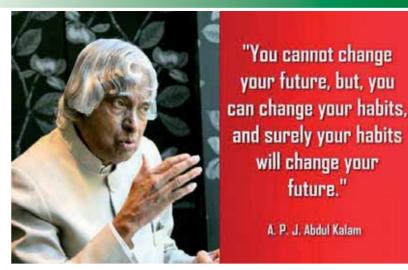


Infrastructure is the backbone of economic development and in last five-year plan which ended in March 31, 2012, India invested about \$ 500 billion in infrastructure. In the current five-year plan (2012-17) we aim to invest \$ 1 trillion in infrastructure alone. New roads, railway lines, ports, airports, metros and power plants are springing up all over the country to support a renaissance in manufacturing.

On the foreign policy front, India continues to promote mutually beneficial relations with all countries and towards this end, is working with them on issues of common concern like terrorism, global economic crisis and, energy, environment and food security through active bilateral, regional and international engagement.

Our historically close and friendly relations with Kuwait encompass political, economic and trade, cultural, and people-to-people linkages. Bilateral trade last year exceeded \$ 17.63 billion, setting a new record. Kuwaiti investments in India are in excess of \$ 2.5 billion. Both countries believe that more is possible in every dimension of our relationship. To realize this and explore new avenues of cooperation, Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs of Kuwait, HE Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah visited India in March 2013, followed by visits to Kuwait by Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission and Minister of State for External Affairs HE E. Ahamed in July 2013.

The large Indian community in Kuwait has contributed to Kuwait's development and to India-Kuwait relations. They are present in practically every segment of society. I would like to express gratitude for the benevolence bestowed on the Indian community by HH Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah, Amir of Kuwait, and for the goodwill of the friendly people of Kuwait. The community came under some stress due to security checkings by Kuwaiti authorities. We have engaged closely with Kuwaiti authorities and the community to resolve the concerns and would



continue to do so.

The Embassy has been consistently trying to improve the quality of its services to the Indian community in Kuwait. The outsourced service for passport and visa services have been functioning satisfactorily. In addition to the daily "Consular Open House" at Embassy during which a senior consular official could be met without appointment, I too conduct 'Open House' every Wednesday where any Indian citizen can meet me without appointment for any unresolved matter. In addition, the Embassy's "Indian Workers Welfare Center" set up in September 2009 has been providing the much needed support system to our workers with its help desk, labour complaints desk, toll-free 24 x 7 telephonic helpline, free accommodation, free legal advice clinic and employment contract attestation system. It will be our endeavor to continuously upgrade our services to the Indian community and respond to their expectations.

"You cannot change

your future, but, you

will change your

future."

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

On this happy occasion, as we commit ourselves a new to serving our motherland, I wish all Indians in Kuwait good health, happiness and prosperity. I also take this opportunity to convey best wishes for the continued good health and well-being to His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince, His Highness the Prime Minister, and the friendly people of the State of Kuwait.

Jai Hind!



Let us all renew our oath and pledge our loyalty to our Motherland

-S.K.Wadawan - (Prop;Samara Auto Parts)

On the occasion of India's 67th Independence Day I would like to extend my hearty greeting to the President of India, Prime Minister and the Government and people of India on this auspicious day. I would also like to extend my greeting to Our Ambassador of India to Kuwait Shri Satish C. Mehta, Indian Embassy officials and large Indian community residing here in Kuwait.



Independence Day marks the end of British Rule and the beginning of New era in the history of India. Great leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Valabhai Patel and many other

stalwarts and freedom fighters whose immense contribution, sacrifice and struggle to gain freedom from the British. The British ruled India for more than 450 years and many valuable lives were lost fighting for freedom. Great Indian martyrs laid down their lives so that we could breathe a whiff of fresh air and a sigh of relief for the rest of our life. Though Independence came at a great cost and loss of life as Democratic India was divided by the British into two parts India and Pakistan.

India has re-built the economy and infrastructure over the last 6 decades and is now among the superpower of the world like America and Russia. We are no more underdogs, and India is among the most progressed, developed and strategically stable countries of the world. Investors from all over the world are investing in India, either in the industrial, Tourism, retail, defense, Information and Technology sectors. Today, India stands tall in the world and has earned its own status. A potential commercial hub for foreign investment, technology and industrial sector. Indian Scientist have made a mark on the global arena and are considered the most reliable, trustworthy and regarded the back bone of the future generation.

Our country India is a peace loving country, people from all walks no matter what caste, creed or sex or what religion they fellow, we live in peace, harmony and brotherhood. India abolished the caste system decades back and has given women equal status in the society. Indian women are taking up jobs in all sectors ad they have gained respect.

As Jawaharlal Nehru once said, "ask not what the country has done for me, ask what I can do for the country". Today is the time for us all once again to stand by our country in good and bad days, in hardships and disaster, to serve humanity.

Let us all renew our oath and pledge our loyalty to our motherland. As we celebrate our 67th Independence Day.



Jai Hind .. Jai Bharat

Long Live our Nation... -M A. ASAD KHAN - (GM-Managing Partner KSCS, G5 General Trd & Al Lewaa Security services)

It gives me immense pleasure and gratitude to extend my Hearty Greetings to the Ambassador of India to Kuwait Shri Satish C. Mehta, all Embassy officials, Government and the people of India on the 67th Independence Day of India. India is the only country which has diverse Religions, Languages and cultural diversity. People of all religions practice their faith as brothers. Unity in diversity is what we preach; I take this opportunity to express my pledge and oath to my motherland in whose care and benevolence we find warmth and comfort.

May our motherland always prosper and progress in all the development sectors and the industry. I take pride and privileged to say that I love my country for giving me this freedom and the whiff of fresh air that we breathe is only because of our freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives to give us a better future. Today, as we gather in small and large numbers, let us pay our rich tributes to our Motherland; let us renew our vow of loyalty and fidelity. We should take part



in the affairs and leadership in protecting our boundaries for external enemies. Long live our Nation..!

SONG OF YOUTH

As a young citizen of India,

Armed with technology, knowledge and love for my nation

I realize, Small aim is a crime.

I will work and Sweat for a great vision

The vision of transforming India into a developed nation

Powered by Economic strength with value system

I am one of the citizens of the billion:

Only the vision will ignite the billion souls.

It has entered into me:

The ignited soul compared to any resource is the

Most powerful resource on the earth.

above the earth and under the earth.

By Dr APJ Abdul Kalam







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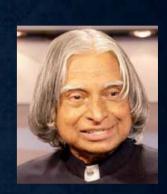
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Proud Indian - Firoz Merchant

Paid off the debts of more than 4000 insolvent prisoners

Mr Merchant, 54, is the chairman of Pure Gold Jewellers and gives away a vast amount of his wealth each year to those less fortunate than himself.

Mr Merchant, who owns more than 125 jewellery stores across the Middle East, paid off the debts of more than 4000 insolvent prisoners and paid for their airfare back to their home countries, along with their families.

Firoz Merchant, who with his \$1 billion (Dh3.67million) net worth is ranked 26th of the 50 richest Indians in the Gulf, had to claw his way out of poverty to reach the top. The self-made billionaire and chairman of Pure Gold Jewellers dropped out of school at 11 because his father couldn't afford the fees. He shared a cramped bedroom with eight siblings in the busy Bhendi Bazaar area of Mumbai.





Yet Firoz, 54, is grateful for those early years because they taught him the most important lessons in life. "I learnt not to give up whatever the challenges," he says. "More importantly, I realised that there is no shortcut to success. Only hard work and determination can help you realise your dreams."

Despite his vast fortune, Firoz has never lost sight of his humble beginnings nor his humanitarian responsibilities. In 2011 he launched a rescue and repatriation programme for prisoners of all nationalities who had been arrested under insolvency laws. Working closely with the government and various charities, he helped about 1,200 people in the first year, paying up to Dh 25,000 debts for each. Last year he helped 1,500 prisoners and this year he has already helped in the release of around 600 prisoners, spending a total of Dh 3.5 million to settle their dues.

"I do not bail out hard-core criminals, but only those who have ended up in jail due to financial issues," he explains. " I cannot forget that around two decades ago I was struggling without any money or help to set up a business. I grew up with pain and sorrow and vowed that if I became successful in life I would do something to help people. I don't want others to be in the position that I was. "

Firoz also works with the governments of the Maldives, the Philippines, India and Sri Lanka, donating money to help villages affected by natural disasters. Over the years he has allocated around Dh 200,000 for relief work in each of these countries.



Science and Technology in India

ndia is a country of continental proportions and rich cultural heritage. The civilizational history of India goes back to more than 5000 years. In ancient times India was considered as one of the leading lights of the world and its glory was spread far and wide all across the corners of the earth. Throughout its history, India has evolved and reinvented herself . India is the birthplace and cradle of four popular religions of the world, namely, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. The contributions and achievements of Indians in the fields of science & technology, architecture, and culture is widely acknowledged.

We have collected a number of interesting facts about India. These include the facts about geographical diversity of India, history of India, achievements of India as a nation and achievements of Indian people in the sphere of science & technology, sports, adventure etc.

A New Frontier

The tradition of science and technology (S&T) in India is over 5,000 years old. A renaissance was witnessed in the first half of the 20th century. The S&T infrastructure has grown up from about Rs. 10 million at the time of independence in 1947 to Rs. 30 billion. Significant achievements have been made in the areas of nuclear and space science, electronics and defence. The government is committed to making S&T an integral part of the socioeconomic development of the country.

India has the third largest scientific and technical manpower in the world; 162 universities award 4,000 doctorates and 35,000 postgraduate degrees and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research runs 40 research laboratories that have made some significant achievements. In the field of Missile Launch Technology, India is among the top five nations of the world.

Science and technology, however, is used as an effective instrument for growth and change. It is being brought into the mainstream of economic planning in the sectors of agriculture, industry and services. The country's resources are used to derive the maximum output for the benefit of society and improvement in the quality of life. About 85 per cent of the funds for S&T come directly or indirectly from the Government. The S&T infrastructure in the country accounts for more than one per cent of the GNP. S&T in India is entering a new frontier.

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is a multi-disciplinary setup comprising thirty eight laboratories and about fifty outreach centers spread throughout the country carrying out fundamental and applied R&D in practically all areas of science technology ranging from genomics to special glasses, aeronautics to oceanography research, polymers to proteins.

CSIR's expertise and experience is embodied in about 5000 active scientists and technologists, recognized nationally and internationally, who are supported by over

10,000 scientific and technical personnel, working in an impressive infrastructure built up over the years with a present day cost of over US\$1 billion.

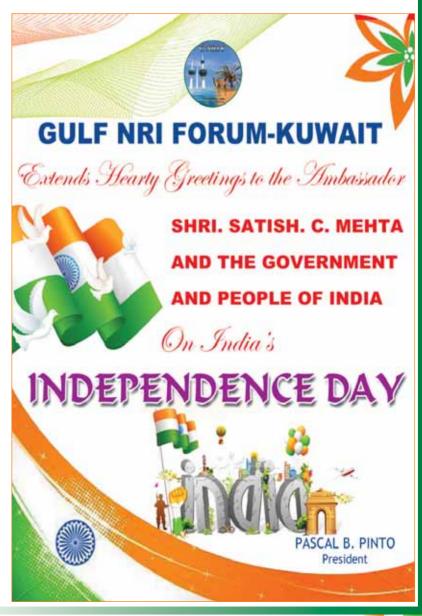
Over the years CSIR has developed over 3,000 technologies and licensed 1,500 of them to about 6,000 clients. The annual industrial production based on CSIR techniques and technologies are estimated at around \$1.5 billion.

In 2002,CSIR won 145 US patents and topped the Patent Cooperation Treaty listing of the top 50 entities in the developing world. Annually, CSIR files around 650 patents abroad and ranks amongst the top three entities from all developing countries in PCT patent applications. It has bilateral S&T collaborations with 30 foreign S&T Agencies.

Oceanography

The Department of Ocean Development formulates and implements programmes in ocean science and technology with long term scientific, technological, economic and geo- political benefits. It also formulates and coordinates scientific and technological projects for exploration and exploitation of marine living and non-living resources; and protection, preservation and conservation of its environment.

While the Department of Ocean Development is directing its efforts towards the development and use of the ocean science and technology for national development, its





Freedom is not free, it comes with the price of responsibility

-Ashok Kalra (MD / Partner) Mughal Mahal Gen Trad & Cont Co.W.L.L.

Freedom and independence are the greatest gift for a country and its people. As we celebrate the 67th anniversary of our Independence Day, let us take a moment to remember the leaders, as well as the tens of thousands of ordinary people, who laid down their lives so that we could enjoy this freedom today. As we celebrate this



Independence Day with pomp and colorful ceremonies, let us also spare some time to deeply reflect on the true meaning of Independence and freedom.

Independence is more than just shaking off a foreign yoke, holding general elections and having a representational government; freedom is more than leading an unfettered life. Freedom is not free, it comes with the price of responsibility; independence is essentially the ability to take responsibility for ones actions. The more responsible we are the more freedom we enjoy.

While freedom gives us the liberty to live our lives the way we wish and see fit, it is not a license for acting irresponsibly. Freedom confers on us a moral and ethical obligation to lead a socially responsible life that ensures liberty, justice and inclusive growth for every citizen of India.

The freedom that was won at such great expense of human life is more than a gift from our forebears to this generation. The creed of freedom is a torch that has been handed down to us to pass on to the next generation without extinguishing it. We need to be on constant vigil against any attempt to blow out this flame of freedom; whether it is in the name of religion, region, language, caste or tribe.

On this Independence Day let us devote time to preparing and guiding our youth so that they become ready to accept the challenge of upholding the torch of freedom, protecting it from all harm and passing it brightly on to future generations.

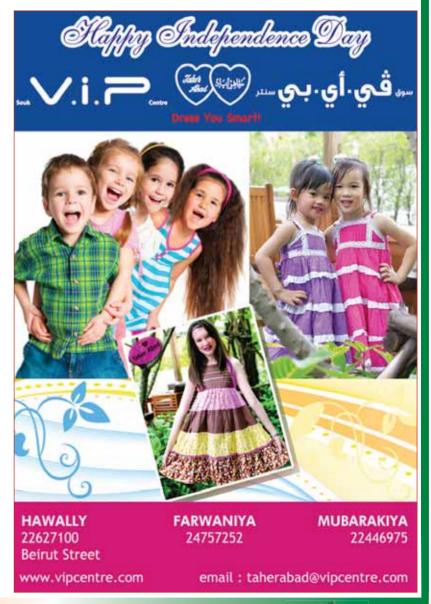
As we unfurl our tri-color on this day, let us come together and promise our motherland, unflinching loyalty and dedication. Let us revive and rekindle the spirit of our national pledge; it is as relevant today as it was when penned more than fifty years ago. 'India is my country and all Indians are my brothers and sisters' ... Let us take pride in our 'rich and varied heritage and strive to be always worthy of it'. Let us come together and celebrate our wonderful unity in diversity. programmes cover a wide spectrum of activities, including Polar (Antarctic) Science and Antarctic Expeditions that are launched regularly to carry out research in thrust areas of polar science.

Atomic Energy

The prime objective of India's nuclear energy programme is the development and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes such as power generation, applications in agriculture, medicine, industry, research and other areas.

India is today recognized as one of the most advanced countries in nuclear technology including production of source materials. The country is self-reliant and has mastered the expertise covering the complete nuclear cycle from exploration and mining to power generation and waste management. Accelerators and research and power reactors are now designed and built indigenously. The sophisticated variable energy cyclotron at Kolkata and a medium-energy heavy ion accelerator 'pelletron' set up recently at Mumbai are national research facilities in the frontier areas of science.

As part of its programme of peaceful uses of atomic energy, India has also embarked on a programme of nuclear power generation. Currently eight nuclear stations are producing eight billion kilowatt of electricity. Four more nuclear power stations are planned. The new nuclear reactors are designed in India. The peaceful nuclear programme also includes producing radioisotopes for use in agriculture, medicine, industry and research.

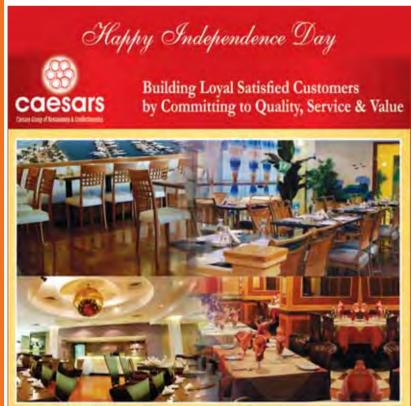




Space

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), under the Department of Space (DOS), is responsible for research, development and operationalisation of space systems in the areas of satellite communications, remote sensing for resource survey, environmental monitoring, meteorological services, etc. DOS is also the nodal agency for the Physical Research Laboratory, which conducts research in the areas of space science, and the National Remote Sensing Agency, which deploys modern remote-sensing techniques for natural resource surveys and provides operational services to user agencies. India is the only Third World Country to develop its own remote-sensing satellite.

India joined a select group of six nations on October 15, 1994, when the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) successfully accomplished its mission of placing the 800 Kg remote sensing satellite, IRS-P2, in the intended orbit. Earlier in May, the fourth developmental flight of the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) achieved its mission by placing the 113 Kg SROSS-C2 scientific satellite in a near-earth orbit. India is well on its way to developing a Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) capable of putting 2000 Kg satellites into space. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is currently trying to develop an indigenous cryogenic engine for GSLV. A GSLV model has already been tested in wind tunnel.



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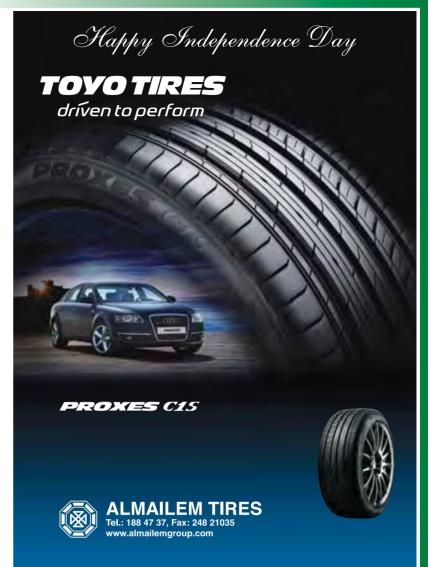
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The INSAT series of satellites launched earlier are performing well and provide vital services for telecommunications, television, meteorology, disaster warning and distress detection. The latest INSAT series include new features like Ku-band transponders and mobile satellite services transponders.

The remote-sensing satellites, launched in 1988 and 1991, have already become the mainstay of the natural resource management system of the country.

The projected launch of advanced remote sensing satellites will not only enhance the scope of their application, but will also offer commercial service to other countries.

The Indian achievement in the application of spacebased remote sensing technology has led a US company to enter into an agreement for marketing the data from Indian satellites globally.

India's progress in space technology has attracted worldwide attention and demand, with leasing agreements for marketing of IRS data and supply of space hardware and services. India also believes in cooperation in space with agencies all over the world. A high-level UN team selected India for setting up a UN Centre for Space Science and Technology Education. India is on the threshold of achieving self-reliance in the launch capability. It will be a befitting tribute to the father of the Indian space programme, Dr. Vikaram Sarabhai, whose 80th birth anniversary was observed in August 1996.

B) Frontliners

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Electronics

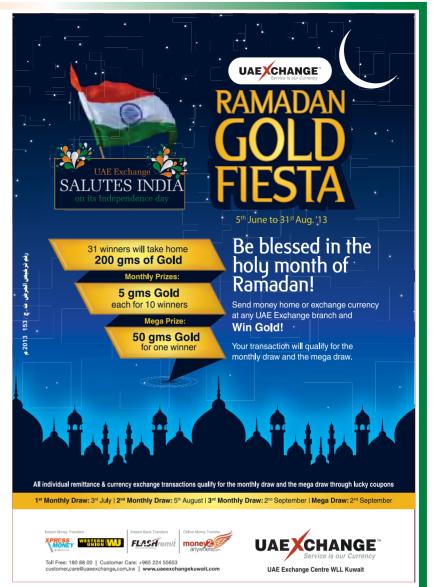
The Department of Electronics plays the promotional role for the development and use of electronics for socioeconomic development. Many initiatives have been taken for a balanced growth of the electronics industry. The basic thrust has been towards a general rationalization of the licensing policy with an emphasis on promotion rather than regulation, besides achieving economy of scale with up-to-date technology. A multi-pronged approach has been evolved for result-oriented R&D with special emphasis on microelectronics, telematics, and highperformance computing and software development.

Application of electronics in areas such as agriculture, health and service sectors has also been receiving special attention. For upgrading the quality of indigenously manufactured products, a series of test and development centers and regional laboratories have been set up. These centers for electronic design and technology help small and medium electronics units. A number of R&D projects have been initiated to meet the growing requirements of the industry.

Oceanography

India has a coastline of more than 7,600 km and 1,250 islands, with its Exclusive Economic Zone covering over 2 million sq. km and continental shelf extending up to 350 nautical miles. The Department of Ocean Development was established in 1981 to ensure optimum utilisation of living resources, exploitation of non-living resources





such as hydrocarbons and minerals, and to harness ocean energy. Two research vessels, ORV Sagar Kanya and FROV Sagar Sampada, are assessing and evaluating the resource potential.

Survey and exploration efforts have been directed to assess seabed topography, and concentration and quality of mineral nodules. In August 1987, India was allotted a mine site of 150,000 sq. km in the central Indian Ocean for further exploration and development of resources. India is the only developing country to have qualified for Pioneer Status by the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea in 1982, and it is the first country in the world to have secured registration of a mine site.

India has sent 13 scientific research expeditions to Antarctica since 1981, and has established a permanently manned base, Dakshin Gangotri. A second permanent station, an entirely indigenous effort, was completed by the eighth expedition. The objective is to study the ozone layer and other important constituents, optical aurora, geomagnetic pulsation and related phenomena. By virtue of its scientific research activities, India acquired Consultative Membership of the Antarctic Treaty in 1983 and acceded to the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in July 1985. India is also a member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, and has played a significant role in adopting a Minerals Regime for Antarctica in June 1988.

A National Institute of Ocean Technology was set up for the development of ocean-related technologies. It is also



responsible for harnessing resources of the coastal belts and islands.

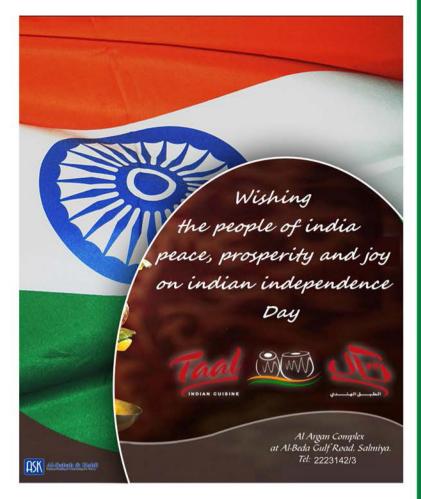
Biotechnology

India has been the forerunner among the developing countries in promoting multi-disciplinary activities in this area, recognizing the practically unlimited possibility of their applications in increasing agricultural and industrial production, and in improving human and animal life. The nucleus of research in this area is the National Biotechnology Board, constituted in 1982.

A Department of Biotechnology was created in 1986. Recently, the Biotechnology Consortium India Ltd. was set up. It will play the role of a catalyst in bridging the gap between research and development, industrial and financial institutions. Some of the new initiatives taken include developing techniques for gene mapping, conservation of biodiversity and bio-indicators research, special biotechnology programmes for the benefit of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and activities in the area of plantation crops.

The areas which have been receiving attention are cattle herd improvement through embryo transfer technology, in vitro propagation of disease resistant plant varieties for obtaining higher yields, and development of vaccines for various diseases.



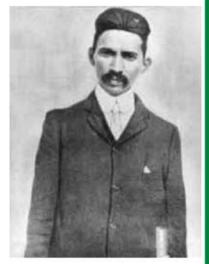


Science & Technology in India

India is one of the leading nations in the world in terms of science and technology. India has the second largest pool of scientists and engineers in the world. In terms of technological advancements and scientific achievements India is second to none. India belongs to the select group of countries who have developed indigenous nuclear technology. India is among the few countries which have developed ballistic missiles. In the field of space science India is among the few countries which have the capability to launch GSLV satellite. India's achievements in the field of IT and software are acknowledged all over the world. Let us carry forward evergrowinges excellangy in science and technology.



Gandhi in his childhood



Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi as Lawyer

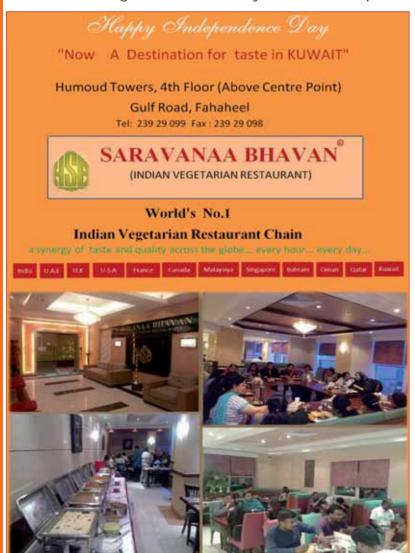


History of Indian National Flag

he Indian national flag represents India's long struggle for freedom is a national treasure. It signifies the status of India as an independent republic. The Indian National Flag came into being in its present form at the meeting of Constitutional Assembly on 22nd July 1947. Since then it has first served as the National Flag of the Dominion of India from 15 August 1947 to 26 January 1950 and thereafter as the national flag of the Republic of India. The Indian National Flag was designed by Pingali Venkayya and contains three equal strips of saffron, white and green. The ratio of its width to its length is two is to three.

A navy blue color "Chakra" known as the Ashoka Chakra, which has twenty-four spokes is present in the middle of the white strip. According to the standard set down by ISI (Indian Standard Institution) it should occupy seventy five percent of the space of the white strip. The National Flag is one of the most respectable national symbols. There are strict laws regarding its manufacturing and its hoisting. The official flag specifications require the flag to be made of Khadi, which is a special hand spun yarn made up of cotton, silk and wool.

1904: The history of the Indian flag dates back to preindependence era. It was in 1904 that first Indian flag came into being. It was made by an Irish disciple of



Congratulating the People Of India on 67 Years of Democracy, Secularism, and Advancement

BHASIN... The Uniform People



We tailor and supply Uniforms for the army, police, security, schools, scouts, hotels, catering companies, industrial establishments, and also flags. We sell Badminton, Cricket and Golf equipments.



Swami Vivekananda. Her name was Sister Nivedita and after some time this flag came to be known as Sister Nivedita's flag. This flag was coloured red and yellow. Red signified the freedom struggle and yellow was a symbol of victory. It had the words "Bonde Matoram" in Bengali written on it. Along with it the flag contained a figure of 'Vajra', weapon of god 'Indra', and a white lotus in the middle. The 'Vajra' is a symbol of strength and lotus depicts purity.

1906: After Sister Nivedita's flag another flag was

designed in 1906. It was a tricolor flag with three equal strips of blue (top), yellow (middle) and red (lower). In this flag the blue strip had eight stars of slightly different shapes. The red strip had two symbols, first one was of sun and the



other one contained a star and a crescent, near the fly. The yellow strip had 'Vande Mataram' written on it in Devnagiri script

In 1906 another version of this flag was created. It was also tricolour but its colours were different. It had orange, yellow and green and came to be known as 'Calcutta flag' or 'Lotus flag', as it had eight half opened lotuses on it. It is believed to be designed by Sachindra Prasad Bose and Sukumar Mitra. It was unfurled on 7th August



67th India Independence Day - Special



1906 at Parsi Bagan Square, Kolkata. It was a "boycott day" against the partition of Bengal and Sir Surendranath Banerjee hoisted this flag to mark the unity of India.

1907: This flag is very similar to the flag of 1906, with

the exception of colors and the flower closest to hoist. This flag had three colors, blue, yellow and red and the flower was larger than others.



Then came the Madam Bhikaji Rustom Cama's flag. The flag was collectively

designed by Madam Bhikaji Cama, Veer Savarkar and Shyamji Krishna Varma. The flag was unfurled by Madam Cama on 22nd of August 1907 at Stuttgrat, Germany, and attained the status of the first Indian flag to be hoisted at the foreign land. From this event onwards it is also referred as 'Berlin Committee flag.

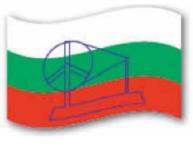
The flag consisted of three colors- the topmost being green followed by golden saffron in the middle and the red color at the bottom. It had 'Vande Mataram' inscribed on it.

1916: In 1916 Pingali Venkayya, a writer and geophysicists designed a flag with the intention to bring the whole nation together. He met Mahatma Gandhi and sought his approval. Mahatma Gandhi suggested him to incorporate a charkha as a symbol of economic regeneration of India, in the flag. Pingali made the flag out of the hand spun yarn 'Khadi'. The flag had two colors and a 'Charkha' drawn across them but Mahatma Gandhi did not approve of it as he said that the red represents the Hindu community and the green represents the Muslims, but all the other communities of India are not represented in this flag.

1917: The Home Rule League formed by Bal Ganga Dhar Tilak adopted a new flag in 1917. As at that time status of Dominion was being demanded for India. The flag had the union jack at the top, near the hoist. The rest of the flag contains five red and four blue strips. It had seven stars on it in the shape of 'Saptarishi' Constellation which is supposed to be the sacred one for the Hindus. It also had a crescent moon and a star at the top fly end. This flag did not gain popularity among the masses.

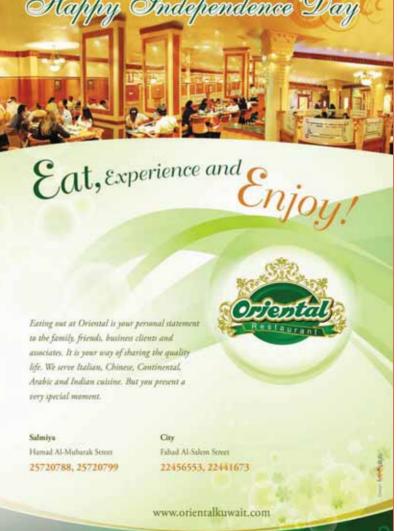
1921: As Mahatma Gandhi wanted all the communities

of India to be represented in the flag of tha nation, so a new flag was designed. This flag had three colors. At the top was white then green and at the bottom was red color. In this flag the colour white symbolized minority communities of India, green



was for the Muslims and the red one was for the Hindu and Sikh communities. The 'Charkha' was drawn across all the bands symbolizing the unification of these





12 **Front**

communities. The pattern of this flag was based on the flag of Ireland, another nation which was struggling to get its independence from the rule of Britain. Although the Congress Committee did not adopt it as its official flag but it was widely used as a symbol of nationality in India' freedom struggle.

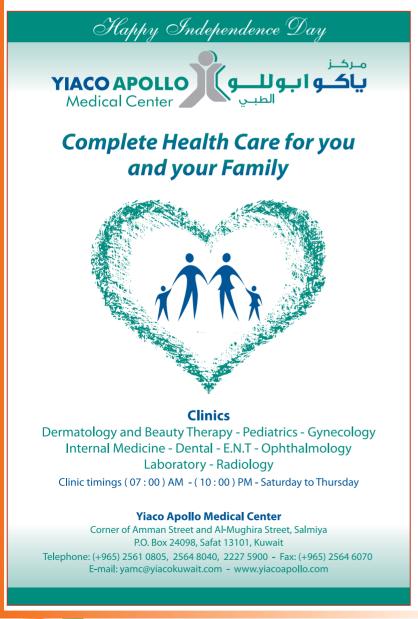
1931: Some people were not at all happy with the communal interpretation of the flag. Keeping all this in view a new flag was designed which replaced the red with ochre. This color signified combined spirit of both the religions as saffron was

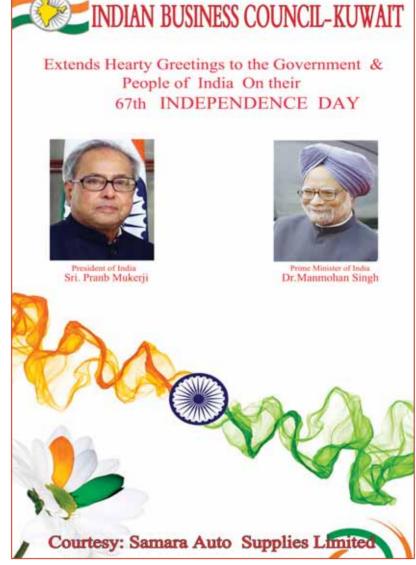
the color of Hindu yogis as well as Muslim darvesh. But the Sikh community also demanded a separate representation in the flag or the complete abandonment of religious colors. This resulted in another flag by



Pingali Venkayya. This new flag had three colors. Saffron was at the top followed by white in the middle and green being the lowermost. The 'Charkha' was at the center of white color. This flag was passed at the meeting of Congress Committee in 1931 and was adopted as the official flag of the Committee.

1947: When India got independence, a committee headed by Rajinder Prasad was formed to discuss the National Flag of India and they decided to adopt the flag





of Indian National Congress, with suitable modifications, as the flag of India. As a result, the flag of 1931 was adopted as Indian flag but 'Charkha' in the middle was replaced by 'Chakra' (wheel) and hence our National Flag came into being.



British India Flag 1858-1947: This flag of British India was introduced in 1858, whose design was based on western heraldic standards, were similar to flags of other British colonies, including Canada and

Australia. The blue banner included the Union Flag in the upper-left quadrant and a Star of India capped by the royal crown in the middle of the right half.



Manufacturing

There is a committee which sets standards for the manufacturing of the flag. It also lays out rules regarding hoisting of Indian flag. This committee is known as 'Bureaue of Indian Standards (BIS)'. It specifies the cloth, dye, color, thread count and each and every thing about the flag. The Indian flag can only be made up of 'Khadi'. It is made up of two types of khadi one for its main part and the other one for the cloth which holds flag to the staff.







Gandhi in Downing Street , London , UK







Gandhi giving speech to his followers

Code of Conduct

Being a national symbol it is respected by every Indian. There are certain dos and don'ts laid down for common people regarding Indian flag:

- When the National Flag is raised the saffron color band should be at the top.
- No flag or emblem should be placed either above the National Flag or to its right.
- All other flags to be placed to the left of the National Flag if they are hung in a line.
- When the National Flag is carried in a procession or parade, it shall be on the marching right or in front of the center of the line, if there is a line of other flags.
- Normally the National Flag should be flown over important government buildings like the Rashtrapati Bhawan, the Parliament House, the Supreme Court of India, the High Courts, the Secretariats, the Commissioners' office etc.
- The National Flag or any imitation of it must not be used for purpose of trade, business, or profession.
- The National Flag should always be taken down in the evening at sunset.

According to flag code, all India citizens do not have the right to hoist the Indian flag except for some important days like Republic day, Independence day and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. A renowned industrialist Naveen Jindal challenged this in the court as when he hoisted the flag on his office building he was told not to do so as it may be taken as a breach of code of Indian flag. Then he lodged a PIL (Public Interest Litigation) in the court now the decision of the court is pending in this regard but a temporary permission has been granted to Indian citizens to hoist the flag on any day but in a respectable manner.





Veera Mangai Velunachiyar

eera Mangai Velunachiyar was one of the queens in the 18th century in South India. She rebelled against the British Empire and fought for the freedom of India. She was born in 1730 AD to the Mannar Sellamuthu Sethupathy and to Rani Sakandhimuthal of Ramnad Kingdom. She was the only daughter of this Royal family. The Royal couple had no male heir. The royal family brought up the Princess, Velunachiyar, like Prince of Ramnad due to this reason.

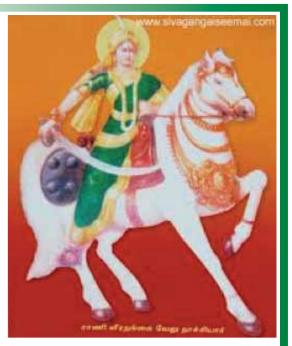
She was trained in the skills of using weapons and also in martial arts like Valari, stick fighting etc. She learnt horse riding and archery earlier. The Royal couple had engaged teachers to teach her many languages like French, English and Urdu. Thus this young brave Princess had excellent training in all war techniques. She was a scholar in many languages and was ready to rule the Ramnad Kingdom . She married Sivagangai Mannar Muthuvaduganathar at the age of sixteen. In the year 1772, the English invaded her kingdom . Velu Nachiyar heard that her husband Raja Muthu Vaduganathar and her daughter young Princess Gowri Nachiyar were killed in Kalaiyar Koil war.

This war was held in Kalaiyar Koil palace. British troops attacked the palace under the command of Lt.Col. Bon Jour . She was very much worried and wanted to take revenge. Dalavay Thandavaraya Pillai and Maruthu brothers sustained injuries. They promised to recapture the samasthan to punish the English. Dalavay Thandavaraya Pillai, an incredible and distinguished person was the most powerful administer in Sivagangai samsthanam.

Thandavaraya Pillai, the loyalist served (1700-1773) as Palavay and also as Pirathani under the three rulers of Sivagangai samsthanam. He was responsible for the development of Sivagangai samsthanam . At first he served the King Sasivarna Periya Udaiya Thevar during 1730-1750. Later he served under Muthu Vaduganatha Thevar, the King during 1750-1772 . He also served as *Pirathani to the queen Rani Velu Nachiyar.Here Dalavay means military chief and the Pirathani means chief minister. Pirathani was responsible for the improvement of Foreign affairs. Thus the two charges were the most important and also powerful.

(Thandavaraya Pillai was the son of Kathavaraya Pillai who was an accountant and also as Karvar, (administer) in this samsthan.He rendered his service with loyalty from the beginning of this samsthanam. He administered well and helped in the development. The King Udaiya Thevar was very much pleased because of his good administration and granted him his hereditary management. It shows the significance of loyalty of Dalavay Thandavaraya Pillai. He advised Veera Mangal Velunachiar to move to different places often in order to avoid British invaders . Meanwhile

Dalavay Thandavarayan Pillai wrote a letter to Sultan Hyder Ali on behalf of Velu Nachiyar to provide 5000 infantry and 5000 cavalry to defeat the British army. But unfortunately he passed away due to old age. She decided to meet Hyder Ali after the demise of Dalavay



Thandavarayan Pillai at Mysore with the help of his son. She could explain in detail in Urdu all her problems with East India Company. She explained him her strong opposition of British regime. Hyder Ali was very much pleased and promised to help her in this conflict... He accepted her request with sympathy and provided the necessary military assistance. He orderd Syed Karki of Dindigul fort gladar to provide the required military equipments to Rani Velu Nachiyar. He released 5000 infantry and 5000 cavalry to Rani Velu Nachiyar immediately. Her troops advanced to Sivaganga with the help provided by Maruthu brothers. The Nawab of Arcot put so many hindrances to avoid the advancement of Rani Velu Nachiyar's combined troops. The queen and Maruthu brothers overcame all hurdles.

They geared up the troops and entered Sivaganga. She

defeated the Nawab of Arcot and took him as a captivator. She re-captured her Sivaganga samsthan with the help of Hyder Ali and crowned as queen of Sivagangai the Velu seemai. Nachiyar is only the first queen who raised the revolt against the British emperor. According to historians. Prof.



Sanjeevi mentioned in his ' Maruthiruvar' book that ' the bravery queen Velu Nachiyar raised revolt against English emperor and fought for the freedom of India 85 years before Jhansi Rani's freedom struggle in North . Venkatam further stated that Velu Nachiyar is India's Joan of Arc





Hats off to Hansika Motwani



Famous South Indian Actress Hansika Motwani has adopted the 23rd child on her 22nd birthday on August 9th 2013. She has already adopted 22 children so far. These kids are living in Mumbai with their parents. Hansika provides the financial support to all of them for their education and also other monetary assistance.

Hansika who is already looking after the education of 22 kids in Mumbai not only personally oversees their well-being but find time to take them out for a drive in her car, go to the beach and buy them ice-creams.

Apart from this, she has taken care of all the medical expenses for 30 Cancer patients on this birthday.

Happy Independence Day



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Indian Old Currencies

Victoria Portrait Series

The first set of British India notes were the 'Victoria Portrait' Series issued in denominations of 10, 20, 50, 100, 1000. These were unifaced, carried two language panels and were printed on hand-moulded paper manufactured at the Laverstock Paper Mills (Portals). The security features incorporated the watermark (GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, RUPEES, two signatures and wavy lines), the printed signature and the registration of the notes.





Rupees Ten

Rupees Hundered

British India Notes facilitated inter-spatial transfer of funds. As a security precaution, notes were cut in half. One set was sent by post. On confirmation of receipt, the other half was despatched by post.



Half note

This series remained largely unchanged till the introduction of the 'King's Portrait' series which commenced in 1923.



Green Underprint -**Rupees Five Hundred**



Green Underprint -**Rupees Five**

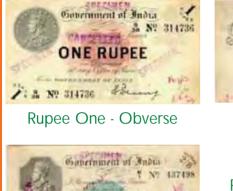




Red Underprint -Rupees Fifty

Small Denomination Notes

The introduction of small denomination notes in India was essentially in the realm of the exigent. Compulsions of the First World War led to the introduction of paper currency of small denominations. Rupee One was introduced on 30th November, 1917 followed by the exotic Rupees Two and Annas Eight. The issuance of these notes was discontinued on 1st January, 1926 on cost benefit considerations. These notes first carried the portrait of King George V and were the precursors of the 'King's Portrait' Series which were to follow.





Rupee One -Reverse



Rupees Two and Annas Eight - Obverse

King's Portrait Series

Regular issues of this Series carrying the portrait of George V were introduced in May, 1923 on a Ten Rupee Note. The King's Portrait Motif continued as an integral feature of all Paper Money issues of British India. Government of India continued to issue currency notes till 1935 when the Reserve Bank of India took over the functions of the Controller of Currency. These notes were issued in denominations of Rs 5, 10, 50, 100, 500, 1000, 10,000.



Rupees Fifty

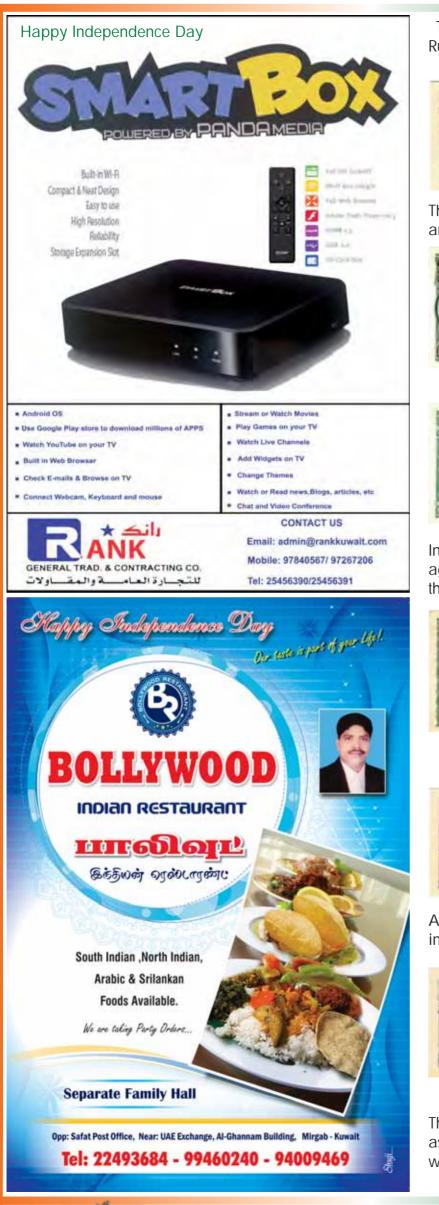


Rupees One Thousand









The Bank's issues to January 1938 when the first Five Rupee note was issued bearing the portrait of George VI.



Rupees Five - First Note issued by Reserve Bank of India

This was followed by Rs 10 in February, Rs 100 in March and Rs 1,000 and Rs 10,000 in June 1938.



Rupees One Hundred



Rupees One Thousand



Rupees Ten Thousand

In August 1940, the one-rupee note was reintroduced, once again as a war time measure, as a Government note with the status of a rupee coin,



Rupee One Obverse



Rupee One Reverse

Rupees Two

As an added security feature, the security thread was introduced for the first time in India.



George VI Profile



Geoae VI Frontal

The George VI series continued till 1947 and thereafter as a frozen series till 1950 when post-independence notes were issued.

Women of India

Dr. Annie Besant (1847-1933)

In the field of education, social reforms and political struggle, Dr. Annie Besant was the foremost woman leader, India had seen in pre-Independence era. Born in London of Irish Parentage in 1847, she earned fame early, due to her eloquence, social work and radical views. She was hailed as Europe's best orator by George



Bernard Shaw. She married Frank Besant, a pastor of the Anglican church. But the marriage did not last. They separated after two children.

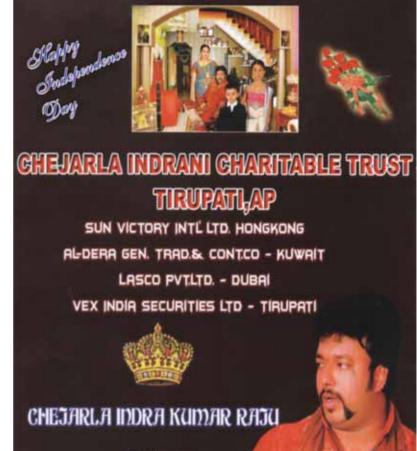
Mrs. Besant fought for equal wages, rights of women, and birth control (for women's health) much to the embarrassment of British government. Fabian Socialism was taking roots in England and she associated herself actively. Later she came under the influence of Theosophical Society which was against discrimination of race, color, gender and preached Universal brotherhood. To serve humanity at large was its supreme goal. It is as a member of Theosophical Society of India (later she became President as well) that she arrived in India in 1893.



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Chairmani

In India to Serve Humanity

She toured the entire country of India. It gave her firsthand information about India and middle-class Indians who were affected more by British rule and its system of education. Masses at large adhered to olden ways. Even educated class was not aware of their glorious past and liberal religion. She started studying Indian scriptures, religious texts and was drawn by the catholicity of Bhagavad Gita and the Upanishads. She got acquainted with Hindu manners and customs. She literally delivered thousands of lectures to create cultural awareness among the youth. She took to wearing sari, mixed with Indians. She invited British to work in institutions she founded who liked and respected India. She believed that a nation's prosperity depends upon the character of the people and concentrated on character-building.

She wanted Indo-British 'common wealth'. The word 'Commonwealth' was coined by her. She earnestly wanted friendliness and modesty among those who ruled, and dignity and self-respect among the ruled. She certainly succeeded in making young Indians become aware of their cultural greatness. Through a network of schools and colleges she tried to instill patriotism and contemporary spirit as well. Central Hindu college at Banaras was due to her endless efforts. She mobilized funds by undertaking lecture tours in Europe and America, drew huge crowds and attracted intellectuals.

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Later as Banaras Hindu University, it molded the minds of millions.

She introduced inter-dining in hostels (a revolutionary step in early decades of last century), did not allow married students to college (this discouraged early marriage of boys), and allowed free transactions between British Indian scholars. The syllabus was a happy blend of Western and Indian philosophy, literature, history and religious thought.

She was greatly admired and respected for her learning, dignity, grace and eloquence. She attended sabhas (assemblies) of traditional Sanskrit scholars as well. In one of a such big gathering, Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Gangadhar Shastri was present. He was acknowledged as greatest Sanskrit scholar of his time, and honored even by British Government by the title of CIE (Companionship of the Indian Empire). He was impressed greatly by Mrs. Besant's deep knowledge and oratory and spontaneously hailed her as 'Sarvashukla Saraswati'---"here comes the Goddess of Learning!" Mrs. Beasant always wore white sari. She was the personified learning goddess (Saraswati) in that learned assembly.

Vijayalakshmi Pandit



Sister of Jawaharlal Nehru, and and a leader of the Congress Party of India, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit was the first woman to have been appointed minister in the political history of India.

Kamaladevi Chattopadhaya (1903-1988)

Kamaladevi's life reflected a remarkable era in India's

history; she lived the problems faced by Indian women, and triumphed in the Indian renaissance.

She was born in an intellectual family to Ananthaiah and Girijabai Dhareshwar in Mangalore, Even though well off, the sudden death of her father caused turmoil in the family, and Mrs. Dhareshwar lost her rightful inheritances. To reduce the



responsibilities of the widow, Kamaladevi was married even when she was a child, and she herself became a widow, before understanding the meaning of a marriage!

The young girl had to face the scorn of an orthodox society, as the status of a widow was miserable then. Yet, Kamaladevi pursued education and her hobbies. She was a beautiful girl and took interest in arts and theater. A young poet Harindranath Chattopadhyaya, brother of Sarojini Naidu, fell in love with her, and despite their differences in caste and languages, they were married. The marriage did not last long, however.

It was the time in India when Mahatma Gandhi gave a call for freedom not only from colonialism but also India's own problems of untouchability, and poverty. He called upon women to fight side by side with men. Kamaladevi became an active organizer of the women and youth wing of the Indian National Congress. She was instrumental in the emergence of the changing face of the Indian woman during the twentieth century.

Kamaladevi became a prominent leader during India's freedom struggle organizing satyagrahas, mobilizing volunteers and fighting deeply rooted social evils. She traveled all over the world publicizing India's cause.

Along with freedom in 1947 the nation of India inherited so many problems of the partition. Kamaladevi worked relentlessly to heal the wounds of refugees by establishing co-operative societies and self-employment schemes. She went on to rejuvenate the traditional Indian home industries like weaving, and handicrafts. As chief of the Board of Handicrafts, she started the pension system for the craftsmen.

Kamaladevi Chattopadhya's contribution in preserving and promoting India's art, culture, and heritage is quite unequalled. She served this cause till she was marginalized by Indira Gandhi's coterie. She continued to be great patron of Indian art and theater. Ibrahim Alkazi, the first director of National School of Drama (NSD) once narrated her love of the stage -- "She would climb up four storied theater galleries even in her old age, would enjoy the show, and then meet the artists personally and offer congratulations, and tips for improvement."

She didn't care for personal recognition or wealth. What a selfless volunteer she was! She was a trade-unionist, a revolutionary, a reformer, a great patron of arts, an accomplished writer (she has authored twelve books), an orator, and a freedom fighter, a truly amazing woman from India.

Excerpted from "The Woman Who Knew So Much" (Bahuballide Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya in Kannada) from the book Nenapinalli Nintavaru by Jyotsna Kamat, Mahila Sahityika, Hubli, 2000

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur (1889-1964)

Kaur was an early women's rights activist in India, social worker and freedom fighter. Amrit Kaur was born in a Royal family of Kapurtala. Her father was Raja Harnam Singh. She had her education in London. When she returned to India at the age of twenty her father kindled in her the flame of National Movement. She took part in Salt Satyagraha and Quit India Movement and also became an active social worker.



She was the first woman to hold a post in the cabinet as Minister in 1947. Her major contribution as Minister of



Health was the setting up of All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi. She remained a Rajya Sabha Member till her death on February 2, 1964.

Anjali Ammal

Born in a poor weaver's family, Ammal joined Ganhi's call for Satyagraha and served prison sentence. Social worker and reformer, later she served Madras assembly.



Madame Bhikaji Cama (1861-1936)



It was no mean achievement of Madam Cama, when she unfurled the first National Flag at the International Socialist Conference in Stuttgart (Germany) in 1907. A thousand representatives from several countries were attending. An Indian lady in a colorful sari was a rare phenomenon in those days

and her majestic appearance and brave and clear words made everybody think that she was a Maharani or at least a princess from a native state.

She fought for freedom till the last in her own way, and helped innumerable revolutionaries with money and materials across the sea as she had settled down in London/Paris at the beginning of this century. Her life and mission make a fascinating reading, showing the important role she played in the early years of freedom struggle.

Madam Cama was born on 24th September, 1861 of rich Parsi parents. Her father was Sorabji Framji Patel, a famous merchant and man of means, had a large family. Young Bhikaji received good English education, but from the beginning she was a rebel, and a nationalist. She had good flair to learn languages and became proficient in arguing her country's cause in different circles at a young age.

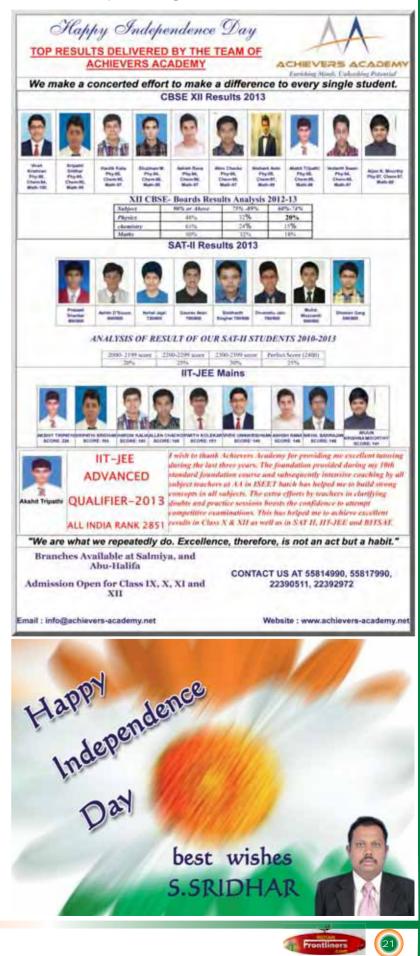
She served as private secretary to Dadabhai Navaroji, a great Indian leader in the forefront of national movement. She came in contact with several patriots' students and European Intellectuals who were sympathetic to Indian cause during this brief period. Later she herself played a dominant part in promoting freedom struggle.

The tricolor-flag Madam Cama unfurled had green, saffron, and red stripes. Red represented strength, saffron victory, and green stood for boldness and enthusiasm. There were eight lotuses representing the eight provinces and flowers represented princely states. "Vande Mataram" in Devanagari adorned central saffron stripe which meant "salutation to Mother India." The sun and the moon indicated Hindu and Muslim faiths.

When First World War broke out in 1914, Madam Cama

took anti-British stand and tried her best to bring in awareness among Indians about the harm brought in by fighting imperialist forces.

The British had banned her entry in India being afraid of her revolutionary past and confirmed nationalistic outlook. But the lioness was getting old and 35 years fighting on foreign land and taken its toll. She decided to return to motherland but was very ill. After reaching Bombay, she was hospitalized and died on the 13th of August 1936. A fearless woman, she brought in awareness of Indian struggle for independence in Europe and America and was instrumental in helping several revolutionaries, with finances and publishing.



67th India Independence Day - Special



Frontliners Service Organization, registered with Indian Embassy, Kuwait, was started in 1997 by Writer N.C.Mohandoss with service minded people, to join hands for serving the needy people; To Do Things that Count – For Others;

Frontliners team consists of people from :

- different cultural background from all ethnic, linguistic, religious and age groups.
- different walks of life businessmen, industrialists, doctors, engineers, teachers, managers, office staff, technicians, semi-skilled workers, drivers, maids etc.
- different parts of India from all states in India; from Metropolitan cities, towns and villages
- different economic strata Millionaires, high-income, middle-income and low-income people

Frontliners's Patrons and sponsors provide financial support needed for the welfare activities undertaken by Frontliners. Each spark of kindness, provides warmth for hundreds of people. Frontliners is a truly diverse group - But strongly united by purpose and action of its members.

Frontliners' helping hands have reached out to a wide spectrum of the needy person in the society. Frontliners Association, working directly and through other social service organizations, have provided relief and assistance in the areas of Education, Health, Disaster relief, Old-age care, orphanage services, development of differently-abled persons, Animal care, social work & community welfare, rural development, environmental protection etc.,

In Kuwait, Frontliners have extended assistance to people in distress like stranded workers / maids, poor and sick labourers in need of medical attention, families of persons who died in Kuwait. Members of Frontliners Team take part in campaigns, such as tree-planting etc organized by the Kuwait Volunteer Work Centre under the guidance of its Chairperson, Madam Sheikha Amthal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Frontliners Books series, have been successful in showcasing the talents and achievements of prominent Indians in Kuwait. The varied themes covered have provided inspiration and motivation for a number of people to actively participate in the community service efforts of Frontliners. Each book in the Frontliners Book series was released by a prominent VIP in a glittering function arranged with sponsorship and participation by way of advertisement by various companies and organizations in Kuwait.

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The Rise and fall of airlines

s an airline company, it should have a long history of responsible business. It seems not fitting to take this campaign now in the aviation industry has totally lost its credibility in the aviation arena. This is an important certification for airlines to have a responsible business as it emphasizes the passenger confidence and trust for a safe and reliable journey with the airline.

To achieve this certification, there should be a long history of trust and confidence that airline companies have to build up whereas it is noticed gradually that airline companies shaking off their standings in the aviation platform.

Over the last few years, we have also witnessed the downfall of few carriers from the MENA region apart from the other side of the world.

Now a days, the starting of an aviation company has become so common that anyone can do it but, without looking into the challenges of safety, infrastructure, government involvement, environment and the basic ethics of commitment to the passengers. With one aircraft in operation but having schedules and gateways more than the capacities, aircrafts are flying without the minimum requirements of preventive maintenance.

With the dawn of the New Year, the recent blow to the industry from MENA region was the closure of one of the private aircraft companies based in Bahrain, however newcomers in the industry still want to start new airlines to get the most return of this investment. A number of major airlines have declared bankruptcy and have either ceased operations, or reorganized under bankruptcy protection.

Airlines, like any business, are susceptible to market fluctuations and economic difficulties. The economic structure of the airline industry may contribute to airline bankruptcies as well.

When an airline company closing down, there will be always chaos at several airports after passengers complained that they were not intimated about the closing down of this airline company which most of the companies never do and many inconvenienced passengers have to rebook themselves on other airlines by buying new tickets and waiting for their refunds on the holding tickets for an indefinite period.

There will be many passengers who even not getting seats on other carriers and finally, end up with the total disaster of their travel plans.

Who should be held responsible for this irresponsible approach of an airline – this is the frequent question always raise by the passengers but who will bell the cat? When reacting to a complete halt in flight operations of a beleaguered airline, the passengers can only vent out their feelings at various social networking platforms as P.N.J. Kumar, CEO, Caesars Travel Group

always no proper guidelines will be given by an airline to passengers even after putting them in a volatile situation.

We are having always the information of airline companies are being closed or in bankruptcy court protection. They face significant challenges like many



companies in crisis, airlines are also scrambling to cut costs and solidify their positions. Unfortunately, the aviation industry was one of the hardest hit and has historically attracted negative attention from passengers because of losing the confidence and trust which they could not maintain.

Forget about the closing down of an airline, we are very much disappointed with the currently operated airlines due to their deteriorating culture, don't guarantee their schedules, and you should realize this when planning your trip.

Flight cancellations have been unpredictable and ongoing, often as a result of many reasons but why the passengers have to pay for it. All this is having a huge impact on customer confidence. The recent science of airline companies are to attract passengers by offering cheap fares and the questions remain if these airlines can not offer it, why they are coming out such unhealthy business strategies which makes them to close down their companies.

This is very important to have a rigid and strong rule with the Governments to maintain the airlines its flight schedule, otherwise, warnings to be given to the concerned airline if cancels a record number of flights, followed with cancelling the AOC certificate. This will definitely ensure the passengers to have an airline with punctuality flying standards as the airline companies will be taken utmost care for maintaining their schedules without interruption due to the fear of losing their AOC certificate.

Most of the increase in airline prices has been higher fuel prices or government taxes. Those have been drivers of higher ticket prices for consumers. Consolidation in the airline industry is not new, and airlines have come a long way since they have realized it that rather than starting new airlines, mergers always keeps them in one platform to economize their operations. Many people assume a merger like this means higher ticket prices but the reality is that we only have flights from one of the two airlines and therefore no competition; it's unlikely to happen here.

Moreover, the airline will be in a position to make improvements in terms of equipment and aircraft and schedules and destinations which always gong to benefit for the passengers. Therefore, Governments should give preference to merger process which will give a good



impact to the aviation safety and the levels of maintaining the commitments to passengers as naturally; they are big in size once a merger takes place rather than single owned aircraft company who has no such infrastructure for meeting the challenges from time to time.

The next step is that Airlines should have developed the Airline Passenger Service Commitment following consultation with representatives of Air Travelers. It describes the level of service air travelers may expect consistently from signatory airlines. It will enable air travelers to make a more informed choice of airline when planning their travel arrangements.

They will endeavour to achieve the standards set out in this Airline Passenger Service Commitment on a consistent basis. Each airline should also notify passengers that in the event of closing down the company or operations, what would be the next steps to follow passengers to rebook their seats/reimbursement of the cost of tickets which should also cover in the passenger service commitment and the concerned Governments should be strict with them for implementing such service commitment rules before the launching of an airline.

Airlines and passengers are always having a symbiotic relationship. Airlines throughout the world strive to provide the best level of service and facilities that enable passengers to enjoy it in an increasingly competitive environment and the passengers always looking towards it with a competitive cost. Through innovation, and outof-the-box thinking, aviation industry will continue to meet its eco-efficiency goals, and ensure that air travel continues to be one of the safest, and most eco-efficient, means of transportation. Even a few decades from now, the world will be very different from today. Our lives and travel needs will have changed and, because the global population will increase, looking after the planet will be even more important than ever. So what will this world look like? How will we get around? And how will we take care of the environment? The world will be very different in many ways by 2050, but one thing will not change. We will still need great people to make it even better! And, aircrafts need passengers however the state-of-art techniques on it.

In brief, airlines v/s passengers – can this marriage be saved for a long run?





Gandhiji on a walk with Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan



Gandhiji with Jinnah in 1944



Gandhi and Kasturba in their old age



The two women Manu and Abha as his walking sticks



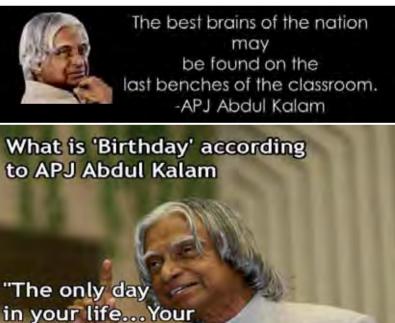
Gandhi-Nehru on a happy mood



Gandhiji addressing the huge gatherings pertaining to Salt Satyagraha



A young boy leads Gandhiji for a walk



mother smiled when you cried"

All birds find shelter during a rain. But Eagle avoids rain by flying above the Clouds. Problems are common, but attitude makes the difference!! :)

