

Embassy of India in Bhutan celebrates the 74th Republic Day of India

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Staff Reporter
from Thimphu

The 74th Republic Day of India was celebrated with enthusiasm at a ceremony held in the morning of 26 January 2023 at the Embassy of India, Thimphu. The ceremony was attended by a number of Indian nationals, diaspora members, and friends of India. Ambassador Sudhakar Dalela led the Indian community in unfurling the national flag at the India House, which was followed by singing of the National Anthem. The Ambassador read out excerpts from the President's address to the nation on the eve of the

Republic Day.

Addressing the gathering, the Ambassador mentioned that India and Bhutan share exemplary ties of friendship and cooperation that are underpinned by utmost goodwill, mutual trust, and understanding at all levels. He emphasized that India is committed to expanding its partnership with Bhutan into new areas of cooperation that align with the vision of His Majesty the King of Bhutan and the priorities of the Royal Government of Bhutan. The Ambassador thanked members of the Indian community for their contribution towards strengthening the ties of

friendship with the people of Bhutan. He congratulated Prof. Sanjeev Mehta of Royal Thimphu College who was conferred the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award at the PBD Convention held in Indore earlier this month. The celebration concluded with a melodious rendition of patriotic songs by an ensemble of Indian and Bhutanese musicians.

This event was a part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations to commemorate the historic milestone of 75 years of India's independence. To mark the year 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets', which was spearheaded by India at the United Nations,



Ambassador of India to Bhutan, H.E. Sudhakar Dalela addressing the people at the Indian Embassy in Thimphu, Bhutan, on the occasion of India's 74th Republic Day celebrations



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KUSHU ENTERPRISE,
Changlam Square, Thimphu

Tele: 323804

a variety of Indian millet products were also displayed.

The Royal Government of Bhutan was represented by senior officials including Dasho Ugyen K. Namgyel, Gyalpoi Zimpon (Royal Chamberlain), His Majesty's Secretariat; Aum Kezang Deki, Cabinet Secretary, Ambassador Pema Choden, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade; and Ms. Pema Tshomo, Officiating Chief of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade.

Meanwhile, Bhutan's Prime Minister (PM) Dr. Lotay Tshering, in his message said; "Today is a truly special day for our friends in India, as you all celebrate the adoption of the Constitution which created the world's largest democracy. The day commemorates the sacrifices made by our friends and their forefathers who marched forward in unison into an independent and free India. The people of Bhutan and I send our best wishes and prayers to the people of India on the 74th Republic Day."

The PM further said that as India charts a new path ahead, "I offer my good wishes for India's progress and prosperity." "Today's celebrations are set against a backdrop of immense opportunities and change. India's economy on the rise under the dynamic

leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is set to emerge on the world stage. As a close friend and partner, we rejoice in your celebrations. May our special friendship continue to strengthen and deepen as we forge newer partnerships in the days ahead," the message read.

Bhutan's Foreign Minister, Lyonpo Dr. Tandi Dorji in his tweet conveyed his "warmest felicitations on the occasion of 74th Republic Day of India." "We wish the people of India great success, prosperity and happiness," the tweet read.

Finance Minister, Lyonpo Namgay Tshering also wished the government and people of India. "Wishing government and people of India Happy 74th Republic Day. May India continue to remain in peace and achieve economic prosperity; we are proud for our exemplary bilateral relation between our two great nations (Indo-Bhutan). Jai Hind," the Minister's tweet read.

Meanwhile, Ambassador of India to Bhutan tweeted; "A great honour to unfurl Tiranga at India House in Thimphu and celebrate #RepublicDay with fellow citizens and friends of India. Serving the nation in #AmritKaal. Committed to work together and taking partnership to new heights."