

## PRESS RELEASE

## 70<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebrated in Indonesia

The 70<sup>th</sup> Independence Day was celebrated at the India House in Jakarta, the Consulate General of India in Bali and the Consulate General of India in Medan with traditional gaiety and fervour. H.E. Ms. Nengcha Lhouvum, Ambassador of India to Indonesia and Timor Leste hoisted the National Flag in Jakarta as large gathering of Indian nationals and persons of Indian origin watched with pride and joy. Similar ceremonies took place at the Indian Consulates in Bali and Medan.

The President's address to the nation on the eve of Independence Day was read out by Ambassador Nengcha Lhouvum in Jakarta and the Consuls General in the respective places. The address stressed on issues like inclusive growth, pluralism, women's safety, economic empowerment of youth, digitization, encouraging entrepreneurship and imparting skills. Referring to India's foreign policy, the address emphasized that India's focus in foreign policy will remain on peaceful co-existence and harnessing technology for economic development. The President's address also expressed concern over terrorist activities in different parts of world and stated that world will have to fight them unconditionally and in one voice.

Nearly 300 members of the Indian community, Persons of Indian Origin and Friends of India participated in the ceremony. About 100 school children from three Indian schools - Gandhi Memorial International School, the Rama International School and Texmaco DPS School - sang the National Anthem and patriotic songs. The students of Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre (JNICC) also performed patriotic songs and a dance on the occasion.

Later, Ambassador interacted with members of Indian community to ascertain their welfare and gave a broad overview of various functions scheduled to be held in future by the Mission. A sumptuous feast of Indian delicacies was served to the vast gathering at the end of program.

Jakarta: 15 August 2016











