The Consulate General of India
Shanghai

Press Release

73rd Independence Day Celebrated in Shanghai on 15th August, 2019

The 73rd Independence Day was celebrated with great zeal, enthusiasm and patriotic fervor by Indian community at the Consulate General of India, Shanghai, plot No.39 Wanshan Road in the early hours of August 15, 2019. The celebrations started with the hoisting of national flag by Consul General Shri Anil Kumar Rai.
It was followed by the National Anthem. The Consul General then read excerpts from the Hon’ble President’s address to the nation.

In the address, the Hon’ble President highlighted that the coming year witnesses 150th birth anniversary of the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, and 550th birth anniversary of one of the greatest, wisest and most influential Indians of all time – Guru Nanak Devji.
He asserted that the recent changes made in Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh would bring socio-economic prosperity to the region. He also urged the citizens of the country to not only use and nurture the infrastructure of the country for the benefit of the society but also cherish and safeguard it. He reminded fellow citizens that India’s history and destiny, India’s legacy and future, are a function of coexistence and conciliation, of reform and reconciliation – of expanding our hearts’ and embracing the ideas of others.


To mark the occasion, the Indian community members presented a series of melodious patriotic songs to remember the sacrifices and contributions of our freedom fighters, revolutionaries and service personnel.
The 2nd edition of Hindi magazine – ‘Samanvaya Hinchi’ was launched on the occasion, which has contributions from both Indian and Chinese scholars. ‘Samanvaya Hinchi’, the first Hindi magazine published in the Eastern China Region, was an important step towards the promotion and mainstreaming of Hindi in China.
The celebrations also witnessed participation from Chinese nationals. Chinese students Chen Xuying (Pratibha) and Liang Weiyan (Deepti) from Hindi Department of Shanghai International Studies University shared their experiences in Hindi language and recited Hindi poetry on Mahatma Gandhi.
An announcement was also made to celebrate the 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Devji, who spread the meaning of oneness ‘Ek Omkar’ all across the world, which is even relevant today for maintaining global harmony. Over the next one year, the birth anniversary celebrations would include various activities such as Kirtan Diwans, plantation of trees, donations and cultural events.

Rakshabandhan, the festival of eternal bond of love between brothers and sisters, was also celebrated on the occasion.

The ceremony witnessed participation from more than 250 members of Indian community and around 20 Chinese nationals. The event was followed by light refreshment.
15<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

Shanghai