



August 15, 2021

## **PRESS RELEASE**

The Embassy of India, Paramaribo celebrated 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' marking the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of India this morning (15 August 2021). Ambassador Balachandran hoisted the national flag at a ceremony at the Chancery premises followed by a reading of the Address of the President of India to the Nation. In a separate address, the Ambassador then spoke on the ICCR/ITEC Scholarships, Pravasi Teerth Darshan Yojana and Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz Programmes and encouraged the people of Suriname to take advantage of these programmes. This was followed by a singing of patriotic songs by Swami Vivekananda Culture Center music students. An Indian Cuisine Mahotsav was also celebrated as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

2. The flag hoisting ceremony was broadcast live through the Mission's Face book page, in view of the Covid-19 restrictions.
3. Three honourable Members of Parliament including some Indian nationals, friends of India and Embassy officials and their family members were present, following the Covid-19 guidelines. The Indian community in the concurrently accredited countries, Barbados, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines also joined the celebrations live via Face book and also marked the event by separate celebrations.
4. Photographs of the Day's celebrations are enclosed.