



INDIA
26 JANUARY
ONE NATION
HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY



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Republic Day (India)

Republic Day honours the date on which the Constitution of India came into effect on **26 January 1950** replacing the Government of **India Act (1935)** as the governing document of India.

The Constitution was adopted by the Indian Constituent Assembly on **26 November 1949**, and came into effect on **26 January 1950** with a democratic government system, completing the country's transition towards becoming an independent republic. 26 January was chosen as the Republic day because it was on this day in 1929 when Declaration of Indian Independence (Purna Swaraj) was proclaimed by the Indian National Congress as opposed to the Dominion status offered by British Regime.

Delhi Republic Day parade

Delhi Republic Day parade is held in the capital, New Delhi organised by the **Ministry of Defence**. Commencing from the gates of the **Rashtrapati Bhavan** (the President's residence), **Raisina Hill** on Rajpath past the India Gate, this event is the main attraction of India's Republic Day Celebrations lasting three days. The parade showcases India's Defence Capability, Cultural and Social Heritage.

Nine to twelve different regiments of the Indian Army in addition to the Navy, and Air Force with their bands march past in all their finery and official decorations. The President of India who is the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Armed Forces, takes the salute.

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Twelve contingents of various para-military forces of India and other civil forces also take part in this parade.

How India's Republic Day Chief Guest is chosen

70th Republic Day 2019: South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa will be the Chief Guest at the 70th Republic Day. Why is this choice so important? What preparations follow? An expert explains:

The government extends its invitation to a Head of State or Government after careful consideration. This process commences almost six months ahead of Republic Day. There is a range of issues that the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) considers, the foremost among which is the nature of India's relationship with the country concerned. Among other factors are political, economic, and commercial relations, the neighbourhood, military cooperation, prominence in regional groupings, or past association in the Non Aligned Movement, in which newly independent countries united in a common struggle against colonialism, apartheid, and the domination of the developed countries.

India's emotional attachment with the NAM countries remains strong, while developmental imperatives such as trade, technical knowhow and financial cooperation have opened up new vistas and opportunities for closer relations with other countries. All these considerations often point in different directions. Choosing a Chief Guest, therefore, poses a challenge.

The MEA, after deliberations, seeks the Prime Minister's approval, after which Rashtrapati Bhavan's clearance is sought. India's ambassadors in the concerned countries then try to ascertain discreetly the potential Chief Guests' programme and availability for Republic Day. It may well be that the high dignitary has an unavoidable engagement at that time, such as a session of Parliament or an incoming State visit.

Highlights Of Republic Day Parade With "RDP India" App

In sync with the Digital India campaign of the central government, the **Ministry of Defence** has launched a mobile app "**RDP India 2019**", to let people watch highlights of the Republic Day event all over the world.

The app was launched on Saturday on the occasion of 70th Republic Day. People present at the parade could use the app to get details of the parade as they watched it live.

"It contains information about the parade this Republic Day in Rajpath, New Delhi, including the order of the March, details of the tableaux presented by different States and Ministries, children cultural performances, fly past and names of recipients of Pradhan **Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2019**," according to a statement.

"It was extremely informative to the spectators witnessing the parade and was widely appreciated. The app also had the provision for live streaming of the Parade," the statement added. People who wanted to get information on the theme and ideas depicted in the tableaux or watch the entire parade, could do so by downloading the application.

Republic Day Parade 2019 : Tripura Bags Best Tableau Award

With the **theme 'Empowering Rural Economy the Gandhian Way'**, Tripura bagged the **best state tableau in this year's** Republic Day parade. The **second position was bagged by Jammu and Kashmir** while the state of **Punjab was placed in the third spot**.

The awards were presented to the winners by Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** at a function on Monday, January 28. In the Department category, the prize was jointly shared by CISF and ICAR.

Moreover, **Navy Children's School Chanakyapuri**, Delhi was adjudged as the best performing school while the **Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya Kishan Ganj**, Delhi, was given the consolation prize. The CPWD was given a special prize for the floral decoration in the national capital.

Republic Day parade chief guest

- 1950-** President Sukarno (Indonesia)
- 1951-** King Tribhuvan Bir Bikram Shah (Nepal)
- 1952-** No Invitation
- 1953-** No Invitation
- 1954-** King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck (Bhutan)
- 1955-** Governor General Malik Ghulam Muhammad (Pakistan First guest for parade at Rajpath)
- 1956-** Chancellor of the Exchequer R. A. Butler (United Kingdom) Chief Justice Kōtarō Tanaka (Japan)
- 1957-** Minister of Defence Georgy Zhukov (Soviet Union)
- 1958-** Marshall Ye Jianying (China)
- 1959-** Duke of Edinburgh Prince Philip (United Kingdom)
- 1960-** Chairman Kliment Voroshilov (Soviet Union)
- 1961-** Queen Elizabeth II (United Kingdom)
- 1962-** Prime Minister Viggo Kampman (Denmark)
- 1963-** King Norodom Sihanouk (Cambodia)
- 1964-** Chief of Defence Staff Lord Louis Mountbatten (United Kingdom)
- 1965-** Food and Agriculture Minister Rana Abdul Hamid (Pakistan)
- 1966-** No invitation
- 1967-** King Mohammed Zahir Shah (Afghanistan)
- 1968-** Chairman Alexei Kosygin (Soviet Union), President Josip Broz Tito (Yugoslavia)
- 1969-** Prime Minister Todor Zhivkov (Bulgaria)
- 1970-** King of the Belgians Baudouin (Belgium)
- 1971-** President Julius Nyerere (Tanzania)
- 1972-** Prime Minister Seewoosagur Ramgoolam (Mauritius)
- 1973-** President Mobutu Sese Seko (Zaire)
- 1974-** President Josip Broz Tito (Yugoslavia) Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike (Sri Lanka)
- 1975-** President Kenneth Kaunda (Zambia)
- 1976-** Prime Minister Jacques Chirac (France)
- 1977-** First Secretary Edward Gierek (Poland)
- 1978-** President Patrick Hillery (Ireland)
- 1979-** Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser (Australia)

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- 1980-** President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing (France)
1981- President Jose Lopez Portillo (Mexico)
1982- King Juan Carlos I (Spain)
1983- President Shehu Shagari (Nigeria)
1984- King Jigme Singye Wangchuck (Bhutan)
1985- President Raúl Alfonsín (Argentina)
1986- Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu (Greece)
1987- President Alan Garcia (Peru)
1988- President J. R. Jayewardene (Sri Lanka)
1989- General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh (Vietnam)
1990- Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth (Mauritius)
1991- President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom (Maldives)
1992- President Mário Soares (Portugal)
1993- Prime Minister John Major (United Kingdom)
1994- Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong (Singapore)
1995- President Nelson Mandela (South Africa)
1996- President Fernando Henrique Cardoso (Brazil)
1997- Prime Minister Basdeo Panday (Trinidad and Tobago)
1998- President Jacques Chirac (France)
1999- King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev (Nepal)
2000- President Olusegun Obasanjo (Nigeria)
2001- President Abdelaziz Bouteflika (Algeria)
2002- President Cassam Uteem (Mauritius)
2003- President Mohammed Khatami (Iran)
2004- President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva (Brazil)
2005- King Jigme Singye Wangchuck (Bhutan)
2006- King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz al-Saud (Saudi Arabia)
2007- President Vladimir Putin (Russia)
2008- President Nicolas Sarkozy (France)
2009- President Nursultan Nazarbayev (Kazakhstan)
2010- President Lee Myung Bak (South Korea)
2011- President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (Indonesia)
2012- Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra (Thailand)
2013- King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck (Bhutan)
2014- Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (Japan)
2015- President Barack Obama (United States)
2016- President François Hollande (France)
2017- Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan (United Arab Emirates)
2018- Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah (Brunei)
Ten guests (Heads of ASEAN states)
Prime Minister Hun Sen (Cambodia)
President Joko Widodo (Indonesia)
Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith (Laos)

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Prime Minister Najib Razak (Malaysia)
State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (Myanmar)
President Rodrigo Roa Duterte (Philippines)
Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong Singapore (invitation)
Prime Minister Nguyễn Xuân Phúc (Vietnam)
2019- President Cyril Ramaphosa (South Africa)

Quiz

Question 1: Who was the chief guest on 70th Republic day?

- A) Rodrigo Roa Duterte
- B) Yingluck Shinawatra
- C) Cyril Ramaphosa
- D) Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva

Question 2: Who got Best Tableau award ?

- A) Mizoram
- B) Tripura
- C) Goa
- D) Jammu and Kashmir

Question 3: On Republic Day App launched by Ministry of Defence?

- A) RDP India 2019
- B) RRD India 2019
- C) DRP India 2019
- D) DDR India 2019

Question 4: On Which year First Republic Day was celebrated?

- A) 1949
- B) 1951
- C) 1950
- D) 1947

Answer

- 1-C
- 2-B
- 3-A
- 4-C

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