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CONFLUENCE
FESTIVAL OF INDIA IN AUSTRALIA



भारत का उच्चायोग, कैनबरा
HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
3 Moonah Place, Yarralumla
Canberra, ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

29 September, 2016



MESSAGE

On the joyous occasion of Diwali, I would like to extend good wishes to Committee Members of Celebrate India and other members of the Indian community residing in Victoria. May the coming year bring blessings of wealth, peace and prosperity. Diwali symbolizes many noble thoughts: it celebrates the victory of good over evil and it seeks the blessings of the Goddess to bring prosperity and happiness over the coming year.

I urge the Indian community to dedicate this celebration to the service of those who are less fortunate and need your help. An emphasis on giving is a part of our ethos and could be made a focus in the gatherings to celebrate the festival.

I also hope that the festival will be an occasion to remind and educate our children about our cultural heritage and the epic tales of Ramayana. The stories and legends in the Ramayana and the Mahabharata explore every aspect of human behavior and emotion and have important lessons for our lives. They are also the living embodiment of our cultural heritage.

My special compliments and appreciation to Celebrate India, to the many volunteers and to the dedication and commitment of the organizing committee for once again arranging the Diwali festivities in Federation Square on such a grand scale. I also want to acknowledge Victorian Government for their support for Diwali in the true spirit of multi-culturalism.

(Navdeep Suri)