



## Rashtrapati Bhavan Halls Renamed to Reflect Indian Cultural Values

[Source: PIB](#)

In a bid to align with Indian cultural values and reduce traces of colonial influence, **Rashtrapati Bhavan** has officially renamed two of its prominent halls.

- **Durbar Hall is now Ganatantra Mandap**, reflecting the Republic concept, replacing the colonial term '**Durbar**' (**courts and assemblies of Indian rulers and the British**).
- **Ashok Hall has been renamed Ashok Mandap**, honouring [Emperor Ashoka](#) and Indian cultural significance. This change aims to remove anglicized influences and align with the ethos associated with the word 'Ashok.'
  - The Rashtrapati Bhavan statement mentioned that Ashok Hall was originally a ballroom. The word 'Ashok' signifies being free from sufferings or sorrow, and also refers to Emperor Ashok, a symbol of unity and peaceful co-existence.
  - The word also refers to the **Ashok tree**, which holds deep significance in Indian religious traditions, arts, and culture.
- The Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi is the **largest residence of any Head of State** in the world. It was originally built as the '**Viceroy House**' for the British Viceroy of India and later renamed Rashtrapati Bhavan when India became a Republic in 1950.
  - It was designed by **British architect Sir Edwin Landseer Lutyens**, who combined **Indian, Mughal, and European architectural styles**.
- In 2023, the world-renowned **Mughal Gardens** at the Rashtrapati Bhavan were also renamed as **Amrit Udyan**.
  - Earlier in 2022, the **PM inaugurated the 'Kartavya Path'** symbolising a shift from erstwhile Rajpath being an icon of power to Kartavya Path being an example of public ownership and empowerment.



Read More: [Kartavya Path](#)

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