

Info Capsule

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM INAUGURATES EXHIBITION 'QUIT INDIA' AND 'AZAD HIND FAUJ - 75TH ANNIVERSARY (1942-2017)¹

On the occasion of 75th Anniversary of the Quit India Movement and the Azad Hind Fauj, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (I/C) for Culture and Tourism inaugurated an exhibition “**Quit India and Azad Hind Fauj – 75th Anniversary (1942-2017)**” in the National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi on August 9, 2017. Addressing on the occasion, Dr Sharma said that the ‘Quit India Movement’ was an important milestone in the Indian Freedom Movement which made the entire nation determined to attain freedom from the British rule. Millions of Indians responded to Mahatma Gandhi’s clarion call and the mantra of ‘Do or Die’. Gandhi Ji and prominent freedom struggle leaders were all arrested on August 9, 1942. Dr Sharma said that the Prime Minister, in his ‘Man ki Baat’ of July 30, 2017, said: ‘Our young generation must know what had happened on the August 9, 1942.’ The forthcoming exhibition is just such endeavour.

The exhibition will continue till September 1, 2017. The exhibition is based on public records, private papers, photographs, newspaper reports and proscribed literature banned by the British Government which came out during the last phase of freedom movement. Some of original papers are on display in this exhibition.

The exhibition has large digital content which can be accessed through interactive mode. The film presenting the passing of the “Quit India Resolution”, arrest of freedom struggle leaders, the role of INA and Subhas Chandra Bose is also on display.

The exhibition is spread over four sections viz:

1. The Prelude to the Quit India Movement
2. The Actual Movement
3. The Impact of the Movement and
4. The Indian National Army and Azad Hind Fauj.

(1) The Prelude to the Quit India Movement: The Section displays documents/reports pertaining to the coming of the Cripps Mission to India and its failure, Gandhiji’s description of the offer of the Mission as “post-dated cheque”. The section also depicts the All India Congress Committee resolution of July 14, 1942 at Wardha and its adoption on August 8, 1942 in Mumbai.

(2) The Actual Movement: This section includes the coining of the term “Quit India” and “Do or Die” by Yusuf Mehar Ali, besides Gandhi’s message in his own words ‘*Karenge Ya Marenge – Mat Puccho Kyon*’. Depicting the calendar of events, the section also highlights the role of important personalities like Sarojini Naidu, Suchita Kripalani, Aruna Asaf Ali, Ram Manohar Lohia, Jai Prakash Narayan, J.B. Kripalani and Usha Mehta (who was instrumental in setting up private radio broadcast).

¹ Available at: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx>

(3) **The impact of the Movement:** The section reflects the disturbances that occurred all over the country after the arrest of the prominent leaders on August 9, 1942. The exhibits also showcase the parallel governments that were set up in different parts especially in Midnapur, Satara, Ballia, Tamluk (West Bengal) etc.

(4) **The Indian National Army and Azad Hind Fauj:** The important documents displayed in this section consist of Indian Independence League, Tokyo 1942, message of Rash Bihari Bose 1942, publicity material, including various posters and banners of Azad Hind Fauj etc.

The last portion in the exhibition is assigned to the message of the Prime Minister, who while addressing the nation via 'Man ki Baat' on July 30, 2017, gave a call to our countrymen and women to come together to launch a new 'Quit India' Movement:

- Filth – Quit India;
- Poverty – Quit India;
- Corruption – Quit India;
- Terrorism – Quit India;
- Casteism – Quit India;
- Communalism – Quit India.

The need of the hour is not 'Do or Die', instead, to resolve, to come together, persevere, and work relentlessly for making a new India.

INCENTIVE PROGRAMMES FOR EXPORTS²

The names of the countries implementing incentive programmes for exports and details of incentive packages given by such countries are tabulated as under:

S. No.	Name of the country	Name of the incentive programmes	Details of incentive packages
1.	U.S.A	Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)	This promotes economic growth in the developing countries and least developed countries. Preferential duty free treatment is provided for about 30-40% products of designated beneficiary developing countries. India is also one of the beneficiary developing country.
2.	EU		

Reserve Bank of India makes the assessment for devaluation of currency considering various factors like inflationary pressure on domestic economy etc. Devaluation may positively impact exports at times, but policy of devaluation is managed by RBI on other considerations as well.

This information was given by the Commerce and Industry Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman in a written reply in Rajya Sabha.

² Available at: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx>

IMPROVING WORKING CONDITIONS OF LABOURERS THROUGH REFORM IN LABOUR LAWS³

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has taken a number of legislative initiatives in labour laws during the last 3 years. Such initiatives include:

- Amendment to the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 by which eligibility limit for payment of bonus enhanced from Rs 10,000/- to Rs. 21,000/- per month and the Calculation Ceiling from Rs. 3,500/- to Rs. 7,000/- or the minimum wages.
- Payment of Wages (Amendment) Act, 2017 enabling payment of Wages to employees by Cash or Cheque or crediting it to their bank account.
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 provides for complete ban on employment of children below 14 years in any occupation or process.
- Maternity Benefit Amendment Act, 2017, increases the paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks.
- The Employee Compensation (Amendment) Act, seeks to rationalize penalties and strengthen the rights of the workers under the Act.
- Ministry has notified "Ease of Compliance to maintain Registers under various Labour Laws Rules, 2017" on February 21, 2017 which has in effect replaced the 56 Registers/Forms under 9 Central Labour Laws and Rules made there under in to 5 common Registers/Forms. This will save efforts, costs and lessen the compliance burden by various establishments.
- A Model Shops and Establishments (RE&CS) Bill, 2016 has been circulated to all States/UTs for adoption with appropriate modification. The said Bill inter alia provides for freedom to operate an Establishment for 365 days in a year without any restriction on opening/closing time and enables employment of women during night shifts if adequate safety provisions exist.
- A category i.e. Fixed Term Employment has been introduced under Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 to impart flexibility to an establishment to employ people in case of Apparel Manufacturing Sector to meet the fluctuating demands of the sector due to its seasonal nature.

These legislative initiatives are expected to not only facilitate effective enforcement but also enhance wage security, job security, social security and safety, health and working conditions for workers.

This information was given by Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, the Minister of State (IC) for Labour & Employment, in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha.

Team ICSI

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³ Available at: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx>