



# PRESS RELEASE

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October 11, 1949.

The Department of External Affairs today issued the following information concerning the programme for the forthcoming visit to Canada of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India. It will be recalled that news of Pandit Nehru's visit to this country was announced by Mr. St. Laurent in the House of Commons on Monday, October 3.

Pandit Nehru will arrive in Ottawa on Sunday evening, October 23, for a stay of two days. He will pay an unofficial visit to Vancouver on November 2 and 3.

On his visit to Ottawa, Pandit Nehru will be accompanied by his sister, Her Excellency Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Ambassador of India in the United States, and by his daughter Mrs. Indira Gandhi. His party will also include the Honourable Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Secretary-General of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. M. O. Mathai, Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, Brigadier D. Chaudhuri, Military Attache, and Colonel Uani Nayar, Public Relations Officer.

Pandit Nehru will enter Canada at Fort Erie, Ontario, on Saturday, October 22, and will motor through the Niagara Falls Park to Niagara Falls, Ontario, where he will remain overnight. On Sunday afternoon, Pandit Nehru will motor to Malton Airport, leaving there by air at 4.15 p.m. daylight saving time for Rockcliffe Airport, where he will be greeted by the Prime Minister on arrival at 5.45 p.m.

Pandit Nehru and members of his party will stay at Rideau Hall as guests of Their Excellencies the Governor General and Lady Alexander. On Monday, October 24, there will be an "off the record" meeting with the Press at 10.00 a.m. at the residence of the High Commissioner for India, Coltrin Lodge, Rockcliffe Park. At 12.30 p.m., a luncheon will be given by the High Commissioner. On Monday afternoon, Pandit Nehru will address the members of both Houses of Parliament in the Commons Chamber. His address to the assembled members of the Senate and Commons at 3.00 p.m. will be broadcast. The Prime Minister, Mr. L. S. St. Laurent, will give a dinner on behalf of the Government of Canada in Pandit Nehru's honour on Monday evening.

On Tuesday, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L. B. Pearson, will give a small luncheon and there will be an afternoon reception by the High Commissioner for India at his residence. At 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 26, Pandit Nehru will leave Rockcliffe Airport for Chicago, to resume his United States tour.

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Pandit Nehru will arrive at Vancouver by air on November 2 at 2.00 p.m. local time. There he will meet the members of the Indian community of British Columbia at 5.00 o'clock and at 8.00 o'clock will be the guest at a dinner given by the Mayor on behalf of the City of Vancouver.

On Thursday, November 3, there will be a parade of local defence units at 10.00 a.m. and at 11.00 o'clock, Pandit Nehru will receive the Freedom of the City of Vancouver at the City Hall. At noon, the Canadian Club of Vancouver, the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce and the United Nations Association and other organizations will join in giving a luncheon in honour of Pandit Nehru. At 3.00 p.m. he will leave Vancouver by air to return to the United States. It is expected that Pandit Nehru will leave New York on Friday, November 4, for London, en route to India.

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