

**High Commission of India
Kuala Lumpur**

PRESS RELEASE

**80th Independence Day Celebrations
15 August 2026, India House**

The High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur celebrated India's 80th Independence Day, with great fervour and enthusiasm, on 15 August 2026 at the India House. About 1800 Indian nationals, including school children and members of the vibrant Indian diaspora in Malaysia, joined the celebrations recording the highest-ever participation.

2. On this special occasion, the High Commission also joined the *Suryapath Tiranga* initiative, a first-of-its-kind global relay of the flag hoisting that followed the rising sun from East to West across 54 Indian Diplomatic Missions worldwide, including Malaysia, under the *HarGharTiranga* campaign.

3. The formal part of the celebrations began with a soulful rendition of Vande Mataram, joined by all the participants, marking the ongoing commemoration of 150 years of Vande Mataram. This was followed by Shri Hitesh Rajpal, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., High Commission of India in Malaysia, hoisting the National Flag, followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

4. Addressing the gathering, the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. read out excerpts from the Hon'ble President of India's address to the Nation on the eve of the 80th Independence Day. In his remarks, he reflected on India's journey since independence and spoke of the national aspiration of Viksit Bharat by 2047. He also took the opportunity to highlight the deepening India-Malaysia ties, noting that bilateral Comprehensive Strategic Partnership were further consolidated during Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's visit to Malaysia in February 2026, which saw a wide range of agreements covering semiconductors, digital payments and fintech, disaster management, and social security for Indian workers. He also emphasized that Malaysia remains India's third-largest trading partner in ASEAN, and the growing defence and security cooperation, including through the Udara Shakti exercise held this week, in which Indian Rafale aircraft flew alongside their Malaysian counterparts. He took the opportunity to convey warm greetings and best wishes of the Government of India to the nearly 2.75 million-strong community of Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) in Malaysia. He urged all NRIs and PIOs to contribute actively to the national vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

5. The cultural segment of the celebrations featured a vibrant array of performances, including 'Devi Vandanam', Bharatanatyam performance by Ms. Riddhima Rajpal of Kalpana Dance Theatre; a medley of patriotic songs by the Ladies' Wing of Bharat Club; dance medleys by Sprout Academy, Vikas International School and Global

Indian International School (GIIS); the Mathuri Tribal Dance, a traditional folk dance from Telangana, by the Malaysia Telangana Association (MYTA); and a Kathputli dance by the Women's Wing and children of Marwari Yuva Manch (MYM). The cultural programme concluded with 'Natesha Kauthuvam', a stirring Bharatanatyam performance by Mr. Kautaman Mani, winner of the ICCR's Pratibha Sangam Competition 2025.

6. The celebrations also included a felicitation ceremony, during which the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. felicitated Mr. Kautaman Mani for his 1st Prize in the Pratibha Sangam Competition 2025; the top performers from Malaysia in the special Independence Day edition of Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz held from 3 to 14 August 2026; the winners of the "India Through My Lens" photography competition held in Malaysia; and the winners of Essay Writing and Painting competitions held for students of Sprout Academy, Global Indian International School and Vikas International School marking the special occasion in Malaysia.

7. The celebrations at India House also marked the continuation of the 5th edition of the *Har Ghar Tiranga* campaign from 9-17 August 2026, which encourages Indians to hoist the National Flag at home and strengthen their personal connection with the Tiranga. Specially designed "Har Ghar Tiranga" selfie booths were set up at India House, enabling visitors to capture memorable moments with the Flag and share them on social media.

8. In a special moment during the celebrations, the participants from Malaysia at the Guinness World Record achievement of "Project Tiranga" presented a specially handcrafted woollen Tricolour to the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Project Tiranga, an initiative by Mahila Manovikas set the Guinness World Record for the largest crochet Tiranga bunting chain, measuring 12.18 km, at Visakhapatnam on 7 August 2026.

9. As we mark 80 years of India's Independence, High Commission extends gratitude to all those who joined the celebrations at the India House and took part in various initiatives and activities in Malaysia, marking the special occasion.

**15 August 2026
Kuala Lumpur**
