High Commission of India Lusaka

Celebration of Constitution Day by High Commission of India, Lusaka on 26 November 2021

In Commemoration of adoption of the Indian Constitution, arrangements were made for live streaming of the programme held at the Central Hall of the Parliament. The India-based personnel gathered together to watch the programme live on TV.

2. India based personnel read out the Preamble simultaneously with the Hon'ble Rashtrapatiji.

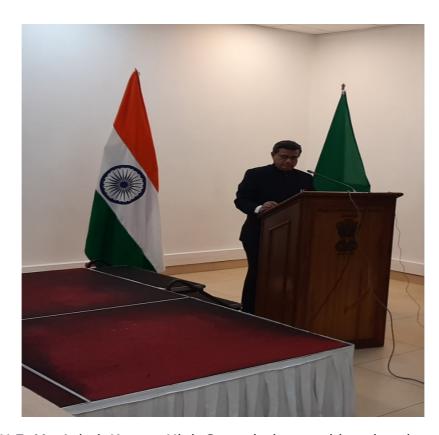


India-based personnel reading Preamble of the Constitution

3. The High Commission of India organised an online quiz contest containing 50 questions on the Constitution of India and 10 from the Zambian Constitution.



- 4. The High Commission of India also organised an event in the evening commemorating the adoption of the India Constitution on 26 November, 1949 by the Constituent Assembly of India. The event was held in Hotel Taj Padmozi, Lusaka. His Excellency Mr. Mulambo Haimbe, Minister of Justice, Republic of Zambia graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour and Justice Abha Patel, Honourable Judge-in-Charge of the Kitwe Commercial Court and a prominent Overseas Citizen of India was the Chief Guest. A large number of distinguished members of diaspora also attended the programme.
- 5. The programme included two short film on the Constitution of India which highlighted the history of the making of Constitution, its conceptualisation, drafting, adoption and finally its enactment.



(H.E. Mr. Ashok Kumar, High Commissioner addressing the gathering)

- 6. In his introductory remarks High Commissioner Mr. Ashok Kumar, spoke about the making of the Constitution of India, the importance of constitution in the democratic republic of India. He mentioned about how the members of the Constituent Assembly conceptualised the idea of the Constitution and contributed to its drafting and in its adoption. While highlighting the immense value of the Constitution in a democratic country, he stressed about its importance and about the vital role it plays in steering the country and its people to prosperity. He also mentioned how the constitution of India empowered the people of India, the ultimate sovereign.
- 7. The Chief Guest Justice Abha Patel narrated the long story of her journey from India as a student up to her assuming an office in the judiciary as the first women Judge in Zambia. She mentioned about the Indian Constitution being the longest one and made special reference to the long debate that preceded acceptance of each article of the Indian constitution implying the high democratic values that India stands for. She also mentioned how the Indian constitution is held in high regard in any discussion and platform in Zambia. She

also stressed the importance of emulating the values of democratic countries like India to achieve what can be called a perfect Constitution.

(As per protocol in Zambia, Guest of Honour takes precedence over Chief Guest)



Chief Guest Justice Abha Patel addresssing the gathering

8. Minister of Justice Mr. Mulambo Haimbe in his keynote address spoke about Zambian Constitution and its importance in building Zambia as one nation. The Minister paid glowing tribute to the Indian Constitution. He mentioned that there can be no better guide than the Indian Constitution in case the Zambian constitution requires an enactment. Referring to how Zambia can learn from democratic countries, he stated that Zambia can follow the example of India in its attempt to unite its people as India has done.



Guest of Honour H.E. Mr. Mulambo Haimbe, Minister of Justice addressing the gathering

9. The Constitution of India and the Constitution of Zambia were displayed prominently at the venue.



High Commissioner H.E. Mr. Ashok kumar showing Preamble of Constitution to the honoured guests

10. To project India's rich cultural heritage and soft power, two Indian dance performances also formed part of the programme. The guests enjoyed the programme and appreciated the efforts of the Mission in organising such high quality programme. The event also got coverage in local print and electronic media.



Dance performance during the event based on the theme "Constitution Day"