

## Venue of G20 of 2023: BHARAT MANDAPAM, New Delhi, India

September 5, 2023: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, India: Bharat Mandapam is an **International Exhibition-cum-Convention Center (IECC)**, spread over 123 acres and designed by **Dikshu Kukreja**. Pragati Maidan is managed by **India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)**. Over many decades since late 50s, it has housed **India International Trade Fairs**.

In 2017, a plan to revamp the Exhibition Halls at Pragati Maidan at a cost of Indian Rupees 2,700 crores was started. A new Convention Center, called **Bharat Mandapam**, has been built at a cost of Indian Rupees 750 crores, out of which Rupee 600 crores was raised as a Loan by ITPO.



*Bharat Mandapam Convention Center, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi*

### **BHARAT MANDAPAM:**

Bharat Mandapam includes numerous meeting rooms, lounges, auditoriums, an amphitheatre, and a fully-equipped business center, enabling it to accommodate a wide spectrum of events.

Spread across 4 floors, it has 24 meeting rooms.

Of them 20 meeting rooms are **at L1 (ground level)**. Four rooms have a capacity of 200 people each while seven rooms can accommodate 100 people each and nine others have space for 50 persons each.

At **L2 level** is the place where the G20 summit will be held. So, there is a **Summit Room** and in addition, there are **two small auditoria**, one has a **capacity of 600** and the other has a **capacity of 900**.

The **Summit Room** has shining chandeliers put in a unique position to give it a **royal look**. The **big doors have enlarged imprinted Peacock feather designs** making it a treat for the eyes.

IECC's biggest hall is **at L3 level**. It is the **multi-purpose hall** and can be used for cultural programmes, meetings of all sizes etc. Behind this is another hall which is called the **Plenary** and that is structured like an **Auditorium** and that has a **capacity of 3000 seats**. These two halls can be merged into a single large hall to give a **seating capacity of 7000 to 8000 people**.

**At L4** is an **Amphitheater**, that can **house 3000 people**. The Amphitheater can be used for conferences, meetings and exhibitions.

Bharat Mandapam has a height of around 35 metres. **At level four (L4)**, there is a **Gallery** which is at a height of over 25 metres and it gives a very good view overlooking the city of Delhi and is called '**Way To Delhi**'.

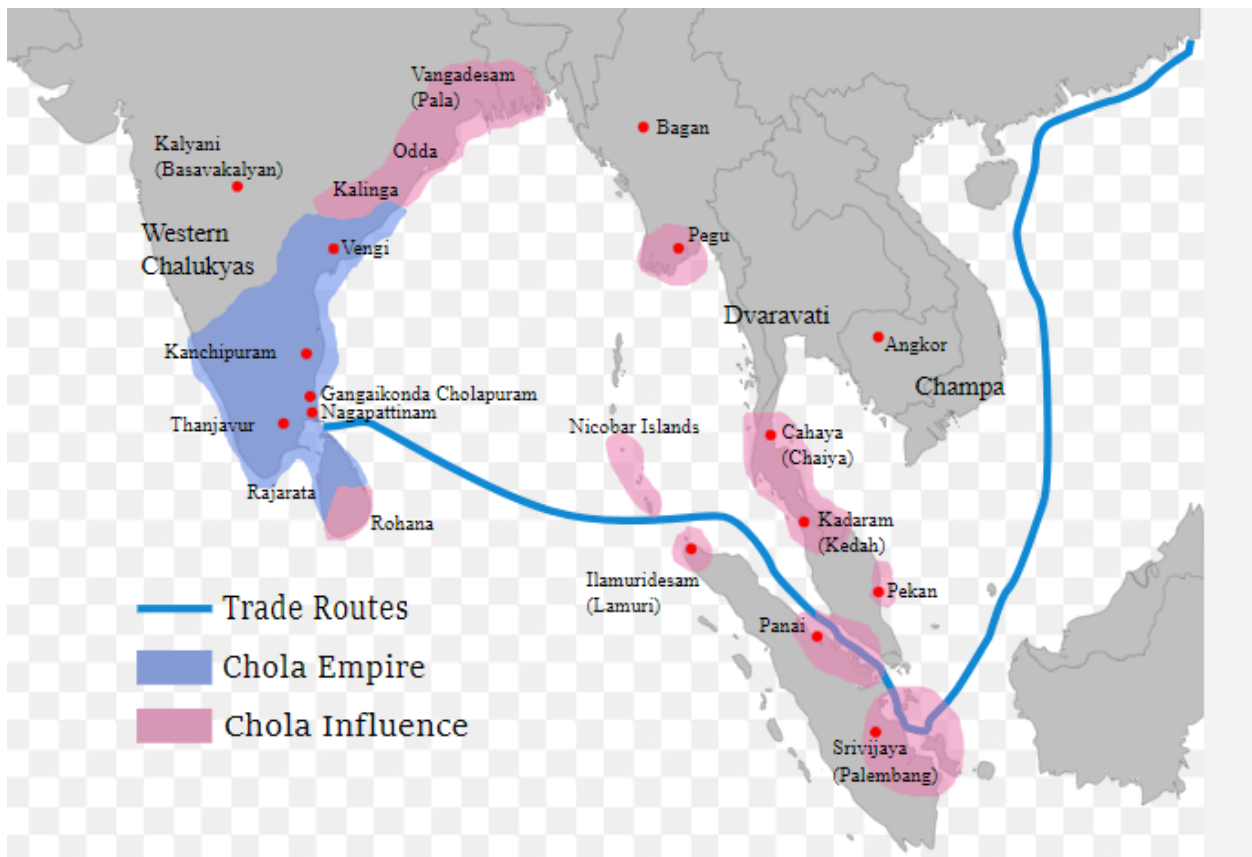
ENTRANCE to BHARAT MANDAPAM has a Sun chariot (Surya Rath) being carried by legendary seven horses (representing seven days of the week). A 27 feet tall statue of Nataraja has been installed at the front entrance.



The Nataraja statue is made of Ashtadhatu and has a weight of 18-tons. It is the tallest statue made of Ashtadhatu and is sculpted by the renowned sculptor Radhakrishnan Sthapaty of Swami Malai in Tamil Nadu and his team in a record 7 months. 34 generations of Radhakrishnan have been making idols since the Chola Empire period. This statue of Nataraja symbolizes cosmic energy, creativity and power. This iconic project is carried out by the Union Ministry of Culture’s team of Indira Gandhi National Center of Arts.

----A BRIEF BACKGROUNDER of CHOLA EMPIRE----

Chola empire was a great maritime empire, with a Naval-competence and cultural influence over a large area. It was centered around the fertile valley of the Kaveri river in the southern part of India. The rule by Chola Kings began during the 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE. Chola Kings are mentioned in Ashokan Edicts of 273 BCE-232 BCE. The Empire reached its largest size during 850 AD to 1200 AD.



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