

Republic Day Celebrations

15th August or the Independence Day is celebrated in memory of the 15th August, 1947 when we got our independence, while 26th Jan. is celebrated as a mark of memory of 26th Jan. 1930. On this day the country took a pledge on the bank of river Ravi to keep on fighting till the country achieved complete independence. It is also celebrated in memory of 26th Jan, constitution. The 26th of Jan. is popularly known as President's day, just as 15th August is known as P. M's Day.

26th Jan. is celebrated with great show and excitement. There is the grand march of a massive procession at India Gate where the President takes the salute of three wings of the army i.e. land forces, navy and air force. The President is cheered by a distinguished gathering of high officials of the govt. of India. M.Ps., respectable gentry of the city and foreign diplomats. On the night prior to the Republic Day, the President addresses the nation exhorting them to put their shoulders with a new zeal to the work that lies ahead.

The President also gives national awards like Ashoka Chakra, Padma Vibhushan and Padma Ratna to those who have distinguished themselves in the fields of art, literature, social service, sports, games and chivalry. After a brief ceremony, the President goes back to the Rashtrapati Bhawan and the rest of the procession is Curzon road, Connaught Place, Minto Road, Fatehpuri, Chandni Chowk and the Red Fort.

The procession consists of marching parade by the three wings of the army, NCC AND ACC. Cadets, school children Delhi police and fire brigade service, artillery tanks, anti air craft guns and tableaux. From early in the morning, men women and children begin to line the route. A large number of people from outside Delhi also come to see the march past. No fewer than a million people take part in the Republic Day Celebration.

Tableaux attract the attention of the on lookers more than anything else. Some of the tableaux represent the variety of life in the country. A few represent some historical aspect and some contain models of new projects that have been constructed or are under way.

After the procession has passed. A vast humanity is seen moving towards their homes. Hawkers have a high sale on this day.

In the evening, there used to be a firework display at the Ramlila Grounds. The Rashtrapati Bhawan, Secretariat Buildings, Delhi Corporation and New Delhi Municipal Committee buildings, and the whole area around India Gate and

Connaught Place were decorated with multi colored electric bulbs. There was illuminations one large scale. The whole scene looked like a fairy land.

Long live the "Republic Day!