In a historic first, Air India, landed at Vancouver YVR airport on 20 May 2020 to begin repatriation of stranded Indians in Canada. Special Air India Flight AI 1190 took off from Vancouver on 21 May with 200 Indian nationals comprising of students, elderly and stranded visitors bringing relief to many. Some happy faces, seen off by Consul General and Consulate officials, A happy senior citizen going home watch full video

The Toronto leg of the historic #vandebharatmission started with flight AI- at 2245 hrs on 21 May carrying 315 stranded Indians back home to Delhi & Amritsar to reunite with their families. Watch happy passengers going home
High Commissioner’s interview with India Today

“More than 5,000 Indians stranded in Canada have registered to return back. We have five flights scheduled for next week for the return of the stranded Indian in Canada”

Watch High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria interview with India Today

COVID-19: First consignment of 5 Million HCQ Tablets from India reaches Canada

India has been helping the world with medical supplies. A consignment of five million tablets of Hydroxychloroquine from India arrived in Toronto, on May 5, as a part of the cooperation in the fight against COVID-19. Read here

INDIA SUPPLY CHAIN AT WORK

Pharmaceuticals get to where they are needed! It is wonderful to see special medical shipment delivered to Canada from India in pandemic times. API of HCQ sulphate imported by Apotex. Committed to keeping global supply chain going. Started from Maharashtra on May 17 in Maharashtra and arrived in Toronto on May 21
In our joint efforts to inspire and strengthen India’s fight against COVID19, a motivational song titled “United We Fight” was released by ICCR, New Delhi. The song is to help people stay united & ignite hope in the hearts of people and encourage them to think positive in these tough times. **Watch here.**

**The Silk Route Festival** is dedicated to promoting the indigenous culture of Ladakh and the Nubra Valley. It features an array of cultural programs, music, traditional foods, handicrafts, sports, and of course camel safaris through the sand dunes.


**Our forthcoming event:**
**Watch live streaming** of Gandhi Katha by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna on our Facebook page on Sunday, 07 June 2020 from 1000 hrs. to 1100 hrs.
Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announces special economic package; comprehensive package of around US$ 260 billion, total package equivalent to 10% of India’s GDP. PM also gives a call for self reliant India; lays down five pillars of Atmanirbhar Bharat. See the story
Cabinet approves additional funding of Rs. Three lakhs crore through introduction of ECLGS

Union Cabinet has approved additional funding of up to Rs. 3 Lakh crores through introduction of Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS). GECLS facility to help eligible Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) borrowers, including interested MUDRA borrowers. Read more

Swachh Bharat: India’s Sanitation Revolution

These unprecedented times are reminding us all how sanitation and hygiene are crucial to prevent diseases. Even in these tough times, we are committed to continuing our critical missions, and we believe it is now more relevant than ever.

Watch an inspiring short film on the Swachh Bharat Mission produced by National Geographic in collaboration with the Government of India. The film has also been screened on the NatGeo channel.

EDUCATION

On May 29, 2020, High Commissioner addressed the Canadian Members Council (CMC) Annual Meeting 2020 of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) and shared thoughts with members adding that the Institute has worked for more than half a century in promoting education and scientific ties between India and Canada. Prof. John Reid, President SICI thanked the High Commissioner for his address.

Extension of deadline for Admission at University of Delhi, click here for details

Admissions open for the Master’s program for the academic batch 2020-22 at Nālandā University. For more details click

STUDY IN INDIA
Advisory for Canadian OCI card holders

- The Government of India has decided to allow travel of certain categories of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card holders to India in relaxation of the existing travel restrictions. The following categories of Canadian OCI card holders are now permitted to enter India:
  
  (i) Minor children born to Indian nationals abroad and holding OCI cards.
  (ii) OCI cardholders who wish to come to India on account of family emergencies like death in family.
  (iii) Couples, where one spouse is an OCI cardholder and the other is an Indian national and they have a permanent residence in India.
  (iv) University students who are OCI cardholders (not legally minors) but whose parents are Indian citizens living in India.

- All scheduled international commercial passenger services remain closed till 2359 hrs IST of 31st May, 2020.
- Canadian OCI card holders, in above categories, who wish to travel to India are requested to approach the nearest Indian Mission or Consulate for further facilitation.

May 22, 2020
Ottawa

#IndiaFightsCorona

Vande Bharat Mission

8 additional flights from Canada

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From Toronto

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Flight timings are indicative and subject to change.
COMMUNITY VIBES

On May 12, 2020 Indo-Canadian Business Chamber (ICBC) in collaboration with the High Commission of India, Ottawa organised a brainstorming video session on strengthening bilateral ties and prospects of Indian businesses in Canada.

Yoga is a great way to improve your mental and physical activity. We organised an online session with ISHA Yoga on “Simha Kriya: Yoga for Respiratory Health” which is a simple but powerful Yogic process to boost immunity and enhance lung capacity. [Watch video]

Our thanks for the efforts made by Indo-Canadians to help Indian students and nationals affected by COVID 19

Indian community in Ottawa is contributing to our fight against COVID 19. Punjabi Community Health Services (PCHS), Ottawa distributed free disposable masks and Masks Unlimited, Ottawa is donating fabric face masks and other protective equipment.

The Indo-Canadian Community Centre has donated over $62000 for its “ICCC COVID_19 RELIEF FUND” to The Ottawa Hospital and other charities besides providing with face masks, meals to front line workers, support to Indian students and organising online Yoga classes.