





High Commission of India Lusaka

Press Release

High Commission of India celebrates 161st Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore (9th May 2022)

As part of the ongoing celebrations of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", High Commission celebrated the $161^{\rm st}$ Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore on $09^{\rm th}$ May 2022 at Chancery Premises.



2. The celebration was inaugurated by lighting of traditional lamp by spouse of High Commissioner & other ladies of the Indian Community. Floral Tributes to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore were paid by High Commissioner Shri Ashok Kumar.



- 3. High Commissioner highlighted Rabindranath Tagore's immense contribution to Indian Culture, national unity and communal harmony. High Commissioner mentioned how Rabindranath Tagore aptly highlighted the mysticism and sentimental beauty of Indian Culture in his writings. He noted that Rabindranath Tagore was the first non-westerner/non-European to be awarded with prestigious Noble Prize for Literature in November 1913 for his world-famous collection of poems "Gitanjali'.
- 4. High Commissioner appreciated Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore's unparalleled and exceptional contribution to Indian culture and described him as a cultural ambassador who through his writings spread knowledge of Indian culture around the world. High Commissioner also applauded the efforts of Indian Diaspora in spreading Indian culture in Zambia thereby strengthening and projecting India's soft power and deepening India's relations with Zambia.
- 5. Extending his gratitude to the Indian Community in Zambia for supporting underprivileged and marginalized in the society, High Commissioner emphasized that such good gestures by Indian Community generate long-lasting goodwill and strengthen Indian cultural ethos & ideals of **Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.** High Commissioner sought Indian Community's whole-hearted support and participation in the events being conducted by High Commission under the banner of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.



5. The event was attended by about 60 persons, including representatives of Diaspora Socio-cultural Associations. Cultural performances befitting the occasion, including Dance Drama based on "Chitrangada- The Warrior Princess" by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, Gurudev's poetry recitation and group songs on Rabindra Sangeet were presented during the event.