



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

P.O. BOX 439, LAPANGAN TERBANG LAMA

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN BB 2339685

Telephone: 2339947 / 2339685

Fax: 2339783

E-mail: hoc.brunei@mea.gov.in

Website: www.hcindiabrunei.gov.in

Press Release

High Commission of India organises a pan-India Cultural Evening “Utsav ...The Celebration” on 23rd January 2021



High Commission of India in Brunei Darussalam, in cooperation with all the Indian Associations and their regional partners in Brunei, organized a Cultural Evening “**Utsav....The Celebration**” at Kesenian Tarindak D’Seni, Serambi Suluh Hall in Brunei on 23rd January 2021. The event was organized in commemoration of the **72nd Republic Day of India** which is on 26th January 2021.

2. The Guests of Honour for the event were Yang Berhormat Major General (Retired) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidan, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of the Government of Brunei Darussalam, and his spouse Yang Mulia Datin Nurhayana Janis binti Abdullah. The programme was attended by 350 people which included officials from the Government of Brunei, members of the Diplomatic Corps, prominent Indians and friends of India.







3. This was a pan-India event showcasing many important classical dance forms of India, namely, **Kathakali, Kuchupudi, Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Garba & Dandiya, Jogwa, Dhumal, and Ghoomar** presenting the rich cultural heritage of India. There are **eight** major dance forms in India which have been given the status of **classical dance styles**, namely, Bharatnatyam (Tamil Nadu), Kathak (North, West and Central India), Kathakali (Kerala), Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh), Odissi (Odisha), Manipuri (Manipur), Mohiniyattam (Kerala) and Sattriya(Assam).



4. During the event, there were performances on the renditions of some of the most popular songs and dances from Bollywood as well as from films from other parts of India with their groovy compilation of electrifying music. The evening programme also showcased other popular folklore and dance forms from different regions of India including **Kairali** (Kerala), **Mekhla** (North East State of Bengal and Assam), **Lavni** (Maharashtra) and **Qawwali** (portraying popular Islamic cultural performance from northern States of India).





5. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the event. On account of the great demand, it has been decided to have the second staging of this cultural programme at **V Plaza Hotel** in **Kuala Belait** on **Saturday 30th January 2021 evening**. Such events, besides building cultural ties, play a pivotal role in increasing people to people contacts and promoting a better understanding of each other's cultures.























6. In his welcome speech, the High Commissioner placed on record his appreciation for all the registered Indian Associations namely Indian Association of Belait (IAB), Bandar Seri Begawan Indian Association (BSBIA) and Malayali Association (MA) and their regional partner organizations for the commendable efforts put in by them to make this event a grand success.

Brunei Darussalam, 23rd January 2021