



The Embassy of Nepal in Islamabad organized a program today to celebrate the 73rd International Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) Day. The celebration, themed "Sagarmatha, the Highest Peak of the World: Identity and Pride of Nepal," brought together Everest summiteers and high-level government officials of Pakistan as well as Ambassadors, High Commissioners, diplomats, and prominent representatives from the tourism industry.

Addressing the program, Ambassador Rita Dhital paid tribute to the historic first ascent of May 29, 1953 and mentioned that climbing Mt. Everest is possible only with extra human willpower, endurance, and collaboration. She shared that during the Spring 2026 season alone, a record number of climbers from various countries across the globe, including from Pakistan, successfully climbed Mt. Everest.

In her remarks, she voiced concern over environmental degradation and glacier melting in the Himalayas caused by climate change, stressing the necessity of effective international cooperation. She outlined Nepal's proactive steps, such as the 'cash for trash' cleanliness initiative, and announced upcoming major tourism campaigns, including Nepal Wellness Year 2027 and Visit Nepal Year 2028, designed to reposition the country as a sustainable, high-value destination.

The program featured a special video message on 73rd International Sagarmatha Day from the Honorable Mr. Shisir Khanal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal.

Likewise, audio-visual material on the tallest mountains, mountain panorama and adventure activities was displayed in the program. In addition, Counsellor Mr. Purushottam Dhungel gave a power-point presentation focused on adventure tourism in Nepal.

Addressing the program, Mr. Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, Prime Minister's Advisor and National Coordinator on Tourism; Mr. Aftab Ur Rehman Rana, Managing Director, Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC); and Mr. Irfan Arshad, President, Alpine Club of Pakistan highlighted the importance of sharing experiences and practices in the field of mountaineering between Nepal and Pakistan.

The event concluded with Ambassador Rita Dhital felicitating four prominent Everest summiteers from Pakistan for their remarkable achievements. During the program, the summiteers had shared their inspiring climbing experiences with the audience.

5 June 2026

Islamabad