



Indian Embassy awards prizes to quiz winners

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As part of the celebrations of India@75 Amrit Mahotsav program, the Embassy of India to Bhutan organized a special program for Bhutanese nationals over the last few months.

Finally, the most coveted awarding of prizes along with certificates for the winners of several competitions was held yesterday at the Indian Embassy premises.

The special programs included quiz competitions, World Hindi Day competition held in two age categories, India@75 inter Dzongkhag quiz competition for Bhutanese school students and national yoga competition for Bhutanese youth.

The press release from the Embassy of India states that the idea to launch an online quiz competition, aptly named "Bharat Ko Janiye" to enhance spread of knowledge about India, came from the PM Narendra Modi during his address at the 13th Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas Convention held on 8 January 2015 in Gandhinagar.

The principal objective behind introduction of the quiz contest was to generate interest amongst the



Education Minister Jai Bir Rai and Indian Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj with the winners of the World Hindi Day and National Yoga Competition

young Indian diaspora and overseas Indians so that their cultural and knowledge connect with India was maintained even while residing abroad.

On the launch of India@75 in Bhutan, the Embassy of India hosted a nationwide quiz in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Bhutan Broadcasting Service (BBS).

Through this unique initiative, students of Classes X-XII from 21 schools, one from each Dzongkhag including the Royal Academy in Paro, participated in the competition.

The preliminary rounds

of the India@75 witnessed 21 teams comprising of two students each wherein the participants was quizzed on India's achievements from 1947 onwards till date, and on the special India-Bhutan Friendship through the past 52 years.

A total of 25 questions were asked simultaneously to all teams and the four teams scoring the highest marks entered into the final round of the India@75 quiz which was broadcast live on BBS TV2 channel.

The press release further states that the PM Modi had launched the celebrations of India@75

on 12 March 2021 at the Sabarmati Ashram, Gandhinagar, Gujarat exactly 75 weeks ahead of the 75th year of India's independence on 15 August 2022.

On the occasion Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "The Azadi Amrit Mahotsav represents the elixir of energy of independence; elixir of inspirations of the warriors of freedom struggle; elixir of new ideas and pledges; and elixir of Aatmanirbharta. Therefore, this Mahotsav is a festival of awakening of the nation; festival of fulfilling the dream of good governance; and the festival of global peace and develop-

ment."

Meanwhile, Indian Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj gifted 100 copies of the 'Bhutan At Her Best-Sunrays through the rain' book to the Ministry of Education for distribution to schools in the country.

The ambassador thanked Lyonpo Jai Bir Rai and BBS for their active collaboration with the Embassy of India that led to the live broadcast of the finals of the India@75 quiz on BBS television.

Meanwhile, Lyonpo Jai Bir Rai, who attended the event as the chief guest, awarded the prizes along with certificates to the winners of the competitions.



The consecration of the Jigme Khesar Strict Nature Reserve head office at Chumpa under Bjee geog of Haa Dzongkhag was graced by Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests on 25 June. The independent reserve head office will strengthen and enhance the management effectiveness of Jigme Khesar Strict Nature Reserve (JKSNR), Bhutan's only a strict nature reserve and one of the most diverse protected areas containing globally significant biodiversity (Pic: Bhutan For Life)