

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

‘हर काम देश के नाम’

New Delhi, Magha 05, 1944
Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Stage set for the Republic Day Parade 2023; A spectacular parade to march down the Kartavya Path showcasing India’s indigenous military prowess, cultural diversity & Nari Shakti

President Smt Droupadi Murmu will lead the Nation in celebrating the 74th Republic Day from Kartavya Path in New Delhi on January 26, 2023. Egyptian President Mr Abdel Fattah El-Sisi will be the Chief Guest at the parade. Building on last year’s celebrations, in the 75th year of Independence celebrated as ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’, the celebrations this year shall witness zeal, enthusiasm, patriotic fervour and ‘Jan Bhagidari’, as envisioned by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

The week-long celebrations commenced on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of great freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. To mark the occasion, a one-of-a-kind Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance Festival ‘Aadi Shaurya - Parv Parakram ka’ was organised in New Delhi on 23rd & 24th January. The events will culminate on 30th January, which is observed as Martyrs’ Day.

The celebrations are marked by attractive performances from Vande Bharatam group of dancers from across the country, tales of bravery by Veer Gatha 2.0 participants, melodious performances by School Bands at the National War Memorial, first-ever e-invitations, largest-ever drone show and 3-D anamorphic projection.

The Parade

The Republic Day parade, which will begin at around 1030 hrs, will be a unique mix of the country’s military prowess & cultural diversity,

depicting the country's growing indigenous capabilities, Nari Shakti and emergence of a 'New India'.

The parade ceremony will commence with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visiting the National War Memorial. He will lead the nation in paying solemn tributes to the fallen heroes by laying a wreath. Thereafter, the Prime Minister and other dignitaries will head to the saluting dais at Kartavya Path to witness the parade.

As per tradition, the National Flag will be unfurled followed by the National Anthem with a booming 21-gun salute. Amongst the many firsts, the 21-gun salute will be given with 105-mm Indian Field Guns. It replaces the vintage 25 pounder gun, reflecting upon the growing 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence. Four Mi-17 1V/V5 helicopters of 105 Helicopter Unit will shower flower petals on the audience present at Kartavya Path.

The parade will commence with the President taking the salute. The parade will be commanded by Parade Commander, Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth, AtiVishisht Seva Medal, a second-generation Army officer. Major General Bhavnish Kumar, Chief of Staff, HQ Delhi Area will be the Parade Second-in-Command.

The proud winners of the highest gallantry awards will follow. They include the winners of Param Vir Chakra and Ashok Chakra. Param Vir Chakra winners Subedar Major (Honorary Captain) Bana Singh, 8 JAK LI (Retd); Subedar Major (Honorary Captain) Yogendra Singh Yadav, 18 Grenadiers (Retd) & Subedar (Honorary Lieutenant) Sanjay Kumar, 13 JAK Rifles and Ashok Chakra winners Major General CA Pithawalla (Retd); Colonel D Sreeram Kumar and Lieutenant Colonel Jas Ram Singh (Retd) will follow the Deputy Parade Commander on Jeeps. The Param Vir Chakra is awarded for the most conspicuous act of bravery and self-sacrifice in the face of the enemy, while the Ashok Chakra is awarded for similar acts of valour and self-sacrifice but, other than, in the face of the enemy.

Egyptian contingent

Marching down the Kartavya Path for the first time will be the combined Band & Marching contingent of the Egyptian Armed Forces, led by Colonel Mahmoud Mohamed Abdel Fattah El Kharasawy. The

contingent will consist of 144 soldiers, representing the main branches of the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Indian Army Contingents

The first contingent in the uniform of the 61 Cavalry will be led by Captain Raizada Shaurya Bali. The 61 Cavalry is the only serving active Horse Cavalry Regiment in the world, with the amalgamation of all the 'State Horse Units'.

The Indian Army will be represented by a Mounted Column of 61 Cavalry, nine Mechanised Columns, six marching contingents and a fly past by Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) of Army Aviation Corps. Main Battle Tank ARJUN, NAG Missile System (NAMIS), Infantry Combat Vehicle of BMP-2 SARATH, Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicle, K-9 Vajra-tracked Self-Propelled Howitzer Gun, BrahMos missile, 10m Short Span Bridge, Mobile Microwave Node & Mobile Network Centre and AKASH (New Generation Equipment) will be the main attractions in the mechanised columns.

A total of six marching contingents of the Army, including The Mechanised Infantry Regiment, The Punjab Regiment, The Maratha Light Infantry Regiment, The Dogra Regiment, The Bihar Regiment and The Gorkha Brigade will march past the saluting dais.

Veterans' Tableau

Another highlight of the parade this year will be Veterans' Tableau, with the theme 'Towards India's Amrit Kaal with Resolve – A Veterans' Commitment'. It will provide a glimpse of veterans' contributions in the last 75 years and their initiatives in shaping India's future during 'Amrit Kaal'.

Indian Navy Contingent

The Indian Navy contingent will comprise 144 young sailors, led by Lt CdrDishaAmrith as Contingent Commander. For the first time ever, the marching contingent consists of three women and six Agniveers. It will be followed by the Naval Tableau, designed on the theme 'Indian Navy – Combat Ready, Credible, Cohesive and Future Proof'. It will showcase the multi-dimensional capabilities of the Indian Navy, Nari Shakti and key indigenously designed and built assets under 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

The forward part of the tableau will illustrate the women aircrew of Dornier aircraft, highlighting all-women crew surveillance sortie undertaken last year. The main section of the tableau will display the 'Make in India' initiatives of the Navy. There will be a model of the new indigenous Nilgiri class ship with a Dhruv helicopter deploying marine commandos. On the sides, models of indigenous Kalvari class submarines will be depicted. The rear section of the tableau will display models of autonomous unmanned systems being indigenously-developed under iDEX-Sprint Challenge.

Indian Air Force Contingent

The Indian Air Force contingent will comprise 144 air warriors and four officers, led by Sqn Ldr Sindhu Reddy. The Air Force tableau, designed on the theme 'Indian Air Force Power Beyond Boundaries', will display a rotating globe highlighting IAF's expanded reach, whereby it has been able to provide humanitarian assistance across borders, as also exercises conducted with friendly countries. It will also showcase Light Combat Aircraft Tejas MK-II, Light Combat Helicopter 'Prachand', Airborne Early Warning & Control aircraft NETRA and C-295 Transport aircraft. The tableau will also display a team of GARUDs in combat gear with laser designation equipment and specialist weapons.

DRDO Tableau & Equipment

Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) will showcase one tableau and equipment. The theme of the tableau is 'Securing Nation with Effective Surveillance, Communication and Neutralising Threats'. The first part shall display Underwater Surveillance Platforms, which include sonars like Ushus-2 for submarines, Humsa series of sonars for ships and Low Frequency Dunking Sonar for helicopter launch surveillance.

The second part of this tableau will have Land Surveillance, Communication and Neutralising platforms showcasing D4 counter drone systems, which can perform real time search, detection, tracking and neutralise targets. Two units of Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile Weapon System, Battery Multifunction Radar and Missile Launcher Vehicle will also be displayed. The third part will showcase Aerial Surveillance and Communication platforms Airborne Early Warning and Control System and TAPAS BH Medium Altitude Long Endurance UAV.

The rear part will represent DRDO' Research Activities through a semiconductor R&D facility.

Indigenously-developed Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP), a modular 8X8 wheeled combat platform carried on a 70-ton Trailer will be displayed by DRDO in the form of equipment.

Indian Coast Guard Contingent

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) marching contingent will be led by Deputy Commandant Rohit Singh. The ICG, with 157 ships and 78 aircraft, is capable of countering threats at and to the sea. The continuous vigil of the ICG has enabled seizure of contraband worth over Rs 14,546 crore since its inception, including Rs 2,620 crore in 2022 alone. Its reach and capability was demonstrated during the flag hoisting on 100 inhabited & un-inhabited far-flung islands as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. The ICG has been a pioneer in women empowerment, offering opportunities to women officers in all spheres.

Contingents of CAPF & Delhi Police

Also marching down Kartavya Path will be the contingents of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) led by Assistant Commandant Poonam Gupta; Railway Protection Force led by Assistant Security Commissioner Saurav Kumar and Delhi Police led by Assistant Commissioner of Police Shweta S Sugathan. The Camel Contingent of Border Security Force (BSF) will march past the saluting dais under the command of Deputy Commandant Manohar Singh Kheechee. For the first time, female camel riders will participate in the parade, showcasing women empowerment in various fields.

NCC Contingents

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) Boys Marching contingent, comprising 148 Senior Division cadets, will be led by Senior Under Officer Pujari Sivanand of the Maharashtra Directorate. Senior Under Officer Sonali Sahoo of Odisha Directorate will head the NCC Girls Marching contingent, consisting of 148 Senior Division Cadets drawn from all 17 Directorates.

National Service Scheme contingent

The marching contingent of National Service Scheme (NSS), comprising 148 volunteers, will march under the command of

Aanchal Sharma from Himachal Pradesh, Regional Directorate of NSS, Chandigarh.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar winners

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar are conferred on children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievement in the fields of bravery, art & culture, sports, innovation and social service. Eleven winning children, in jeeps, will be driven down Kartavya Path.

Tableaux of States/UTs & Ministries/Departments

Twenty-three tableaux – 17 from States/Union Territories and six from various Ministries/Departments, depicting the nation's rich cultural heritage, economic progress and strong internal and external security will also roll down the Kartavya Path. Details of the 17 tableaux of States/UTs with their themes are as follows:

S No	State/UT	Theme
1	Andhra Pradesh	PrabhalaTheertham – A festival of Peasantry during Makara Sankranthi
2	Assam	Land of Heroes and Spiritualism
3	Ladakh	Tourism & Composite Culture of Ladakh
4	Uttarakhand	Manaskhand
5	Tripura	Sustainable Livelihood through Tourism & Organic Farming in Tripura with active participation of women
6	Gujarat	Clean Green Energy Efficient Gujarat
7	Jharkhand	Baba BaidyanathDham
8	Arunachal Pradesh	Prospects of Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh
9	Jammu & Kashmir	Naya Jammu & Kashmir
10	Kerala	Nari Shakti
11	West Bengal	Durga Puja in Kolkata: Inscribing Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO
12	Maharashtra	Sade Tin Shaktipithe& Nari Shakti
13	Tamil Nadu	Women Empowerment & Culture of Tamil Nadu

14	Karnataka	Celebrating Power of Nari
15	Haryana	International Gita Mahotsav
16	Dadar Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	Conservation of Tribal Culture & Heritage
17	Uttar Pradesh	AyodhyaDeepotsav

Details of six tableaux of Ministries/Departments are as follows:

S No	Ministry/Department	Theme
1	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (Indian Council Agriculture Research)	International Year of Millets: 2023 – India’s Initiative
2	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs)
3	Ministry of Home Affairs (Narcotics Control Bureau)	Narcotics Control Bureau: Resolve @ 75 – Drug Free India
4	Ministry of Home Affairs (Central Armed Police Forces)	Nari Shakti in CAPF
5	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (Central Public Works Department)	Biodiversity Conservation
6	Ministry of Culture	Shakti RupenaSamsthita

Cultural Performance

Cultural performances by 479 artists chosen through the nation-wide Vande Bharatam dance competition will add colour and groove to the Republic Day parade. The theme of the cultural extravaganza will be ‘Nari Shakti’ presented by 326 female dancers, ably supported by 153 male dancers, of age group 17-30 years. They will present classical, folk and contemporary fusion dances, depicting the ‘Power of Women’ through five elements Earth, Water, Air, Space and Fire. This is the second time that the dancers of the cultural programme have been selected through a Nation-wide competition.

Motorcycle Display

Another highlight of the show will be a thrilling motorcycle display by Corps of Signals' Dare Devils team. They will enthrall the audience with an array of formations, which will also include a Yoga display.

Fly Past

The grand finale and the most eagerly-awaited segment of the parade, the Fly Past, will witness a breath-taking air show by 45 aircraft of Indian Air Force, one from the Indian Navy and four helicopters of Indian Army. Vintage as well as current modern aircraft/helicopters like Rafale, MiG-29, Su-30, Su-30 Mki Jaguar, C-130, C-17, Dornier, Dakota, LCH Prachand, Apache, Sarang& AEW&C will roar in the skies above Kartavya Path, displaying different formations, including Baaz, Prachand, Tiranga, Tangail, Vajrang, Garud, Bheem, Amrit and Trishul. The concluding Vertical Charlie maneuver will be performed by Rafale fighter aircraft.

Like last year, Doordarshan will broadcast cockpit videos during the fly past. The ceremony will culminate with the national anthem and the release of Tri-colour balloons.

Special Invitees

This year, invites have been sent to common people from all walks of the society such as Shramyogis involved in construction of Central Vista, Kartavya Path, New Parliament Building, milk, vegetable vendors, and street vendors etc. These special Invitees will be prominently seated at Kartavya Path.

Unique activities

A number of unique activities formed the part of Republic Day Celebrations this year. These are:

1. **Military Tattoo & Tribal Dance festival:**As part of RDC and to mark the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (celebrated as Parakram Diwas), a Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance festival 'Aadi-Shaurya - Parv Parakram ka' was organised at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi on January 23 & 24, 2023. Thousands of people were enthralled by 10 Military Tattoo and 20 Tribal Dance performances. The event was interspersed by performances by famous Bollywood playback singer Shri Kailash Kher.

2. **Vande Bharatam 2.0:** The second edition of Vande Bharatam dance competition was organised as part of RDC 2023. Entries were sought from October 15 - November 10, 2022 from participants in the age group of 17-30 years in the genres of Folk/Tribal, Classical and Contemporary/ Fusion. State/UT-level and Zonal-level competitions were conducted from November 17 to December 10, 2022 by the seven Zonal Cultural Centres under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture. The Grand finale was held in New Delhi on December 19 & 20, 2022 which witnessed participation of 980 dancers.
3. **Veer Gatha 2.0:** Veer Gatha, one of the unique projects launched as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' last year, was organised to inspire and spread awareness among children about the gallant deeds and sacrifices of the Armed Forces. This year too, the Tri-Services organised virtual and face-to-face interaction of school children with Gallantry Award winners and the students (from 3rd to 12th Standard) submitted their entries in the form of poems, essays, paintings, multimedia presentations etc. More than 19 lakh entries were received from all over the country out of which 25 were selected as winners. They were felicitated by Raksha Mantri at a ceremony in New Delhi on 25th January. They shall also attend the RD parade.
4. **Bharat Parv:** Reflecting the 'Jan Bhagidari' theme, 'Bharat Parv' will be organised at Gyan Path in front of Red Fort, Delhi from January 26-31, 2023 by the Ministry of Tourism. It will showcase Republic Day Tableaux, performances by the Military bands, cultural performances, Food Courts serving pan India cuisines and Crafts Bazaar.
5. **E-invitation:** This year, physical invitation cards for guests and spectators have been replaced by e-invitations. A dedicated portal www.amantran.mod.gov.in was launched for the purpose. Sale of tickets, admit cards, invitation cards and car parking labels have been issued online through this portal. This ensured the whole process to be more secure & paperless and enabled people from all parts of the country to attend this national event.
6. **School Band Performance at NWM:** An All-India School Band competition was organised for various schools to compete and perform in the run up to the Republic Day to encourage values of discipline, teamwork & national pride among the children. Over 300 schools participated in the competition organised by Ministry of Defence in coordination with Ministry of Education. Eight school bands were selected, which performed at the National War

Memorial from January 15-22, 2023. Prince Academy of Higher Education, Sikar, Rajasthan was adjudged as winners in both girls and boys Brass band categories. In the Pipe Band category, Turbo Higher Secondary School, Darjeeling, West Bengal bagged the top spot in the boys section, while Government Girls Secondary School, Namchi, South Sikkim was named winners in the girls section.

7. **Drone Show:** The biggest drone show in India, comprising 3,500 indigenous drones, will light up the evening sky over the Raisina hills during Beating The Retreat ceremony on January 29th, weaving myriad forms of national figures/events through smooth synchronisation. It would depict the success of start-up ecosystem, technological prowess of the country's youth and pave the way for future path-breaking trends. The event will be organised by M/s Botlabs Dynamics.
8. **Anamorphic Projection:** For the first time, a 3-D anamorphic projection will be organised during Beating the Retreat Ceremony on the façade of North and South Block.

ABB/Savvy