

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs celebrates 'Rashtriya Ekta
Diwas'**

Media Invite

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR (M&C) (PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS) Tel.: 011-23488157 / 7838292987 E-mail: pibparliamentaryaffairs@gmail.com	GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU SHASTRI BHAWAN NEW DELHI
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Dated: 30th October, 2018

INVITATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are cordially invited to cover the following event:

Event	Union Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to celebrate 'RashtriyaEktaDiwas'. Shri Vijay Goel, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Statistics & Programme Implementation and Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs & Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, will be the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively, on the occasion. The Ministers will pay tributes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and administer the 'Pledge of Unity' to the Officers and Staff of the Ministry.
Date	October 31, 2018(Wednesday)
Time	10: 30 AM
Venue	Room No. 63, Parliament House, New Delhi

P.S. Only accredited media persons would be permitted as per the security protocol inside the Parliament House.

Yours sincerely,
(VIRAT MAJBOOR)

To

All Accredited Correspondents/Camera Persons

All Accredited TV Reporters and Channel crew

DG (News), Doordarshan / DG (News), All India Radio

Photo Division at CGO Complex

Photo Publicity Unit in PIB

PRESS RELEASE

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs celebrates ‘Rashtriya Ekta Diwas’

Each Citizen must assimilate Sardar Patel's ideology, patriotism, leadership skills and commitment to social welfare in their own lives: Shri Vijay Goel

The Statue of Unity is the ‘Tallest Symbol of Unity’ in the world: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal

New Delhi, 31st October, 2018

Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Statistics & Programme Implementation Shri Vijay Goel, and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, presided over the event to celebrate ‘Rashtriya Ekta Diwas’ (National Unity Day) organised by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs here today. This event was introduced by Government of India in 2014 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.

On the occasion, Shri Goel administered the ‘Pledge of Unity’ to Officers and Staff of the Ministry. He detailed instances from Sardar Patel's life and elaborated the vision of a United India after Independence that Sardar Patel held. Shri Goel asked each one present to not merely take the ‘Pledge of Unity’, but strive to assimilate Sardar Patel's ideology, patriotism, leadership skills and commitment to social welfare in their own lives. The Statue of Unity which is being unveiled today, would become a huge tourist attraction and generate a lot of employment opportunities, the Minister added.

Paying his tributes to Sardar Patel on the occasion, Shri Meghwal shed light on role of Sardar Patel in unifying India and his philosophy about Unity and Integrity of the country. Talking about how Shri Vallabhbhai Patel came to be known as ‘Sardar’, Shri Meghwal detailed instances of extraordinary leadership during Bardoli Satyagraha that got Shri Vallabhbhai Patel the title. Further, explaining why the height of the

Statue of Unity was 182 meters, Shri Meghwal informed that the Statue is made up of soil and metal from all the parts of the country and the Gujarat Legislative Assembly has 182 members. Hence, the Statue has representation from each part of the country and its citizens, thus making it the ‘Tallest Symbol of Unity’ in the world, he said.

The event was also honoured by the presence of Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, MP (Lok Sabha) and Shri Ramesh Bidhuri, MP (Lok Sabha), Shri S.N. Tripathy, Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, along with senior officers and staff of the Ministry.





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MoS for @mpa_india @VijayGoelBJP & @arjunrammeghwal administers #RashtriyaEktaDivas pledge to the Officers and Staff of the @mpa_india, on the occasion of the #RashtriyaEktaDivas, at Parliament House, New Delhi

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