



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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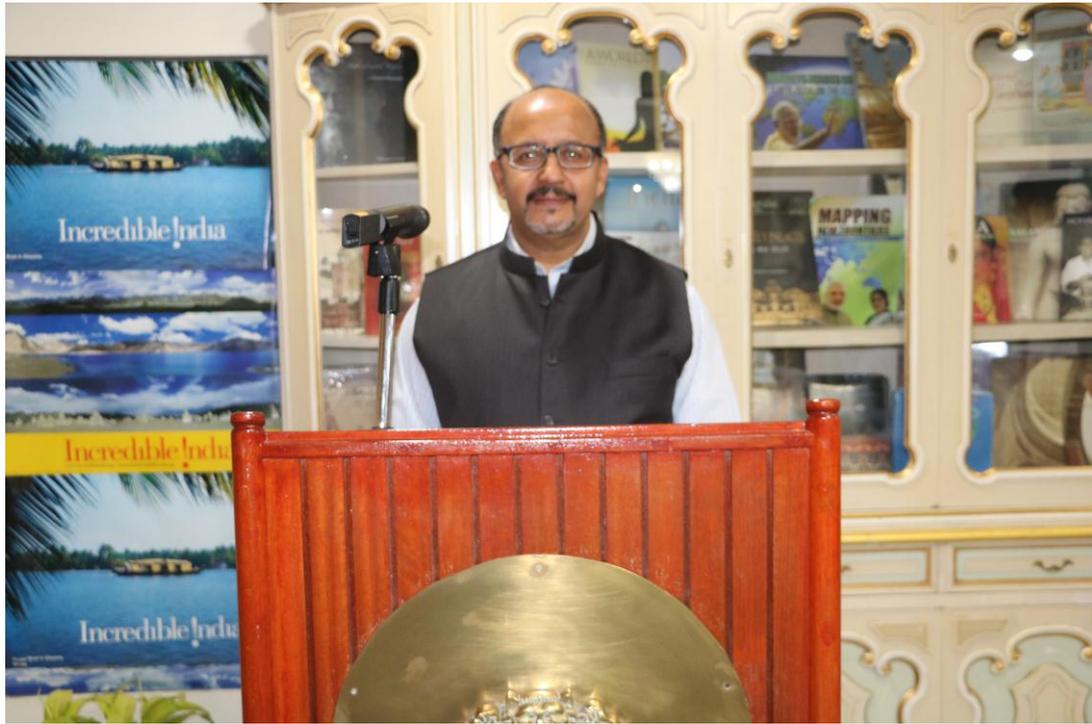
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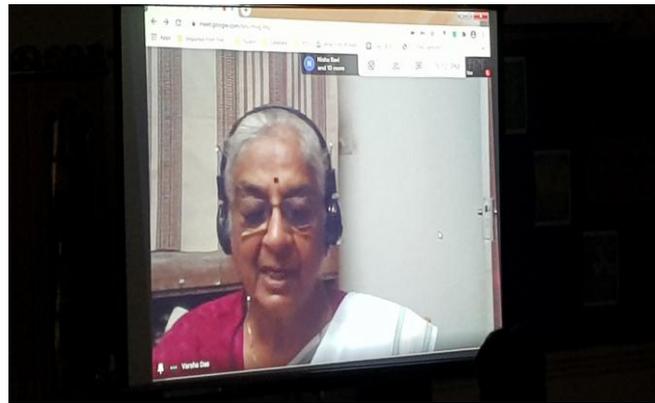
Press Release on Concluding Event on Gandhi @ 150

The High Commission of India, Brunei Darussalam organized the concluding event of the two-year long celebrations to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on Sunday, 27th September 2020 with talks by two experts on Gandhi.





1. Dr. Varsha Das, a former director of the National Gandhi Museum, New Delhi. She spoke on the theme of “The Timelessness of Gandhi.” During the talk, she highlighted the universal teaching and philosophy of Gandhiji such as non-violence, peace and brotherhood, humanism, compassion and truth. She also stressed on the relevance of Gandhiji’s ideals and their universal applicability at all times.





2. Dr. Jasbir Chawla, a well-known literary personality who spoke on “Gandhian thoughts on the post COVID world.” He too highlighted the relevance of various teachings and practices, including a clean and simple life, practised by Gandhiji as a way to dealing with the post-COVID pandemic world.







At the end of their respective talks, both experts responded to questions raised by the public. Earlier, the High Commissioner H.E. Ajaneesh Kumar opened the proceedings by sharing some thoughts on Gandhian philosophy. He subsequently introduced the speakers and also highlighted some of the notable events organized by the High Commission on Gandhi @ 150 in the last two years. He specifically referred to the rendering of Gandhiji's favourite bhajan 'Vaishnava Jana Toh' by Mr. Fakhrul Razi, renowned Bruneian singer; Publication of an article by Mr. Eyad Samhan Nyawa, a Bruneian conservationist, on 'What Gandhi Means to Me' for the Gandhi Anthology compiled by Ministry of External Affairs; Organisation of a Vegetarian Food Festival accompanied with a Tree Planting Event at India House; Hosting of a Cultural Programme themed on Gandhiji by the Bandar Seri Begawan Indian Association (BSBIA) which included the release of a brochure on Gandhiji; Organization of the SOULS (Solar Urja Through Localization of Sustainability) Programme by IIT Mumbai in partnership with KEMUDA Institute, Brunei. The event saw the assembling of 500 solar lamps by 500 students from 10 schools in Brunei with the objective to increase awareness on climate change by using solar energy; Organization of a drawing, colouring and speech competition on Mahatma Gandhi organised by the Indian Association Belait (IAB); and IAB's recent hosting of 'Gandhi Katha' by Dr Shobana Ramakrishna at their premises on 20 September.

Brunei Darussalam, 27 September 2020