

Karnataka gets its highest monumental flag pole at National Military Memorial, Bengaluru

207 feet high Tiranga hoisted by H.E. Shri Hansraj Bhardwaj, Governor of Karnataka, Shri. Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri K.J. George, Hon'ble Minister of Home, Karnataka, and Shri Naveen Jindal, Hon'ble MP and President, Flag Foundation of India

- *Monumental flag hoisted on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the historic judgement by the Supreme Court on January 23, 2004, ruling that hoisting the National Flag is a fundamental right of citizens of the country.*
- *Hoisting part of Flag Foundation of India's initiative to inspire young Indians to take pride in displaying the Tiranga and instil a sense of nationalism and patriotism among the citizens.*

Bengaluru, 23rd January 2014: The Governor of Karnataka, H.E. Shri Hansraj Bhardwaj, **Shri. Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri K.J. George, Hon'ble Minister of Home, Karnataka** along with Member of Parliament and President of the Flag Foundation of India, Shri Naveen Jindal hoisted the highest flag pole in Karnataka, measuring 207 ft. in height, at the National Military Memorial on T. Chowdaiah Road here today.

The monumental flag was hoisted on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the historic judgement by the Supreme Court on January 23, 2004, which stated that hoisting the National Flag is a fundamental right of the citizens of the country.

January 23 is also the birth anniversary of noted freedom fighter Subhash Chandra Bose and the commencement of the Flag Week celebrations that will culminate on January 30, 2014, the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi, at a mega event in New Delhi.

The event, Sadbhavna concert, will see thousands of people across the country observe a minute's silence to honour the great Mahatma, who sacrificed his life for the nation's freedom struggle. People from all walks of life will also join hands to form a human chain and chant 'Raghupati Raghav' remembering the Father of the Nation.

The hoisting of mammoth sized flag poles is part of Flag Foundation of India's initiative to inspire young Indians to take pride in displaying the National Flag and instil a sense of nationalism and patriotism among the citizens.

The Tiranga hoisted is on a 207-foot-tall flag mast, weighing 31 kg, measuring 48 ft. in width and 72 ft. in length. The flag will be the highest flag in Karnataka and second such flag mast in the state. The first, measuring 100 ft., is located at Jindal Steel Works plant at Vijayanagar.

Speaking at the occasion, Shri Naveen Jindal, Member of Parliament said, “The Tiranga enshrines the very soul of our republic and the ideals of its Constitution. The national flag not only symbolises the essential values of life, but is also evocative of the tireless struggle of lakhs of people who sacrificed their lives for the country’s freedom. Today, with the largest youth populace in the world, India is in an enviable position. Hence, it is for the younger generation to keep this Tiranga flying high, keeping in mind the principles the flag stands for, and steering our country on a growth trajectory. I urge the youth of the country to go out and display the Tiranga with pride!”

The monumental flag is made from a weather proof knitted polyester fabric called ‘Deneir Polyester’ manufactured in Mumbai. The *Chakra* of the flag has been painted by using specialized printing process. This concept of hoisting the National Flag at such great height is known as ‘Monumental Flag’, which is never lowered even at the sunset as they are to be adequately illuminated. This comes after a policy decision by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 23rd December 2009, which allowed the National Flag to fly day and night on a pole of a height of 100 ft. and above with proper illumination.

The concept of monumental flag poles in India is also recent and was conceived by the founder of the Flag Foundation, Shri Naveen Jindal, in 2009. The first monumental flag pole measuring 207 ft. in height was installed at Kaithal, Haryana. Ever since the Foundation has installed such flags at 10 places in the country. The one which is being now commissioned today is the 11th one and second in Karnataka.

Besides 207 high monumental flag poles, the foundation has established 33 100 ft. tall flag masts across the country, including at 12 important military establishments. In all there are by now 44, that is the highest number in the world. No other country in the world has so many monumental flag poles. Besides India, there are nine more countries, who have got such monumental flag poles.

The purpose of having monumental flag poles is to create a monument around the flag pole, so that it becomes a landmark for the city and promotes tourism. Normally, flags are hoisted on small poles of 20 ft. In the case of monumental flag poles they are more than 100 ft. Therefore, they cannot be overlooked or unnoticed. It is their mammoth size and giant dimension that make them monumental and also invoke a sense of nationalism and patriotism.

More details about monumental flags- <http://www.flagfoundationofindia.in/monumental-flags.html>

About Flag Foundation of India

The Flag Foundation Of India was set up as a registered society under the societies registration act of 1980, a non-profit body in January 2002, after Hon'ble MP Shri Naveen Jindal won a decade long legal battle when the Hon'ble Supreme Court ordered the historic

judgement that enabled all Indians to display our National Flag with respect, dignity and honor thus becoming a fundamental right of every citizen.

Inspired by the judgment, the 'Flag Foundation of India' was established by Shri Naveen Jindal with a vision to popularize the display of the Tiranga by more and more Indians, with a great sense of pride. The Flag epitomises as the greatest symbol of our 'unity in diversity'. It has been functioning over a decade now with the aim of promoting spirit of nationalism, patriotism and love for the national flag of the country through its liberal use and display.

The Flag Foundation of India is a sincere effort to rekindle that spirit of nationalism amongst the citizens. It is an endeavour to build a relationship of today's youth with the Tricolor so that it becomes a power symbol of our struggle for independence, and serves as a great source of inspiration for countless Indians, spread across the globe, bringing laurels to the country in whatever the field they are.

In its endeavor to promote the use of the national flag by the general public, the Foundation has been organizing talks on the subject, has released books containing information on the flag and audio cassettes with patriotic songs rendered by noted singers of India. Flag Foundation has also organized several Tiranga runs in Delhi and Haryana.

More about Flag Foundation of India- <http://www.flagfoundationofindia.in/>