



भारत की बात Bharat ki Baat



Newsletter of the Embassy of India in Suriname

Concurrently accredited to Barbados, Saint Lucia & St. Vincent & The Grenadines

Volume 1 / Issue No.1

June 2024

Shri Narendra Modi wins Indian elections for third consecutive time

Shri Narendra Modi was sworn-in as India's Prime Minister for the third time on 9th June 2024, following another decisive victory in the 2024 Parliamentary elections.

This victory marked the third consecutive term for Shri Modi, further solidifying his leadership.

The 2024 elections saw a remarkable voter turnout, with a significant portion of the electorate showing continued confidence in Shri Modi's leadership and vision for the country. His campaign focused on a blend of economic development, national security, and social welfare programs, which resonated widely with the populace.

Shri Modi's third term is expected to build on the foundations laid during his previous tenures, with a renewed emphasis on technological innovation, infrastructure development, and international diplomacy, further positioning India as a global powerhouse. The unprecedented third term underscores Shri Modi's enduring appeal and the trust placed in him by millions of Indians to lead the nation towards greater prosperity and stability.



The first ever Prime Minister to be born after Independence, Shri Modi has previously served as the Prime Minister of India from 2014 to 2019, and from 2019 to 2024. He also has the distinction of being the longest serving Chief Minister of Gujarat with his term spanning from October 2001 to May 2014.

In the 2014 and 2019 Parliamentary elections, Shri Modi led the Bharatiya Janata Party to record wins, securing absolute majority on both occasions. The last time that a political

party secured such an absolute majority was in the elections of 1984.

Inspired by the motto of 'SabkaSaath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas', Shri Modi has ushered in a paradigm shift in governance that has led to inclusive, development-oriented and corruption-free governance. The Prime Minister has worked with speed and scale to realise the aim of Antyodaya, or ensuring last-mile delivery of schemes and services.

World Leaders congratulate PM Modi

No less than 121 world leaders have congratulated Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his election victory.

The list includes US President Joe Biden, Russian President Vladimir Putin, French President Emmanuel Macron, UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed and Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The President of Suriname, His Excellency Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi and the Prime Minister of Barbados, Her Excellency Ms. Mia Mottley, also extended congratulatory messages through their own social media handles.



PM Modi Crosses 100 Million Followers On X Becomes Most Followed World Leader

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set another milestone by becoming the most followed world leader on the social media platform X with over 100 million followers.

PM Modi is far ahead of other world leaders like President Joe Biden of USA, who currently has 38.1 million followers, HH Sheikh Mohammed, the present ruler of Dubai (11.2 million) and Pope Francis (18.5 million)



SVG and Suriname hold activities to celebrate Indian Arrival Day

The countries of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) and Suriname commemorated the Indian Arrival day in June 2024 with various activities.

SVG commemorated 163 years anniversary of Indian arrival on 1 June at the India Drive in Calder. The road was named India Drive during the visit of Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the President of India, to SVG in May 2022.

Suriname celebrated their 151 years of Indian arrival day on 5 June at the Baba en Mai plein in Paramaribo.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted both these events in the 111th edition of his flagship radio programme “Mann ki Baat” on 30 June 2024.



Celebrations of the 10th International Day of Yoga in Suriname

The Embassy of India in Paramaribo in association with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) celebrated the 10th International Day of Yoga at Arya Dewakar Hall, J. A. Pengelstraat No. 210, Paramaribo on 21 June, 2024.

Charge d' Affaires S. Ramji, welcoming the guests spoke about the significance of the Day and the usefulness of yoga as a means for achieving holistic health. He encourages everyone to incorporate it into their daily routines and requested the participants to spread the message of yoga training given at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Center (SVCC) under the Embassy of India in Paramaribo. He also highlighted the theme of Yoga for 2024 which was 'Yoga for Self and Society'.

The event featured a one-hour session of the common yoga protocol, which was skillfully demonstrated by Director (SVCC) Dr. Somveer Arya, along with Ms. Gaitrie Phagoe and Pandit Ashish Mathura. The session saw an enthusiastic participation of around 250 people from different walks of life and of all ages, keen to embrace the benefits of yoga. The Chief Guest H.E. Dr.



Dew Sharman, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Suriname in his remarks explained the meaning of Yog in Dutch and also

tiative to celebrate the event at the Arya Dewakar Hall. He also spoke about benefits and importance of



elaborated on the ultimate stages of yogic practice. Shri Indersingh Gangabishoensing, Chairman of Arya Dewakar also addressed the gathering and welcomed the ini-

Yoga and said that we should practice more for the benefit of our health. He announced that the Arya Dewakar would like to organize a yoga session once a month and requested the Embassy to collaborate

In the run up to IDY 2024, several curtain raiser events have been organized by the Embassy across the Suriname with the active participation and support of numerous community organizations and Yoga



10th International Day of Yoga in Suriname



Celebrations of the 10th International Day of Yoga in Suriname

In continuation of International Day of Yoga 2024 celebrations, SVCC & Embassy of India organized a Yoga session with collaboration of Yoga Peetha Happiness Center, Paramaribo. Director of SVCC Dr Somveer Arya taught the Common Yoga protocol of IDY2024 and teachers of Yoga Peetha taught Full-moon meditation and Satsang.



10th International Day of Yoga activities in Saint Lucia

The International Day of Yoga 2024 was also celebrated by the Spartan Health Sciences University at their premises in Vieux Fort, Saint Lucia. Student, teachers and members of the community were part of this 10th edition of the IDY which was held on 23 June 2024 under the auspices of the High Commission of India.



Promoting environmental awareness worldwide

The Embassy of India facilitated the planting of a tree at the Suriname Hindi Parishad by a Malaysian Indian who is touring the world on his motorcycle to promote Environmental awareness.

Mr. Katiravan along with officials of the Embassy and the Chairman of the Hindi Parishad, Mr. Pramsoekh, planted trees at the premises of Hindi Parishad in Paramaribo on 4 June 2024.



Newly appointed PAHO/WHO representative in Suriname meets with Embassy officials



On 24 June 2024, Mr. Sadagopachari Ramji, Charge d'Affaires a.i. had a meeting with the newly appointed PAHO/WHO representative in Suriname, Dr. Yafflo Ouattara, at the Embassy.

The introductory meeting with Dr. Ouattara was very fruitful as it gave insights about the functioning and role of PAHO, ongoing WHO/PAHO initiatives in Suriname, present focus areas and health strategies under implementation, ongoing health and medicines related projects and cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Suriname.

They also discussed about opportunities for collaboration/cooperation with India in the field of health such as generic medicine supply from India, setting up super specialty health care facility, traditional medicine, Ayurveda, technical cooperation in rolling out services like telemedicine or e-Hospital, mobility and supply solutions for interior regions of Suriname, especially procurement of drones for medicine deliveries and incorporation of healthy lifestyle habits such as Yoga and India's ongoing bilateral cooperation with Suriname. Mr. Ramji thanked Dr. Ouattara for having the meeting and wished him the very best for his tenure in Suriname.



Ambassador Balachandran called on President Santokhi before retirement

Ambassador Dr. Shankar Balachandran called on H.E. Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, Hon'ble President of Suriname on 31 May 2024 and took a personal farewell from him.

The Ambassador expressed his gratitude for the personal attention he received and the confidence, friendship that he enjoyed from him and for taking the relationship with India to the highest ever.



The Hon'ble President thanked the Ambassador for the role and responsibilities discharged by him during his term and the enormous contributions he had made to Suriname.



SVCC and SHP jointly start "Ratna" classes



Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) and Suriname Hindi Parishad (SHP) jointly started Hindi class at Head office of the Hindi Parishad. Director of SVCC Dr. Somveer Arya will take the classes and prepare the students for the "Ratna" classes which is equal to B.A. in Hindi Literature.



Embassy officials plant trees on World Environment Day

On the occasion of World Environment Day (5th June), Embassy officials planted some trees to show their commitment for a clean and healthy world in the spirit of the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign launched by PM Modi. Ms. Asha Raghubar Kishan donated tree saplings and joined the Embassy officials and staff to celebrate World Environment Day.



भारत की बात Bharat ki Baat

www.indembassysuriname.gov.in

For more updates follow our social media

Embassy of India, Paramaribo:

@India in Suriname

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre:

@ICCR in Suriname

