

With 115-ft-tall tricolour, Hans Raj high on R-Day

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New Delhi: Eleven months after the vice-chancellors of all central universities decided to install the national flag "prominently and proudly" on their campuses, Delhi University became the first to execute it when Hans Raj College hoisted a monumental tricolour on a 115-foot-tall flagpole on Wednesday.

The flag was hoisted by MP Naveen Jindal, an alumnus of the college and founder of Flag Foundation of India (FFOI). "Just by putting up the flag, one doesn't become a nationalist or patriotic. A person becomes a patriot when he is inspired by it and respects the nation," Jindal said.

Hans Raj students are happy that their college had been chosen for this honour. "It is a matter of pride for us to have the flag at our college. Just like Connaught Place, it will invoke the feeling of nationalism," said Manan Kapoor, a third-year BCom student. "Since the pole is so tall, almost everyone at DU can see the flag fluttering in the air," said Tsering Dhondup, a first-year botany student.

This is the second monumental flag by FFOI in Delhi after the tricolour on a 207-foot-tall flagpole at Central Park in CP. The flag was unfurled in 2014 to celebrate the 13th anniversary of the Supreme Court judgement that accepted Jindal's plea that hoisting the national flag was a fundamental right of the citizens. "I believe more and



FLYING HIGH: DU is the first central varsity to hoist such a flag

Metro restrictions

Metro rail service shall remain available for commuters at all stations during Republic Day. However, entry and exit will be closed at Central Secretariat and Udyog Bhawan stations, from 12 pm till 12.30 pm on January 26. Patel Chowk and Race Course (LKM) stations will be closed for entry and exit from 8.45am till 12.30pm on Republic Day. PTI

more people should place the national flag, the symbol of your pride, at home and work places," said the MP.

"This flag will instil pride in every student," said principal Dr Rama.

However, some students were not so happy. "Instead of spending so much money on the flag, they could have improved the infrastructure for the students," said a third-year student.