

High Commission of India

Kuala Lumpur

Press Release

INA Raising Day Celebrations in Malaysia

The High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur commemorated the “INA Raising Day” at Bengal House, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia, on 6 November 2022. This celebration marks the establishment of the Provisional Government of AZAD HIND (Free India) by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on 21 October 1943.

2. The Bengal House was established in 1952 and is one of the oldest heritage buildings marking the arrival and settlement of the first group of Bengalis in the Malayan peninsula. The celebrations at this historic venue were held in partnership with the Malaysian Bengalee Association, Netaji Service Centre, Netaji Welfare Foundation, Malaysia-India Heritage Group and Kelab Rekreasi Abhijaan. This year’s celebrations assume special significance as India celebrates *Azadika Amrit Mahotsav* - 75 years of Indian Independence and also marks the 65 years of India-Malaysia Diplomatic relations.

3. The event began with a welcome address by the High Commissioner H.E. Mr B.N. Reddy who spoke about the enduring legacy of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and the Indian National Army in Malaysia. He thanked the INA veterans, Mr. SP Narayanasamy and Mr. M.R. Sen Gupta for gracing this solemn occasion, along with their families, despite their advanced age. Highlighting the importance of Netaji in the context of historical linkages between India and Malaysia, the High Commissioner noted that Netaji’s spirit of selfless sacrifice continues to be an inspiration for the youth of both countries even today. He also mentioned about the unveiling of the statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by Hon’ble PM of India Shri. Narendra Modi, under the Grand Canopy at India Gate as well as the renaming of the iconic Rajpath (stretching from Rashtrapathi Bhavan to India Gate) to ‘Kartavya Path’, in September this year.

4. The celebrations continued with screening of a video on Netaji and INA in Malaysia and Singapore. INA Veteran Mr. S.P. Narayanasamy, who is also the Secretary of the Netaji Service Centre spoke about the unique leadership of Netaji and the important role of INA in the freedom struggles of India and Malaysia.

5. Mr. Ratha Krishnan, President, Netaji Welfare Foundation; Mr. Prabhakaran S. Nair, Founder-President, Malaysia-India Heritage Group; Mr. Dipak Mandal, President, Kelab Rekreasi Abhijaan and Ms Swapna Das, President of the Malaysian Bengalee Association from the partner organisations addressed the audience.

6. H.E.Mr.B.N.Reddy honoured the INA Veterans and the partner organisations with Mementos to mark the occasion. The Malaysian Bengalee Association, the Kelab Rekreasi Abhijaan and Students of 2 Tamil schools in Port Dickson, SJK(T) Port Dickson and SJK(T) Sungai Salak, paid tribute to Netaji by staging cultural performances. On this special occasion, Netaji Welfare Foundation offered one time financial assistance to these two Tamil schools in Port Dickson.

7. The event was attended by dignitaries from Port Dickson, members of the partner organisations and High Commission officials and was well covered in the Print and Digital Media.

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