

## PRESS RELEASE

### Embassy of India Muscat

#### Embassy of India celebrates 70 years of India's Independence



India will celebrate seven decades of freedom and independence on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017. This important milestone is being celebrated all over India and the world with great enthusiasm. The Government of India has planned a series of events to highlight 70 years of India's independence. Indian Embassies and Consulates all over the world have been mandated to organise special event to highlight this special occasion. The Indian Embassy has planned to hold a Special Reception on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017 to at Hotel Sheraton to celebrate India@70 and has invited prominent Non-Resident Indians and People of Indian Origin, Diplomatic Corps, Omani Government dignitaries, businesspersons, and other eminent persons have been invited to this Reception.

2. The Embassy has also planned to organise a number of events such as Seminars, Essay Competitions, Painting Competitions, cultural performances, musical performances etc. throughout the year to celebrate India@70. Various other events to be organised during the year will place special emphasis on the importance of 70 years of India's freedom and highlight achievements of India during past seven decades. Indian Social Club of Oman as well as Indian Schools are also being fully involved in celebration of India@70. They will be organising their own events also to mark India@70. The purpose of these Events is to highlight

to people of Oman as well as Indian diaspora in Oman the importance of this occasion.

3. Ministry of Culture, Government of India, has approved the Embassy's proposal to depute two prestigious dance troupes to Oman, a Kathak Dance troupe led by Dinesh Poddar and an Indian contemporary dance troupe led by Guru Tanushree Shankar. While the Kathak Dance troupe led by Dinesh Poddar will be visiting Oman in August 2017 and will be performing during the Reception being hosted by Ambassador on 15<sup>th</sup> August, the Indian contemporary dance troupe led by Guru Tanushree Shankar, will be visiting Oman in November 2017.

4. In view of the close and friendly relations between India and the Sultanate of Oman and in view of the historic significance of 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of India's Independence, the Embassy will be holding performances of the above dance troupes not only in Muscat but also in other major cities of Oman i.e. Salalah, Sohar, Sur and Nizwa.

5. As noted above, the Kathak Dance troupe will perform at Hotel Sheraton, Muscat on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 during the Reception on the occasion of India's Independence Day. It will also give performances at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Sohar, on 16 August, 2017; Golden Tulip Hotel, Nizwa, on 18 August 2017; and at Indian Social Club in Salalah on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2017. The dance troupe led by Guru Tanushree Shankar, which will be visiting Oman in November 2017 will also perform in all the major cities of Oman i.e. Muscat, Sohar and Salalah at the same venues and also at Royal Hall, Sur.

**Muscat, 02 August 2017**