



**HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA  
CANBERRA**

**74<sup>th</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY-2020**

The 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of India was celebrated at the High Commission of India premises in Canberra on August 15, 2020 with a flag-hoisting ceremony. Honourable President's Address to the Nation on the eve of the Independence Day was read out by High Commissioner A. Gitesh Sarma.

2. High Commissioner traced the progress of the nation since independence and the significant milestones achieved in every sphere of national endeavour. In the context of the pandemic situation, HC outlined the tremendous efforts taken by the government in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and emphasised on the various welfare measures taken by the government to provide succour to the most needy section of the society.

3. India's leading role and contribution to the global fight against this pandemic was also highlighted to the audience. Underlining the commitment of the government to the welfare of Indian diaspora around the world, HC also informed that thanks to ongoing "Vande Bharat Mission", more than 1 million stranded Indians have been safely repatriated back to India.

4. On the occasion, High Commission also arranged the live telecast of the Honourable Prime Minister's address to the nation from the ramparts of Red Fort, New Delhi.

5. A photo exhibition on "Constitution Day and Campaign on Citizen's Duties" and the "Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan" campaign was also inaugurated in the Mission.

6. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic related restrictions, the gathering at the event was kept limited with participation of senior diaspora leaders, friends of India along with the Mission officials and staff.

7. The event was live streamed to the wider audience through the popular social media platform including the Facebook and Twitter. Some photos taken on the occasion are enclosed.

8. A special Congratulatory message received from Former Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott was also released on the social media on this occasion.

Canberra  
15.08.2020