

High Commission of India
Kuala Lumpur

Press Release

Confluence: Samagam – Language Lecture Series
Preservation & Propagation of Bengali Language in Malaysia

High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC) organised “**Confluence: Samagam- Language Series**” on Bengali language on Saturday, 17 May 2025 at NSCBICC premises in Kuala Lumpur.

2. The event was the seventh in Indian Languages’ Series organized by the High Commission of India and NSCBICC, with Punjabi, Telugu, Tamil, Gujarati, Malayalam and Odia languages covered since April 2024 under this activity.

3. Ms Nomitha Paul Balasingam, Retired Educationist and Former President of Malaysian Bengali Association (MBA), graced the occasion as Chief Guest and delivered the key note address.

4. Speaking on the occasion, High Commissioner of India to Malaysia, H.E.Mr.B.N.Reddy conveyed his appreciation to the members of MBA and Bengali community organizations for their efforts in preserving and promoting Bengali language among its members in Malaysia.

5. Prominent Bengali language academicians and members of Bengali associations in Malaysia including Mr Jayanta Kumar Sengupta, Prof.Dr.Anindita Dasgupta, Dr Sudhir Ranjan Sen Gupta, Prof.Dr.Jayati Roy, Prof.Dr Esha Sinha Das Gupta and Ms Amita Nandi made presentations on diverse topics. Representatives of Bengali Associations gave impressive testimonies of their Bengali language learning experience.

6. The topics covered included Introduction to the Bengali Community in Malaysia; Echoes of Home: Language and the Making of Bengali Belonging; The Bengali Diaspora in Malaysia – A historical perspective; Role of women in preserving Bengali Culture and Tradition in Malaysia; Keeping the Bengali Language, Culture,

Traditions alive through Performing Arts and the Challenges faced in preserving Bengali Language as “Mother Tongue”.

7. A Traditional Bengali dance performance and a shruti natok by the MBA members was also organized as part of the event.

8. The event was attended by over 130 members, which included members of MBA, Kelab Rekreasi Abhijaan, Senior representatives of the Malaysia-India Heritage Society (MIHS), members of various community associations, Media representatives and Officials from High Commission of India and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre.

17 May 2025
Kuala Lumpur
