NATION **Curtain-raisers to celebrate 75th Independence Day of India**



SOCIAL

Tenzin Choden / Thimphu

With the Independence Day of India around the corner, the Embassy of India in Thimphu is organizing a bout of events to commemorate 75th Independence Day of India.

The celebratory events for the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence will continue throughout the vear, it first started in the February month of 2021 in Bhutan

Indian Ambassador to Bhutan, Ruchira Kamboj as a part of India@75 celebrations to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence, she will meet Members of theNational Women's cricket team of Bhutan on August 2, 2021 as the Lady Dragons will be participating in the upcoming International

Cricket Council Women's Asia qualifier in Malaysia. In order to celebrate the common love for cricket between India and Bhutan and in keeping with the close and friendly relations between the two countries, the Indian Embassy has offered its grounds for the month of August to the Women's National Team for their training sessions. During this time, the team will also attend yoga classes.

In the background of India and Bhutan's space odyssey and joint collaboration towards building Bhutan's first satellite, the Embassy of India is organizing an interactive session on the topic "India's Space Program- an Incredible Journey" on 4 August 2021. The keynote speaker for the event will be Shri R. Umamaheswaran, Distinguished Scientist and Scientific Secretary, Indian Space Research Organisation who

will address an audience of Bhutanese space engineers and science students from Lungtenzampa Middle Secondary School, Motithang Higher Secondary School, Royal Academy, Paro and college students of the Roval Thimphu College.

To celebrate engineering excellence-In this ceremony to celebrate the success of India-Bhutan cooperation in hydropower, the Brunel Medal for Excellence in Civil Engineering will be presented to Lyonpo Loknath Sharma, Chairman, Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project Authority by the Ambassador of India to Bhutan. The Brunel Medal is awarded every year to recognize excellence in civil engineering by the Institution of Civil Engineers, United Kingdom.

The Embassy will be organizing a virtual conference on the contribution of Assam in India's freedom struggle, with Mr. Samudra

Gupta Kashyap as the keynote speaker. Lyonpo Loknath Sharma, Minister of Economic Affairs of Bhutan as the Chief Guest.

The Embassy of India launched a video-byte competition on the subject "What India means to me?" inviting participation from the youth of Bhutan. The best three entries in this video-byte competition will be awarded prizes in a special ceremony held at India House. Participants of an online course on Gandhian Philosophy conducted by renowned Gandhian scholar Dr. ShobhanaRadhakrishna will also receive theircertificates on this occasion. A cultural programme with Indian music and presentation of a few Yoga Asanas will also be part of this special function.

Indian Embassy will also present a story of a statue of Zhabdrung Ngawang prominently Namgyel placed in the centre of the

main hall of the Simtokha Dzong. Resplendent in his magnificence, Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel beams down happily in an avatar statue, which is six feet tall and believed to be more than 250 years old. The Ambassador of India will trace the background.

Meanwhile, at India@75 celebrations to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence, speaking at India@75 Export promotion of Indian Mangoes, Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj said, "Indian Mangoes are extremely popular in Bhutan and there is even greater scope for promoting this agri-product in the Bhutanese market. India is committed to ensuring full support to Bhutan on agri-trade matters during COVID times."

The events to mark the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence are celebrated under the ambit of 'AzadiKaAmrutMahhotsav'.