



As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahosav, Embassy of India, Beirut organized various activities in the months of February and March 2022.

Embassy News



Transfer of UNIFIL Authority Ceremony

Ambassador of India Dr. Suhel Khan attended on February 28, 2022 the 'Transfer of UNIFIL Authority' ceremony between outgoing Force Commander, Major Gen. Stefano del Col & incoming Force Commander Major Gen. Aroldo Lázaro Saenz, at UNIFIL HQ in Naqoura. The Indian Battalion is an important part of UNIFIL.



Meeting with Maj Gen. Kheir

Ambassador of India Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan received Secretary General of Higher Relief Council, Maj General Mohammed Kheir in his office on March 2, 2022.

They discussed various issues of mutual concern.



Lebanese participation at Surajkund Mela

Lebanese craftsmen went to India and participated in the 35th Surajkund International Crafts Mela which started on March 19, 2022 at Haryana.

The Surajkund Mela is a one-of-a-kind international artisan fair that provides a platform for artists from all over the world to demonstrate their culture and creativity.

Embassy News



Screening of Bollywood Movie 'Badrinath Ki Dulhania'

Embassy of India, Beirut with the cooperation of Elite Centre of Culture and Education, Tripoli screened the Bollywood Movie 'Badrinath Ki Dulhania' on February 18, 2022. This was part of monthly movie screening by the Embassy. The screening was attended by around 50 Lebanese friends of India. Dr. Imane Kamali, President of Elite Center appreciated Embassy's efforts to bring Indian Cinema in Lebanon.

Shri Sandeep Grover, Charge d'Affaires a.i. thanked the Elite Center for cooperation in screening of the movie in her Centre. In his speech, he also paid tribute to late Lata Mangeshkar, Nightingale of India. The show was well appreciated by the audience.



Webinar on Renewable Energy

Shri Sandeep Grover, Charge d'Affaires a.i. and Attache (Commerce) attended the Webinar 'New Frontier: A Programme on Renewable Energy' on February 17, 2022 organised by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of India.

Ms. Reem Khatib, from Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation, Ministry of Energy & Water also participated in the Webinar.

Embassy News



19 Madras Battalion Group at UNIFIL received UN Medals

Indian Soldiers from the 19 Madras Battalion Group at UNIFIL received UN Medals on March 17, 2022 at the Medal Day Ceremony. The event was attended by Col M.S. Greval, CO Indian Battalion & other Senior UNIFIL commanders. Mr Pattabhi, Second Secretary and Mr. Santanu Kumar Singh, Third Secretary from the Embassy also attended the event.



Meeting with Lebanese Businessmen in Zahle

During a visit to Zahle on March 18, 2022, Ambassador of India Dr Suhel Khan met with Industry leaders- Mr Mohammad Moallem, President, Syndicate of Craftsmen, Mr Tony Tohmeh, Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture of Zahle & Bekaa (CCIAZ) & Mr Ziad Saade, President, Association of Traders.

Embassy News



Meeting with Minister of Economy

Ambassador of India Dr Suhel Ajaz Khan met with Lebanese Minister of Economy & Trade H.E. Mr. Amin Salam on March 8, 2022.

They discussed various issues of mutual interests.



Celebrating International Women's Day

Ladies staff members of the Mission celebrated International Women's Day on March 8, 2022 at the Embassy premises.

Ambassador of India Dr Suhel Ajaz Khan and other officers joined in the celebration.



Meeting with Minister of Education

Ambassador of India Dr Suhel Khan met with Minister of Education & Higher Education & acting Minister of Information H.E. Dr Abbas Al-Halabi on March 10, 2022. They discussed various issues of interests including news exchange/teachers training/mutual recognition of high school certificates/ITEC/Yoga etc.

Embassy News

92nd anniversary of Salt Satyagraha



Commemorating 92nd anniversary of Salt Satyagraha, the Embassy team led by Ambassador of India Dr Suhel Khan paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi on March 12, 2022. On this occasion, screening of virtual narration of 'Salt Satyagraha-The Power of Non-violent Action' by Gandhian Scholar Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna was organised at the Embassy. All the Members of the Mission were present for the screening.

Screening of Bollywood Movie 'Hindi Medium' and celebration of Holika Dahan



Embassy of India, Beirut screened the Bollywood Movie 'Hindi Medium' on March 17, 2022 as part of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebrations and Monthly Bollywood Night. The screening was attended by around 50 Lebanese friends of India.



The screening of Bollywood Movie was coincided with celebration of Holi Festival. The Holika Dahan ritual was performed by Indian community members in the presence of Ambassador Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan. All the attendees played holi with colours. The event was welcomed by all. Children also enjoyed the evening. The event was followed by refreshments.



Embassy News

Celebration of Birth Anniversary of Sant Ravidas ji

Embassy of India, Beirut joined Gurudwara Sant Ravidas ji in Beirut in celebration of birth anniversary of Sant Ravidas ji on February 20, 2022. The event was attended by all the members of the Embassy. A large number of Indian Diaspora was present on this special occasion. Shri Ramswaroop, President of Gurudwara Sant Ravidas Prabandhak Committee thanked the Embassy members for joining in the celebration. He addressed the gathering and said that that Embassy was very helpful in pandemic time when a large number of members of Indian Diaspora wanted to go back to India. Shri Sandeep Grover, Charge d'Affaires a.i. congratulated everyone on this occasion and thanked the Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee for organising the function. He also said that India is celebrating 75 years of its Independence and encouraged Indian Community to participate in all events of the Embassy.



Participation in the Opening Ceremony of the 30th Asian Alpine Ski Championship

On the invitation of President of Lebanese Ski Federation, Shri Sandeep Grover, Charge d'Affaires a.i. and Shri Santanu Singh, Third Secretary participated in the Opening Ceremony of the 30th Asian Alpine Ski Championship at Kfardebian on February 23, 2021. 9 Member Ski and Snowboard India Team participated in the Championships from 24-26, 2022. Charge d'Affaires a.i. interacted with the Indian team and wished them success. He also met the President of Lebanese Ski Federation Mr. Freddy Kairouz. Mr. Johan Eliasch, President of International Ski Federation officially inaugurated the Championships.



News of The Month

India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement

Today, on the 18th day of February 2022, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and Chairman of the Executive Council, and His Excellency Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India held a Virtual Summit. At the event, both the leaders laid out their future vision of the historic and friendly relations between both countries, at a time when India is celebrating 75 years of Independence as Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav and UAE is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its foundation.

The leaders also witnessed the signing of the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (India-UAE CEPA) by the respective Commerce & Industry/Economy Ministers from the two countries. The India-UAE CEPA is the first bilateral trade accord concluded by the UAE, and it is also India's first bilateral trade agreement in the MENA region. CEPA is a significant initiative in bilateral relations during the pandemic and a major trade agreement that will launch a new era of strategic cooperation between both countries. It will transform bilateral economic and investment ties, open up emerging trade routes between Africa and Asia, promote global trade liberalization and propel economic growth in a post-COVID world.

"The UAE, under the leadership of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, continues to consolidate its global position as a gateway for trade and investment," said HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. "India is one of our most important strategic partners, and this deal brings us closer than ever before. The agreement we have reached today with Prime Minister Modi not only deepens our economic and trading relationship with a close partner but unlocks a new phase of global cooperation for us."

His Highness added, "The historic economic agreement demonstrates the commitment of our leaders to the bold Projects of the 50, launched in our pursuit of the next 50 years of progress and prosperity. Future generations will benefit from this forward-looking vision aimed at stimulating growth and doubling our trade with the world and to strengthen the UAE's knowledge and innovation-driven economy. This deal promises to provide significant benefits to UAE and Indian businesses, including reduced tariffs and enhanced market access, while also breathing new life into trading corridors from Africa to Asia and laying the foundations for growth and prosperity that will benefit the entire region."

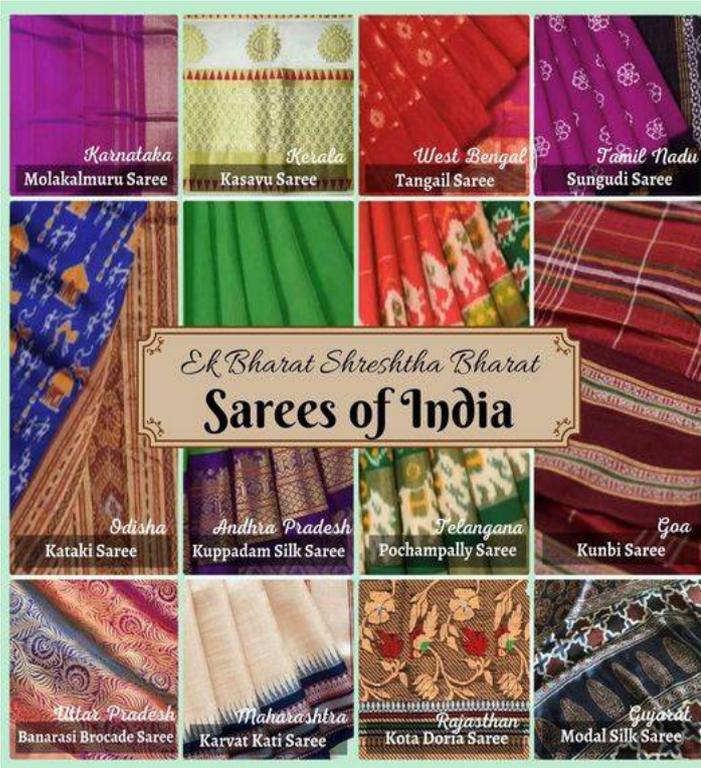
News of The Month

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said: " I am happy at the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between our two nations today. It is noteworthy that such an important agreement has been concluded in a record time of less than 3 months. Such agreements generally take years for conclusion. The Agreement demonstrates the deep friendship, shared vision and the trust between the two countries. I am confident that this will usher in a new era in our bilateral economic relations and the bilateral trade volume will increase from USD 60 Billion to USD 100 billion in the coming 5 years".

Bilateral relations between India and the UAE have strengthened in all areas of mutual interest in the past few years; both sides had embarked upon a comprehensive strategic partnership in 2017. Leaders of the two countries have remained in regular touch over the past few years particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic as the two countries collaborated closely in critical areas of healthcare and food security to fight the pandemic. Ministerial visits between the two sides have also continued. This strategic partnership laid the foundations for the CEPA signed today between the two countries.

Bilateral trade, investment and energy relations between India and the UAE have remained robust. Signing of the CEPA is a testament to these longstanding bilateral trade and investment linkages. Both sides are also strengthening their cooperation in new areas of renewable energy like green hydrogen, climate action, start-ups, skilling, fintech and healthtech. The UAE is India's third largest trade partner and bilateral trade is expected to surpass USD 60 billion mark in the current financial year. India ranks as the UAE's number one trading partner for non-oil exports, accounting for nearly 14 percent of the UAE's total non-oil exports globally. CEPA may increase the total value of bilateral trade to over US\$100 billion within five years. The historic trade deal is expected to lay the roadmap to a shared vision for the future envisaging stronger, more resilient economies that deliver sustainable welfare and wellness to the peoples of the two countries.

Featured Stories



Sarees of India

Saree is an element of the cultural representation of Indian women. Almost each state of India has its own unique saree weaving technique making them special with its distinct look and feel.



Arogya Vanam

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated on March 1, 2022 a newly developed Arogya Vanam at the President's Estate in the presence of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Spread in 6.6 acres, the Arogya Vanam has been developed in the shape of a human sitting in the Yoga Mudra. It consists of around 215 herbs and plants used for therapeutic purposes in Ayurveda. Some of the other features of this Vanam are water fountains, Yoga platform, water channel, lotus pond and a view point. The concept of Arogya Vanam has been conceived with the aim of publicising the importance of Ayurvedic plants and their effects on human body. This Vanam will be now open for public viewing.

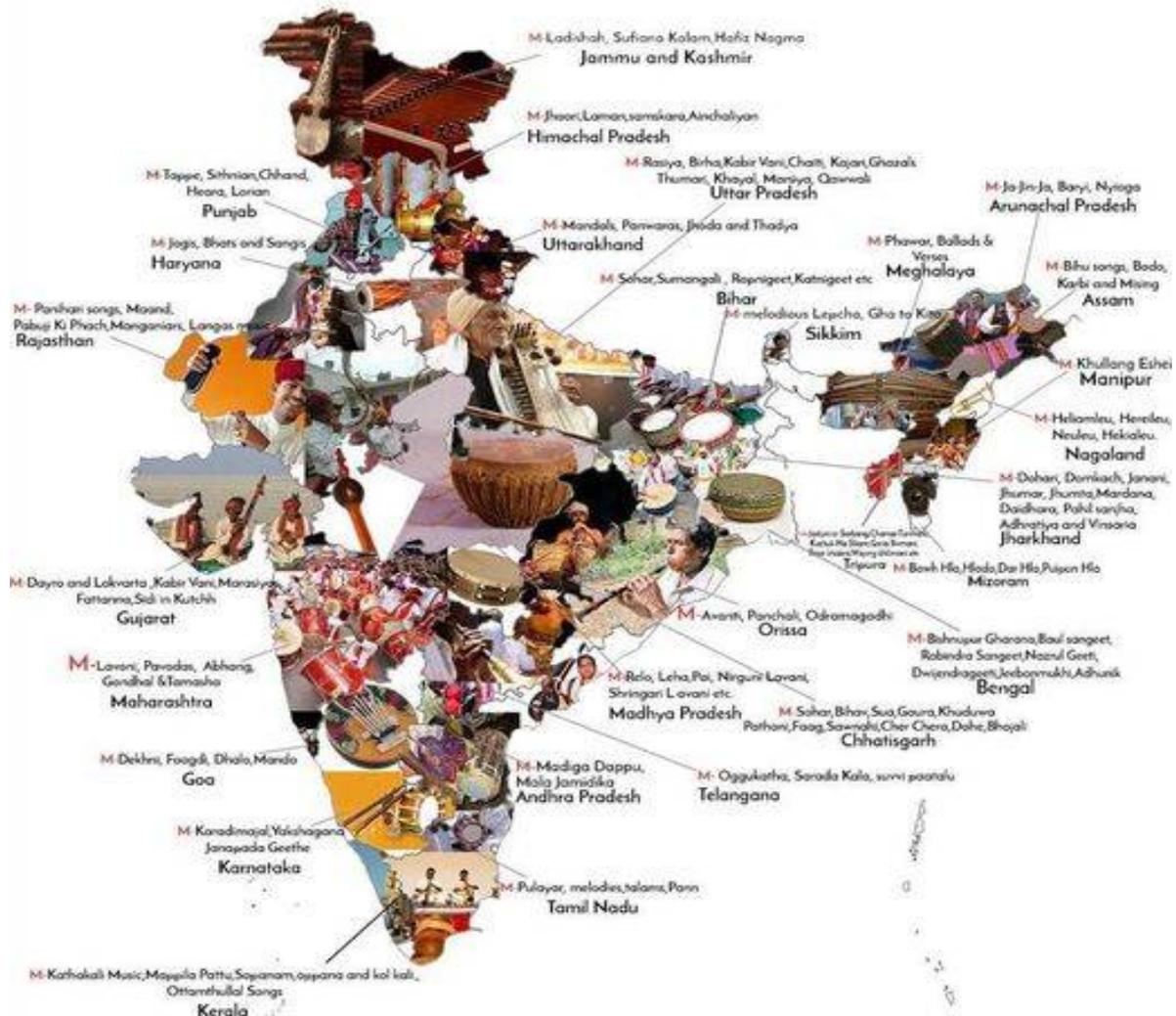
Featured Stories



Maha Shivratri Festival

Maha Shivratri is one of the significant Hindu festivals. Maha Shivratri means the great night of Lord Shiva and is believed to be the night when Shiva performs the heavenly dance of creation, preservation & destruction.

FOLK MUSIC MAP OF INDIA



Folk music map of India

The folk music map of India represents yet another facet of India's rich cultural heritage and Unity in Diversity.

India Tourism

Chhattisgarh

Chhattisgarh, India's 10th largest state is endowed with a rich culture, heritage and attractive natural diversity. Situated in the heart of India with a ten thousand years old civilization it is a land 'Full of Surprises' that attracts tourists who look forward to experience the pristine. Chhattisgarh is an uniquely Indian experience. Home to the country's widest waterfalls, caves, lush green forests, ancient monuments, rare wild life, exquisitely curved temples, Buddhist sites and hill plateaus. Chhattisgarh boasts of more than 80% of bio diversity that is not found anywhere across the country. The state has 44% of forest cover with 32% of tribal population. Chhattisgarh has become a magnet of nature enthusiasts who wish to explore unique tribal arts, crafts and traditions. Chhattisgarh offers everything to a traveller - art and architecture, heritage, handicrafts, cuisine, fairs and festivals. Chhattisgarh figures in numerous tales that form part of the two great Indian epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. Chhattisgarh has a legacy of gods and goddesses and numerous temples, both ancient and modern which attracts devotees, pilgrims and travellers throughout the year. The annual mega event 'Sirpur International Dance and Music Festival' which is held every year at the Buddhist site of Sirpur is particularly note worthy. This state presents a curious mixture of modern and traditional way of life.



Bhoramdeo Temple

Bhoramdeo Temple, or the 'Khajuraho of Chhattisgarh', carved on the rocky stones in the Nagar style is an ancient Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. Situated in the Kabirdham district of Chhattisgarh, this temple was built in the period of 7th to 11th century AD and is beautifully located amidst mountain ranges. The temples are said to be built by King Ramchandra of the Nag Dynasty. The Bhoramdeo temple has a resemblance with the Sun temple of Konark and the Khajuraho temple.



Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary

Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary is named after Bar and Nawapara forest villages, which are in the heart of the sanctuary. The well-stocked forests of the sanctuary are classified as teas, sal and mixed forests. This sanctuary is famous for the frequent sighting of the Indian bison (Gaur) cheetal, sambar, nilgai, wild boar, etc.. Bar-Nawapara boasts of over 150 species of birds.

For more information, please visit

<https://www.incredibleindia.org/content/incredible-india-v2/en/destinations/states/chhattisgarh.html>

Upcoming Events

International Food & Hospitality Fair

AAHAR - The International Food & Hospitality Fair is a flagship B2B event organized by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), the premier trade promotion body of the Government of India. The 36 th edition of the event will be organised from April 26-30, 2022 at the iconic venue of Pragati Maidan (New Delhi). AAHAR is one of Asia's best known brands in Food & Hospitality shows. The show has grown by leaps & bounds in recent years and is today the well known destination for global vendors and sourcing professionals

More details:
<https://indiatrdefair.com/aahardelhi/>

RENEWABLE ENERGY INDIA EXPO

Renewable Energy India Expo popularly known as REI offers an all-inclusive platform to domestic and international manufacturers, traders, buyers and professionals from across the renewable energy domain. REI is recognized as Asia's Leading b2b expo focusing on Solar Energy, Wind Energy, Bio-Energy, Energy Storage and Electric Vehicles and charging infra. The forthcoming 15th edition of REI Expo being held during 28-30 September 2022, is estimated to attract over 700+ Exhibitors, 40,000+ trade visitors and esteemed policy-makers, decision-makers, influencers, technical experts and professionals

More details:
<https://renewableenergyindiaexpo.com/>

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More details:

<https://nalandauniv.edu.in/admissions/admission-process/>

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Federation of Indian
Chamber of Commerce &
Industry, please visit:**

<http://www.ficci.in/forthcoming-events-more.asp>

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Prepared by



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