

High Commission of India  
Kuala Lumpur

'Celebrating India-ASEAN Cultural Harmony'

A Musical and Dance Journey

**Media Handout**

The High Commission of India and the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC), Kuala Lumpur, in collaboration with Bharat Club Kuala Lumpur, organized a special cultural event '*Celebrating India-ASEAN Cultural Harmony*', a musical and dance programme, on the occasion of India's 79th Independence Day. The special event was held under the Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora (PCTD) scheme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, on Friday, 22nd August 2025 at Shantanand Auditorium, The Temple of Fine Arts in Kuala Lumpur.

2. H.E. YB Tuan M. Kulasegaran, Deputy Minister in Prime Minister's Department (Law & Institutional Reform), graced the event as the Chief Guest of Honour and delivered a special address. He congratulated the High Commission and the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre for organizing this vibrant event, which not only showcased the rich cultural heritage of India but also highlighted the shared traditions and deep-rooted civilizational ties between India and ASEAN countries.

3. H.E. Mr B.N. Reddy, High Commissioner of India, welcomed the guests and highlighted the importance of cultural connections and harmony between India and Malaysia, and also between India and the ASEAN region. He emphasized that such cultural exchanges play a pivotal role in strengthening people-to-people bonds and fostering mutual understanding between the two regions. High Commissioner highlighted that India- ASEAN as well as India-Malaysia share a comprehensive strategic partnership and recounted the positive trajectory of India's relations with the ASEAN. Under Malaysia's chair of the ASEAN, this special event goes on to further highlight the deeply cherished bonds between our two countries. HC also thanked the members of the Indian diaspora for their efforts in promoting and preserving Indian culture and traditions in Malaysia. He thanked the Bharat Club Kuala Lumpur for their work and efforts in this direction in the last 50 years.

4. The event showcased the deep-rooted cultural connections and harmony between India and ASEAN through lively dance and musical performances by members of Bharat Club Kuala Lumpur, a 50-year-old organization of Indian expatriates based in Malaysia. Established in 1974, the

Bharat Club has been an important platform for Indian expats to celebrate and preserve Indian roots and to promote various facets of Indian culture, art, music, dance, cuisine, textiles, philosophy, and yoga in Malaysia. Over the decades, Bharat Club has actively partnered with the Mission in its outreach activities. Mr. N Murali, President Bharat Club KL and Mrs Madhavi Murali, President of the Ladies Wing of Bharat Club KL were felicitated by the High Commission on the occasion.

5. The cultural programme featured a diverse range of performances, including **Joget Dance** (a lively traditional Malaysian dance), **Coconut Dance** (representing Cambodia's cultural identity and community spirit), **Bamboo Dance** (performed across India's Northeast and in Thailand, Myanmar, the Philippines, Laos, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Indonesia), a dramatic retelling of a timeless tale from the **epic Ramayana**, and a vibrant **costume show** celebrating India's incredible diversity through a tapestry of tradition and style.

6. More than 600 guests attended the event, including distinguished Heads of Missions from ASEAN countries and members of the diplomatic community, senior officials from the Government of Malaysia, prominent members of the Indian community in Malaysia, and distinguished members of Bharat Club Kuala Lumpur, along with leaders of community and cultural organizations, and representatives from business and media.

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