

**High Commission of India
Canberra**

Maitri Diwas - Commemorating 50 years of India-Bangladesh Friendship

High Commission of India and High Commission of Bangladesh jointly commemorated on 6 December 2021, the Maitri Diwas, in Australia. Maitri Diwas is observed to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of diplomatic ties between India and Bangladesh and the 50th Anniversary of Bangladesh Liberation War.

During the visit of PM Shri Narendra Modi to Bangladesh in March 2021, to attend the National Day of Bangladesh, it was decided to commemorate 06 December as Maitri Diwas (Friendship Day). Maitri Diwas is a reflection of the deep and abiding friendship between the peoples of India and Bangladesh.

A minute silence was observed, remembering the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War. A Documentary on the journey of India-Bangladesh ties was also screened.

High Commissioners of India and Bangladesh addressed the gathering and highlighted the special bond India & Bangladesh share, which goes beyond the strategic partnership. High Commissioner Shri Manpreet Vohra underlined the important role played by the people of Bangladesh in the Liberation War and India's support for the struggle. High Commissioner noted the major milestones in the history of India-Bangladesh ties, highlighting the booming bilateral trade and the deepening developmental partnership. Ms. Harinder Sidhu, Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade joined the event as the Guest of Honour. Representatives from ACT Assembly, Diplomatic Corps, various Government Departments and the Indian and Bangladeshi community also attended the Event.

A Cultural presentation by artists Ms. Ira Patkar & Ms. Tanisha Kundu mesmerized the audience. A photo exhibition on "India-Bangladesh Friendship" was also inaugurated on the occasion.

Photos and video of the event are available at <https://twitter.com/HCICanberra/status/1467830734282899456> & <https://www.facebook.com/bhcanberra>.

For any queries/information please contact is.canberra@mea.gov.in.