



## PRESS RELEASE

## Day of India in Minsk - Sunday, August 27, 2017

As part of 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of India's independence, the Embassy of India in Minsk organized the **Day of India** on Sunday, August 27, 2017 at prominent *Svobody Square* in downtown Minsk. The event was supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Government of India, Indiatourism Frankfurt, Tea Board of India, Moscow, Minsk City Executive Committee besides a few local sponsors. The event was jointly inaugurated by Deputy Chairman of Minsk City Executive Committee, Mr. Andrey V. Domoratsky, and India's Ambassador in Minsk.

A Ministry of Culture sponsored 8-member **Kathak** cultural troupe led by Ms. Swati Wangnoo Tiwari performed in the presence of a large crowd turned up for the event. This was due to the wide publicity of the event by the Mission in Minsk and the Minsk City Executive Committee. The Mission also arranged performance of Indian Kuchipudi dance by Mrs. Vimmi Eswar from Dubai. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the Kathak and Kuchipudi dance performances and the performances of the ICCR trained local Belarusian dancers and their students.

A number of food stalls serving Indian delicacies received a tremendous response. More than 600 people tasted the Indian cuisine sponsored by **Indiatourism Frankfurt** and specially prepared for the occasion by Indian chefs from Hotel Renaissance in Minsk. Similarly, over 800 people turned up for tea tasting at Tea Board of India's kiosk. Henna counter attracted a large crowd. Mowgli and Taj Mahal with Indian Maharaja and Maharani cut-outs at the venue were popular for photo shoots among locals. A Quiz on India was also held and the winners were awarded prizes.

Master classes on Yoga and various forms of Indian dances held on the occasion attracted enthusiastic participation. The traditional games Kabaddi and Kho-Kho was loved by one and all, particularly the Belarusian sports enthusiasts who actively participated in these games. Indian cosmetics, spices and other food stuff, souvenirs and jewellery were on sale by the local sellers.

The event received wide coverage in the local and social media.

Minsk August 28, 2017