भारत का राजदूतावास EMBASSY OF INDIA पारामारिबो PARAMARIBO

## PRESS RELEASE

## 73<sup>rd</sup> Republic Day Celebration

The Embassy of India, Paramaribo celebrated the 73<sup>rd</sup> Republic Day of India this morning (26 January 2022) as 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. Ambassador Shankar 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.

2. Videos on PM Modi speaking on 75 years of India's independence and on 'Dhruv' advanced light helicopter manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) were screened. The Ambassador presented prizes to the winners of the National Youth Day quiz. The Ambassador then handed over a model of 'Dhruv' to Ms. Krishna Mathoera, Hon'ble Defence Minister of Suriname in the presence of the visiting HAL team leader & the Airforce Commander of Suriname. An Indian Chaat Mela with a wide variety of Indian street food was also organised as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

3. Due to a resurgence and outbreak of Covid pandemic, the programme was kept short. Over 70 people including Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Hon'ble Defence Minister, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Indian nationals, friends of India and Embassy officials and their family members were present, while following the Covid-19 guidelines.

4. A few photographs of the Day's celebrations are enclosed.

Paramaribo 26 January 2022

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