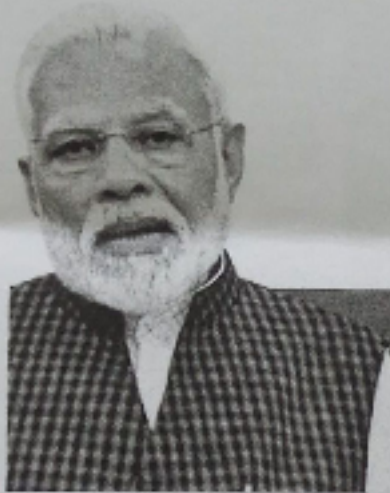




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PM Modi urges people to put the Tricolour as their profile picture on social media accounts from August 2 to 15. "The Tricolour connects us, inspires us to do something for the country," he says, P 8



Put tricolour as profile picture on social media: PM pitches for 'Har Ghar Tiranga'

Times News Network

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called upon all citizens to turn the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign into a mass movement by hoisting or displaying the national flag at their homes and using the tricolour as display picture of their social media accounts, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence.

In his monthly radio address 'Mann Ki Baat' on Sunday, Modi said as a part of the 75th year of Independence a special movement — 'Har Ghar Tiranga' — is being organised and "by becoming part of this movement, from August 13 to 15, you must hoist the tricolour at your home or adorn your home with it". "The tricolour connects us, inspires us to do something for the country," he said and suggested people make the national flag their social media profile photo from August 2 to August 15.

The birth anniversary of Pingali Venkayya, who had designed the Indian flag, is August 2. Modi said updating social media profiles with the tricolour will also be a mark of re-



COLOURS OF FREEDOM: A woman in Hyderabad stitches national flags ahead of Independence Day

spent to Venkayya.

The PM also talked about Madam Cama (Bhikaji Rustom Cama), who played a key role in shaping the tricolour. He said India is set to witness a glorious and historic moment as it completes 75 years of Independence. The 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations began on March 12, 2021 as a 75-week countdown to India's 75th anniversary of independence.

Speaking about the events and programmes being organised for the cele-

brations, Modi referred to the railway ministry's initiative of 'Azadi Ki Railgadi Aur Railway Station', a week-long programme which ended on July 23. It was aimed to make people aware of the role of Indian Railways in the freedom struggle and 75 stations spread over 24 states were identified for it.

The PM highlighted how stations have been named after freedom fighters — for example, Gomoh Junction in Jharkhand is now officially known as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Junction, Modi said at this station, Netaji was successful in dodging British officers by boarding the Kalka Mail. Similarly, Kakori railway station near Lucknow is associated with freedom fighters like Ram Prasad Bismil and Ashfaq Ullah Khan. The revolutionaries had displayed their might by looting the treasury of the British being carried in a train.

Modi urged citizens to visit at least one such historical station to know in detail about the history of India's freedom movement. He urged students and teachers to take children to any such station and narrate the whole chain of events to them.



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'Har Ghar Tiranga': All city schools roped in to take part in campaign

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ALL SCHOOLS in Delhi are being roped in for the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign. The heads of all government and private schools in the city have been directed by the Delhi government's education department to hoist the national flag on their buildings from August 13 to August 15.

"To popularise the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' initiative and to ensure maximum public participation to make the programme a success, all government, aided and private schools and offices will launch a special 'Information, Education, and Communication campaign' for sensitisation and awareness of students, parents and staff with immediate effect," said an official from the department.

The department has recommended to all schools that they conduct special assemblies and awareness programmes, and has also recommended that school management committee (SMC)

members be involved to "motivate parents and people living in the vicinity". Schools have also been encouraged to organise "prabhat pheries" by students to encourage residents of nearby areas to also hoist the flag on their houses, conduct activities such as talks on the development of the flag's design, patriotic songs, slogan writing and painting.

It has also directed government schools to utilise SMC funds to buy the flag. SMC funds are supposed to be autonomous financial resources for schools, with 50% to be spent on "minor maintenance and repairs" and the other half on "SMC-related initiatives, in accordance with the School Development Plan".

All government schools have also been directed to make a 'selfie point' on their premises for a "selfie with the Tricolour Flag".

In his Mann Ki Baat address Sunday, PM Narendra Modi urged citizens to participate in the campaign and change their social media profile pictures to the national flag from August 2-15.