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PRESS RELEASE

Visit of High Commissioner H. E. Ms. Neeta Bhushan to Christchurch, New Zealand (26 - 27 November 2024)

The High Commission of India, Wellington, is pleased to share highlights of High Commissioner Ms. Neeta Bhushan's productive and impactful visit to Christchurch from November 26 to 27, 2024. The visit underscores the growing synergy between India and New Zealand, with a focus on promoting education, innovation, and trade.

Visit to Canterbury University

High Commissioner Ms. Neeta Bhushan visited the University on November 26, 2024 and met Indian students during a warm and interactive session. She welcomed new students and apprised them of the various services and initiatives offered by the High Commission. Students expressed their enthusiasm for contributing to India's global reputation, reflecting their dedication and pride.

The HC also met Professor Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor of the University, to discuss educational collaboration between India and New Zealand. Education continues to be a cornerstone of the India-New Zealand partnership, with both sides committed to enhancing opportunities for students and researchers.

During her visit to the Structural Engineering Laboratory at the University campus, she explored cutting-edge advancements in earthquake-resilient infrastructure. The visit featured an enriching exchange of ideas on disaster management and innovation in structural safety.

Inauguration of JIX Reality's AI Centre of Excellence

High Commissioner Ms. Bhushan, alongside MP Hamish Campbell and other dignitaries, inaugurated JIX Reality's "AI Centre of Excellence". This milestone celebrates the achievements of its founder Mr. Sakthi Ranganathan, an Indian-origin entrepreneur. His success story exemplifies the strong potential of collaboration in the technology sector between the two countries.

Christchurch Dialogue: A New Era of Trade Connections and Partnerships

Later in the day, High Commissioner participated in the “**Christchurch Dialogue : A New Era of Trade Connections and Partnerships**” together with Mayor of Christchurch, Mr. Phil Mauger. The event featured dynamic discussions and a Q&A session on strengthening economic ties and identifying opportunities for Christchurch businesses to enhance trade with India.

NZIIA - End of the Year event in Christchurch".

The High Commissioner on November 27, attended the “**NZIIA - End of the Year event in Christchurch**” as Chief Guest and participated in a fireside chat moderated by Mr. Raf Manji on the theme “India and New Zealand: The Two Bookends of the Indo-Pacific.” The event was organized by the NZ Institute of International Affairs (NZIIA), Christchurch and UCPols. the session highlighted the evolving Indo-Pacific dynamics and the shared vision of India and New Zealand for the region.

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