



**Embassy of India
Jakarta**

PRESS RELEASE

India celebrates the first Constitution Day

Embassy of India organized a function in its auditorium to celebrate the first Constitution Day to commemorate adoption of Constitution of India on 26 November 1949. The Constitution of India formally came into effect on 26 January 1950 which is celebrated as Republic Day of India. The Indian Constitution is lengthiest written constitution and incorporates good points of all the major constitutions.

Addressing the gathering, H.E. Mr. Gurjit Singh, Ambassador of India to Indonesia and Timor Leste, said that the constitution day is being celebrated for the first time in India as a tribute to all those great women and men who worked tirelessly to give India her Constitution. Ambassador spoke at length about Indian constitution which apart from usual features like fundamental rights and distribution of powers has shown foresight to include chapters which ensure pluralism, positive discrimination and fair opportunity to all the sections of society. India is a secular country and the Constitution of India guarantees the freedom of conscience and the right to profess, practise and propagate religion to all. Ambassador credited Indian Constitution for continuity of democracy and integrity of nation. He remembered Dr B.R. Ambedkar, also known as architect of Indian constitution, for his stellar contribution and socio-political understanding.

Ms. Rahimah Abdulrahim, Executive Director of the Habibie Center also spoke on the occasion. She said that the 1945 Constitution has enduring emotional significance to most Indonesians as a symbol of the struggle for independence and as a founding pillar of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia. She talked about 'Pancasila' which comprise basic principles of modern Indonesian state and said that these principles have held the state together.

Two documentaries on India's Constitution viz. Taana Baana – "The Warp and Weft of India" and "India – The Spirit of Freedom" were screened to make the audience familiar with the constitution of India and its salient features. The teachers and students of JNICC performed song and dance program on the occasion. The invitees comprised members of India Indonesia Parliamentary Friendship Group, members of Indian Business Forum and Indian Cultural Forum, prominent Indian nationals, Friends of JNICC, Indonesian dignitaries and Indophiles. The attendees were impressed by the comprehensiveness, political wisdom and socio-economic content of the Constitution of India.





Jakarta: 26 November 2015