

THE FLAG FLIES HIGH

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A VISIT to the Capital is incomplete for people who miss going to Central Park in Connaught Place. Why? Here's why - the largest flag of India, that is located here, adds that 'something special' to the lively atmosphere in the heart of the Capital.

The flag which has become a symbol of the spirit of 'Indianness' was hoisted by Naveen Jindal, Member of Parliament and President of Flag Foundation of India. The actual height of the flagpole is 207 ft and it is the heaviest flag till date made of 37 kgs of silk and 45 kgs of knitted polyester. The venue of the flag was a critical choice as the Central Park has 8 radials around Rajeev Chowk and people can come in from any point and get a prominent view of the

Tiranga. Since we got to hear that the flag completed a whole year flying proudly, we tried to find some interesting facts about this tricolour. 'Flag Foundation of India's endeavor is to encourage all Indians to be patriotic on all 365 days of the year, and not just on specific days such as the Republic Day and Independence Day. True patriotism lies in sincerely, honestly and diligently working for the flag's honour and its respectful display,' said KV Singh, CEO, Flag Foundation of India.

Reportedly, the expenses to maintain this flag include Rs 8,000-10,000 for one-time repair of the flag whenever required; Rs 64,000 for a new flag - if ever it needs

replacement; and Rs 52,000 per month for three guards, CCTV cameras installed around it, and other miscellaneous expenses.

"When we display our National Flag, we rise above our religion, regional and political affiliations and show our love for the nation. We feel a sense of pride as the flag unfurls in front of our eyes to unfold its vibrant colors. Display of Tiranga, our National Flag, is a way of expressing our love for, and faith in, our nation," Jindal said.

The artist who is involved in designing this flag is Sanjeev Khatri who comes from Nasik, Maharashtra. He is the M D of Lancer Reinforcements company that is well known in the field of composites, architecture, landscaping and outdoor living products. The flag of Central Park has also been featured in various com-



mercial cinemas of Bollywood, like *Humpty Sharma Ki Dulhania*, *God Tussi Great Ho*. Figures and facts aside - the stunning flag in the heart of Central Park makes us all feel a flutter of excitement when we see it fly against the sky. Let's admit it - we all thoroughly enjoy the spirit of being Indian.

