Independence Day Celebration During COVID – 19

On 22nd March 2020 public curfew was announced in all our India due to the COVID-19 pandemic which further continued and on 24th March 2020 the government of India announced a nationwide lockdown. Since then, the world's second-most populous country has been celebrating its Independence Day following the pandemic precautions.

India is soaked in the patriotic feel for the celebration of its Independence Day on August 15. While the celebration took place in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic for the second in a row, the emotions and the love for the country were no less.

The Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort were limited to the presentation of the guard of Honour to the Prime Minister by the armed forces and Delhi Police. The unfurling of the flag was accompanied by the playing of the national anthem and a firing of 21–gun salute. At the end the Prime Minister addressed the nation and released tri-coloured balloons. Every other year school children from various schools are invited to watch the event, but none were invited during the COVID-19 pandemic. Only the National Cadet Corps had attended.

Our school celebrated Independence Day virtually. We even conducted drawing, singing and speech competitions. We live-streamed the celebrations and had invited the Governor and the education minister. Our teachers had gone to school physically and had hoisted the flag by putting in place adequate safety measures and following social distancing. They shot the video of the celebrations in schools and showed it to us on the virtual platform.

I spent this Independence Day watching our Prime Minister on television address the country live. To conclude, "Stay home, stay safe" has become the new mantra and we can enjoy our Independence Day staying home and in the comfort of our homes!

-Tanisha Haldar

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