On the conclusion of his state visit to Sweden from 31st May to 2nd June and to Belarus from 2nd to 4th June, 2015, President Shri Pranab Mukherjee was upbeat over the bilateral relations with both the nations.

During his visit to Stockholm and Minsk, he was accompanied by heads of seven leading academic institutions and a large business delegation of around 120 persons put together by FICCI, CII and ASSOCHAM who held discussions with their counterparts as well as concluded many agreements.

Explaining the historical significance of his visit, the President pointed out that this was the first ever visit by an Indian President to Sweden and Belarus which he said reflected the renewed emphasis that India places on further enhancing its partnership with these two countries which have been supportive of India’s claim for permanent membership of the UN Security Council.

“Sweden,” he said “is an important partner with whom we have shared multi-faceted and mutually beneficial relations over several decades. Combining Swedish resources, technological expertise and innovation with India’s young and growing market offers synergies that can spur a fresh phase of growth in our bilateral relationship. Belarus is a key partner in the wider Eurasian region with many strengths. India-Belarus relations are based on goodwill among our people for each other and a positive legacy of cooperation in multilateral and regional/sub-regional cooperation processes including SAARC, BIMSTEC and BCIM-EC, they reviewed steps taken in this regard. They welcomed the agreement on establishing of the BIMSTEC electricity grid and expressed the hope that the BIMSTEC Free Trade Agreement will be finalised soon.

Both Prime Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to work closely in the UN and other multi-lateral organisations including World Trade Organization (WTO) underscoring the importance of coordinating each other's position on the emerging global development architecture including Post-2015 Development Agenda, Migration and Development, and other multi-lateral issues of common interest.

During the visit, the two countries signed key agreements on exchange of instruments of ratification of 1974 Land Boundary Agreement and its 2011 protocol, exchange of letters on modalities for implementation of 1974 Land Boundary Agreement and its 2011 protocol, renewal of bilateral trade, coastal shipping, inland water transit and trade on Dhaka-Shillong-Guwahati Bus Service and its Protocol and Kolkata-Dhaka-Agartala Bus Service and its protocol among others.

On the second day of his visit on June 7, The Prime Minister Shri Modi visited the Dakeswari Temple and the Ramakrishna Mission and spoke at a public event at the Bangabandhu International Convention Centre (BICC). He also received the ‘Bangladesh Liberation War Honour’ from President Md. Abdul Hamid and PM Sheikh Hasina on behalf of former Prime Minister of India Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Visit to Sweden and Belarus a great success, says President Shri Pranab Mukherjee

Beginning his maiden visit to Bangladesh on June 6 by laying wreath at the National Martyrs’ Memorial at Savar and paying homage to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, founder of Bangladesh, at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Museum in Dhaka, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had a comprehensive meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The one-on-one meeting of the two leaders was followed by delegation level talks in a cordial atmosphere reflecting the special bond the two countries share. Both Prime Ministers agreed to strengthen diplomatic and consular presence in each other’s country and boost people-to-people contacts. They pledged to take the bilateral relations to another level.

In this context, it was decided that Doordarshan and Bangladesh Television (BTV) will enter into an agreement to allow BTV to join Prasar Bharati’s DTH platform. Pledging to work closely in furthering relevant regional/sub-regional cooperation processes including SAARC, BIMSTEC and BCIM-EC, they reviewed steps taken in this regard. They welcomed the agreement on establishing of the BIMSTEC electricity grid and expressed the hope that the BIMSTEC Free Trade Agreement will be finalised soon.

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The Indian High Commissioner to the UK, Mr. Ranjan Mathai, accompanied Mayor Councillor Derek Cutty to the field in Runnymede on June 1 where the Magna Carta was signed to pay homage to the historical event.

A tree was planted at the site by the former Prime Minister of India, Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, on March 16, 1994. Beneath the tree is a plaque with the inscription by Mr. Narasimha Rao that reads: “As a tribute to the historic Magna Carta, a source of inspiration throughout the world; and as an affirmation of the values of Freedom, Democracy and the Rule of Law which the People of India cherish and have enshrined in their Constitution.”

Prime Minister Rao was the only foreign leader to have dedicated a tree in honour of the site of Magna Carta.

India-UK Letter of Intent in the field of academics

Mr. Y.S. Chowdary, Hon’ble Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, co-signed a Letter of Intent on May 22 with Prof Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, Vice-chancellor of the University of Cambridge for mutual cooperation in academic pursuits.

The Letter of Intent between DBT and Cambridge (The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Cambridge), is to foster world class research capacity and enhance India-UK relations with the objective to upgrade academic, research and translational capacity of India and the UK.

Indian scientist Kamal Bawa elected fellow of Royal Society

Distinguished Professor of Biology, University of Massachusetts-Boston, and Founder President, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bangalore Mr. Kamal Bawa is an evolutionary ecologist and India’s most prominent conservation biologist. His pioneering contributions to understanding the population biology of tropical forest trees led to new strategies for their conservation, and also for the sustainable use of non-timber forest products. On this base he has provided leadership in conservation science in India by establishing ATREE, an influential NGO that generates interdisciplinary knowledge, guides policymaking, disseminates information, and builds human capacity in biodiversity science. Through his work and popular writing Kamal Bawa has promoted international cooperation in science, while also strengthening biodiversity awareness and public support for conservation in Indian civil society.

Indian Navy’s INS Tarangini bound for Tall Ship Race in Europe

INS Tarangini, the Sail Training Ship (STS) of Indian Navy, embarked on an eight-month long voyage to participate in almost 25 Tall Ship Races and other events in Europe organised under the aegis of Sail Training International. During these eight months (from May 4 to December 3, 2015), the ship will travel approximately 17,000 miles under sails.

“Tall ship” is a term often used generally to describe large, classic sailing vessels. The first tall ship event was organised in 1956, where the foundation of Sail Training International was mooted.

The crew of the ship will undertake this arduous voyage through the Red Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the North Sea. The ship has an illustrious history when it comes to long voyages and was the first Indian Naval Ship to circumnavigate the globe in 2003-04. Since then, she has sailed to ‘The Great Lakes’ in Canada for races and has also participated in the European Tall Ship Races. Tarangini won The Royal Thames Yacht Club Challenge Trophy in 2005 at Europe and stood third in Youth Sailing Division in 2007 at USA.

Apart from these races, the ship sails extensively across the Indian Ocean region for the purpose of providing sail training experience to the officer cadets of the navy. The Indian Navy believes that training onboard these ships is the best to instil in trainees indefinable ‘sea-sense’ and respect for elements of nature, which are crucial for safe and successful seafaring. Sail training also serves as a platform to impart the time-tested values of courage, camaraderie, endurance and esprit-de-corps among the budding naval officers.

This year’s Tall Ship Races will be conducted primarily off the coast of the United Kingdom, Norway, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. This year, Tarangini will participate in the Tall Ship Race from Kristiansand (Norway) to Aalborg (Denmark). She will also participate in associated sail events such as Sail Rosostock, Sail Bremerhaven in Germany and Sail Amsterdam in Netherland. About 300 sail ships of various sizes from all over the world are expected to participate in this year’s events.

The ship’s voyage to 17 ports in 14 countries will showcase India to the world and demonstrate the Indian Navy’s global reach. The theme for the voyage, codenamed LOKAYAN-15, has thus been chosen as “Tacking for a Broader Reach”.

INS Tarangini will arrive at Plymouth on 15 July 2015 and depart on 18 July 2015 for Kristiansand (Norway). During her stay at Plymouth, the ship’s crew and cadets will visit Britannia Royal Naval College, play sporting fixtures, interact and share professional experiences with their Royal Navy colleagues. Two midshipmen of the Royal Navy will also embark the ship for its next leg from Plymouth to Kristiansand (Norway).
Trooping the Colour Ceremony

High Commissioner Ranjan Mathai laying wreath at the Chattri Memorial on 14 June 2015 at the 64th Annual Chattri Memorial Service in memory of the Indian soldiers who died while being treated for their injuries at the Brighton hospitals during the World War I.

64th Annual Chattri Memorial Service 2015

High Commissioner Ranjan Mathai with Lord Lieutenant for East Sussex, the High Sheriff of East Sussex and others who joined to remember the Indian soldiers who died in World War I.

Asian Stars in UK Tech 2015

High Commissioner Ranjan Mathai presents the Chairman’s Award to Mr. Dinesh Dhamija, Chairman, Copper Beech Group (extreme left). (2nd from left) Ms. Lopa Patel and Mr. Dilip Joshi, Chairman, Diversity UK.

“SUBCON 2015” exhibition at NEC Birmingham on 2 June 2015

Deputy High Commissioner Virander Paul inaugurating the EEPC India’s Pavilion at “SUBCON 2015” exhibition.

National Manufacturing Debate at Cranfield University on 19-20 May 2015

Deputy High Commissioner Virander Paul at the National Manufacturing Debate.

Photo Exhibition at The Nehru Centre on 1 June 2015

Minister (Coordination), Sukhdev Singh Sidhu at the launch of Photo exhibition by Harminder Nahi.
The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee has greeted all fellow Muslims on the occasion of the commencement of the holy month of Ramzan. In his message, the President has said:

"I greet all my Muslim brothers and sisters on the occasion of the commencement of the holy month of Ramzan. May the spirit of Ramzan illuminate the world, show us the way to peace and harmony and remind us of our duties towards the less privileged."

**2015 Space Pioneer Award was presented to ISRO for Mars Orbiter Mission**

The Space Pioneer Award for the year 2015 was conferred on Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in the Science and Engineering category at the 34th Annual International Space Development Conference held at Toronto, Canada from May 20-24, 2015.

The National Space Society (NSS) of the US presented this award in recognition of the space organisation's accomplishment of its Mars Mission in the very first attempt.

India’s Mars mission in the very first attempt was indeed a historical feat for any space faring individual nation. Team “Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM)” built a spacecraft with five scientific payloads within a record time of 18 months and launched it on November 5, 2013. The spacecraft and its payloads have performed as designed during the 300 days journey, traversing about 666 million kilometers in interplanetary space before entering the Mars Orbit on September 24, 2014.

The spacecraft is in an elliptical orbit with onboard high resolution cameras configured to take full-disk colour imagery of Mars at apoareion and close-ups at periareion. MOM has outlived the “Prime” mission life of six months in Mars orbit and continues to deliver scientifically significant datasets. Team MOM has proficiently handled the scientific, technical, managerial and financial aspects of the mission.

The National Space Society (NSS) is an independent nonprofit educational membership organisation dedicated to the cause of creating a space faring civilisation.

The Space Pioneer Award consists of a silvery pewter Moon globe cast by the Baker Art Foundry in Placerville, California, from a sculpture originally created by Don Davis, the well-known space and astronomical artist.

**Corrigendum**

A news-item “Record ten Indian-origin MPs win seats in UK Parliament” in the May (II) issue of India Digest inadvertently did not carry the picture of Mr. Virendra Sharma, MP Ealing-Southall (above). The error is regretted.

**International Day of Yoga 2015**

A Curtain raiser event at The Nehru Centre

The Nehru Centre organised an event on June 16, in collaboration with the UK chapter of Braham Kumari, as a curtain raiser to the first International Yoga Day observed all over the world on June 21. A short film on ‘Yoga for Harmony and Peace’ was screened on the occasion followed by an enlightening talk on stress management and power meditation by Gizi Pruthi.

Gizi Pruthi is a gifted spiritual teacher who, for many years now, has regularly conducted lectures, retreats and self-empowerment modules, facilitating people’s personal growth. Her leadership qualities combined with the ability to communicate intrinsic aspects of spiritual truth with great clarity has enabled many to discover their own spirituality and bring positive change in their lives. An expert, Gizi coordinates the activities of the Braham Kumari World Spiritual University in Kensington.

The well-informed and responsive audience appreciated not only the focused clarity of the talk but also the group meditation conducted by Gizi towards the end of the event which proved a grand success providing a unique experience to the participants.
At a time when Nepal is grappling with the biggest humanitarian tragedy in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake, India’s reassurance of solidarity and unconditional cooperation for the Himalayan nation in its hour of need was enough to rekindle the spirit of camaraderie between the two neighbours. On her visit to the neighbouring country on June 25, after the earthquake struck on April 25, Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj, in a heartwarming speech, conveyed to the beleaguered nation deep and abiding commitment of the Government and people of India and the personal commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to “stand shoulder to shoulder with you as you seek to wipe the tears of every Nepali”.

Conveying overwhelming outpouring of sympathy, support and solidarity of Indians with Nepal in its moment of tragedy, she said, “Our response was swift, spontaneous and substantive. Institutions and people across India, including from deep South and far West, offered their help. The Government of India, the State Governments, NGOs and Corporates, and above all the people of India, opened their hearts to come to Nepal’s assistance. We reacted as if a disaster had struck India. Prime Minister Modi personally led our teams arrived in Nepal within six hours of the earthquake. We have since worked closely with the Government of Nepal in the rescue, relief and early recovery phase. Indian Armed Forces, governmental organisations and volunteers all came together to deliver food, shelter, medical aid, and technical help. Operation Maitri was our largest ever disaster assistance effort abroad, valued at nearly four billion Indian Rupees. But what is important is not that this support was larger than other foreign countries; what matters is the strong feeling of empathy and the instantaneous, instinctive and heart-felt response from Indians for their Nepali brothers and sisters.”

Congratulating the National Planning Commission of Nepal for its comprehensive recovery needs assessment, she said, “The PDNA (Post Disaster Needs Assessment) has been a participatory and credible international effort, to which India was privileged to contribute. It will be the framework for donors to finalise their relief packages and pledges.”

Invoking age-old relationship between India and Nepal as “Roti-Beti ka Sambandh” – a bond of family and kinship, Sushma Swaraj said, reassured the neighbour about India’s commitment to work closely with Government of Nepal in identifying specific reconstruction projects and expressed confident that Nepal would utilise the pledges made by the international community in an effective, efficient, transparent and sustainable manner.

The minister offered deepest condolences, on behalf of the people and Government of India, for the loss of human lives and the massive devastation caused by the tragic earthquake and its major aftershock on 12 May and lauded the positive spirit with which the country took the tragedy in its stride. “I salute the resilience of the people of Nepal and reassure you of India’s full support. The terrible disaster and continuing aftershocks have not diminished the indomitable spirit of the Nepalese people. They are calm and dignified in their tragedy. I see a quiet confidence and a steady determination as they seek to rebuild their lives and their communities,” she said, adding “every challenge is an opportunity. Out of adversity comes strength. Without doubt, from the debris of destruction, a stronger, united and more confident Nepal will rise.”

Main priorities, as are mitigation and preparedness, Nepal also has to rebuild its acclaimed cultural heritage of Lalitpur, Bhaktapur and Basantpur. The challenge is formidable, and so must be the response. Donors, therefore, have to play an important role not only in providing monetary resources, but also in supporting Nepal with technical assistance and capacity building.”

The Minister further said, reassured the neighbour about India’s commitment to work closely with Government of Nepal in identifying specific reconstruction projects and expressed confident that Nepal would utilise the pledges made by the international community in an efficient, effective, transparent and sustainable manner.

EAM Sushma Swaraj calling on PM Shri Sushil Koirala

India’s commitment to help Nepal overcome quake aftermath reassured

‘We stand shoulder to shoulder with you,’ asserts Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj

EAM Sushma Swaraj meets Dr. Ram Baran Yadav at Sheetal Niwas in Kathmandu

EAM’s message on third Passport Seva Divas

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The past one year has been noteworthy in many respects. In particular, I am proud of the recent issue of India’s first ePassport, which has been welcomed across the globe for its modern, innovative features and for enhancing India’s软实力. India has also been a leading advocate for the use of biometric technology in passports and has taken steps to ensure that our citizens have access to the latest in technology and security features. India is committed to ensuring that our citizens are protected and that their identities are secure.

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The minister offered deep
It was a befitting tribute to Rabindranath Tagore, the great national poet of India, when the Scottish Centre of Tagore Studies (SCoTs) of Edinburgh Napier University, organised a musical event, “Tagore in Symphony”, on June 8, 2015. Mr. Abraham Mazumder, a renowned conductor and composer for Western classical music in India, carried the day with scores of soulful numbers he composed featuring immortal songs of the poetic genius lovingly in classical arrangement incorporating the music of great masters like Purcell, Mozart, Beethoven, Dvorak and Tchaikovsky.

Ms. Madhusree Mazumder, Director of Kolkata Music Academy, beautifully sang songs in English and Bengali, accompanied by Maestro Abraham Mazumder on the piano. Some excerpts of Abraham Mazumder’s earlier of “Tagore in Symphony” concerts and rare photographs of Tagore were also screened.

The musical event was followed by a discussion among Abraham, Scottish composers and musicians Mr. John Hails and Mr. Kenneth Dempster, who teach at Edinburgh Napier University and Ms. Madhusree Mazumder.

“InStitch You India” – an exhibition with a difference

A novel art exhibition, “InStitch You India”, was organised by Harriet Riddell at TNCC on 18th May. Travelling across India with her sewing machine, Harriet stitched her observations and created narrative illustrations of the place she visited. Her art is a performance she experimented with her surroundings and the people she chose to stitch. Each piece carries a story as it builds part of a journey. Harriet has stitched in front of the Taj Mahal, up in the Himalayas, on bridges and on trucks - name but a few. This exhibition celebrated the four months she spent in India through the medium of stitches, sketches, film and photography. Apart from displaying her works, she also showcased a book about her Indian adventures and gave a talk on her unusual art form and the experience she underwent while making them. She was also present through the week stitching portraits live during the open hours of The Nehru Centre.

Bharatanatyam performance by Navya Natarajan

Navya Natarajan’s captivating performance on 18th May underscored the fact that classical arts are indeed timeless. A classicalist through and through, Navya imbued her performance with the elements of theatre, conceptual movement and Yoga. She stays true to the path of the Margam – the prescribed order that Bharatanatyam follows – which stands at the core of her practice. Her presentation included Parashakti, Varnam and Agni.

Through her evocative movements and choreography, Navya uncovered the many faces of the goddess, compassionate and fierce, all-loving and wrathful. She used the ancient art of Bharatanatyam to burrow into the nature of love, desire and the infinite and to throw light on the mysteries of the human heart.

Sadhguru Vasudev enlightens audience with spiritual aspect of life

Sadhguru Vasudev had an interactive session with the audience at TNCC on May 21 to share with them an insight into spiritual aspect life. Jaggi Vasudev, as is his original name; is a yogi, a mystic, a philanthropist and author of over 100 titles in eight different languages.

Sadhguru presents the science of yoga in a format relevant to contemporary minds, challenging the assumptions we have accumulated about life and revealing every human being’s fundamental quest. His clarity of thought and perception never fails to captivate and intrigue whoever comes in contact with him.

He aims at creating an inclusive culture of harmony, human empowerment and community revitalisation worldwide through large-scale social outreach projects. His Isha Foundation, a non-profit organisation, is striving hard to promote Yoga and Sadhguru’s worldview through its centres in India, the US, the UK, Lebanon, Singapore, Canada, Malaysia, Uganda, China and Australia.

SANDHI – MAKING PEACE

An exhibition of Shishir S Shivde’s paintings

Shishir Shivde’s work that involves the creation of conceptuality based on day-to-day life of contemporary India in all its beauty and humour. His works were on display at an exhibition on May 25. His subjects are simple, his lines are bold, confident and powerful, projecting a style that is truly Indian.

Inspired by iconic figures like Swami Vivekananda, Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela, Shishir’s attempt is to use his paintings to carry their message of peace to every corner of the world.

Since a picture is worth a thousand words, Shishir dreams of starting a peace march throughout the world wherein a painting will be a medium for a peace message. The bold yet simple appeal of his art work and the message therein was much appreciated by all.

Vocal music by Loveleena Kumar

Loveleena Kumar, a student of late Ustad Munawar Ali Khan sahib of Patiala Gharana, gave a live performance here on May 26. Currently she is learning semi classical music from Savita ji of Benares Gharana.

Along with her accompanists, Ustad Kiranpal (santoor), Hanif Khan (table) and Rakesh (harmonium), she held the audience spellbound with her renditions.

Loveleena also sings globally for ISKCON temples and Chinmoy Mission, and was honoured with Women’s Excellence Award in Delhi in 2014 for her contribution to music. Loveleena performs regularly in India, the UK and the USA both on stage and on TV shows. She has recorded four albums of ghazal with Anup Jalota and three videos for Zee TV and B4U.

Bharatanatyam performance by Bhagyashree Lakshmi & Group

The evening of May 29 brought together a group of artists from diverse fields and diverse professional backgrounds performing together on one stage. Bhagyashree Lakshmi Thyagarajan, a Bharatanatyam artist, was the leading light who brought together Cid Shaia (Bangladeshi dancer trained in Kathak, Folk, Bharatanatyam and Manipuri), Payel Das (Bharatanatyam dancer and teacher who is also a researcher in Astrophysics at the University of Oxford), Kausalya Kalurathnam (Bharatanatyam artiste) Holène (French dancer trained in Ballet and Bharatanatyam, and also an IT professional), and Suganyaa Balan (Bharatanatyam dancer with a full-time career in IT Security and Recertification Business Analysis).

These incredibly driven and passionate women set the stage on fire with their terrific performances.
मन का ब्राह्मण आकाशान्वि पर ध्रुवनमिति के संबोधन
nestling in the foothills of the snow-capped Himalayas, Kullu is a spectacular summer resort, famous for its breathtaking beauty. The pristine beauty of this place, promises its visitors a relaxed holiday.

Formerly known as "Kulanthpitha", which means the end of the habitable world, Kullu now attracts thousands of visitors, which includes foreign nationals.

Around 240-km away from Shimla, in the North Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, this popular tourist spot is located at an altitude of 1,220 meters.

Kullu is situated on the bank of the river Beas. The fabled 'Silver Valley' of Kullu forms the core of an intricate web of valleys - each of which is a sight for the sore eyes and each more beautiful than the other. This beautiful valley offers a marvelous view of the mighty snow-capped Himalayan ranges. They are a real spectacle: whether in brilliant sunshine or through the haze of the mist.

The town of Kullu has long been a centre of faith. In the 17th century, an idol of Lord Raghunathji (Ramchandra), was installed here by Raja Jagat Singh. He had brought the idol from Ayodhya.

A great devotee of Lord Ramchandra, the king as a mark of his penance placed the idol on his throne and it became the presiding deity for the people of the valley.

The festival of Dussehra, which marks the victory of Lord Ram over Ravana, is celebrated with much gaiety. The town of Kullu is actually quite famous for its colourful Dussehra festival.

The idols from temples are carried around in decorated palanquins in a colourful procession to pay homage to the reigning deity, Raghunathji.

**Major Attractions**

Raghunathji Temple: Raja Jagat Singh of Kullu built this temple in the 17th century to atone for his sins. This temple was built to house the image of Lord Raghunath - Lord Ram, which was brought from Ayodhya and even today is greatly revered. The shrine houses the image of Shri Raghunath in his chariot.

Bijli Mahadev Temple: Set on a spur that offers some spectacular views, this temple is famous for its 20m high rod that periodically draws lightning, which shatters the 'Shivalinga' and scorches the building. Using only butter as adhesive, the ‘linga’ is then carefully pieced together by the temple pundit.

Naggar: For 1,400 years Naggar remained the capital of Kullu. Its 16th century stone and wood castle is now a hotel run by Himachal Tourism. Here, a gallery houses the paintings of the Russian artist, Nicholas Roerich. Naggar also has three other old shrines.

Panch Kullu and Manikana: At 1,737 metres, there are hot sulphur springs that bubble next to the Penal river. Both Hindus and Sikhs revere this place.

Deo Tibba: Also known as Indralika, this 2,953 metres (9,687 ft.) high peak Jagatsukh, has a legend around it, with Arjuna. He started performing 'tap' at this mountain, under the guidance of Maharishi Vyas, in order to obtain the powerful Pasupata Asta (a powerful weapon) from God Indra.

**HOW TO REACH**

- **Air**: Nearest airport at Bhuntar is 10 kms from Kullu.
- **Rail**: Nearest convenient rail heads are Kalka, Chandigarh and Pathankot.
- **Road**: Well-connected by road with other important cities.