



**Embassy of India
Jakarta**

PRESS RELEASE

Indian Embassy celebrates 125th Anniversary of Dr. B R Ambedkar

Embassy of India organized a function on 14 April 2016 to celebrate the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, eminent jurist, economist, social reformer and Chairman of Drafting Committee of the Constitution of India. Hon'ble members of Parliament, prominent Indian businessmen and professionals, members of Indian diaspora and Indonesian dignitaries participated in the event. H.E. Mr. Irman Gusman, Chairman of the Regional Representative Council (DPD) of the Republic of Indonesia was Chief Guest on the occasion while Hon'ble Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) was the Guest of Honour. The 13-member Indian Parliamentary Goodwill delegation which was visiting Jakarta also participated in the event.

The program began with H.E. Mr. Irman Gusman and Hon'ble Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma paying floral tributes to Dr. Ambedkar's portrait. A photo-exhibition on the life and achievements of Dr. Ambedkar was also displayed which gave glimpse of different aspects of Dr. Ambedkar. Welcoming the guests, Ambassador Ms. Nengcha Lhouvum said that Dr. Ambedkar was eminent jurist, economist and social reformer and played key role in drafting Indian constitution. Hon'ble Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma, Leader of Indian Parliamentary delegation, recounted the various achievements of Dr. Ambedkar and said that these should be evaluated in the background of social and caste discrimination that he faced. He also said that Dr. Ambedkar was architect of the Constitution of India, which has kept the country united and which provides hopes and aspiration to millions of poor and underprivileged people.

H.E. Mr. Irman Gusman, Chairman of DPD, who was chief guest on the occasion, applauded the achievements of Dr. Ambedkar and his unstinted support to the cause of woman emancipation, upliftment of marginalized people, abolition of untouchability, outlawing of all forms of discriminations, education and labour reforms. Mr. Irman said that Dr. Ambedkar's legacy as a socio-political reformer, had a deep effect on modern India. He quoted President Barak Obama who while addressing Indian Parliament in 2010 referred to Dr. Ambedkar as "the great and revered Human Rights champion and main author of India's constitution."

The teachers and students of Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre, Jakarta, presented a short cultural program comprising of song, dance and qawwali on the occasion.

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