#### **Press Release**

### Celebration of the 79th Independence Day of India at E/I, Warsaw

The Embassy of India celebrated the 79th Independence Day of India with joy and fervour along with several hundred members of the Indian community and friends of India this morning at the premises of the Embassy of India.

Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick unfurled the National Flag which was followed by the National Anthem. Thereafter, she read out the address to the nation by the Hon'ble Rashtrapatiji HE Droupadi Murmu.

A beautiful rendition of Rabindranath Tagore's patriotic song "Akla Cholo Re" was presented by Shreyasi Dasgupta and Adreza Bepari on this occasion.

Several hundred Indian nationals attended the Independence Day celebrations and saluted the tricolour with chants of 'Jai Hind, Jai Bharat'.

\*\*\*\*\*

15 August 2025

#### **Press Release**

# Paying homage to the Good Maharajas on the eve of India's Independence Day

The Association of Poles in India, 1942-48, with the Warsaw Garrison of the Polish Armed Forces, held a beautiful ceremony at Skwer Zolnierzy Tulaczy in Warsaw today to pay homage to Jamsaheb Digvijaysinhji, the Jamsaheb of Nawanagar, and to the Royal Family of Kolhapur.

Adam Siwek, Director, Institute of National Remembrance, and Michal Syska, Deputy Director, Office of Combatants and Veterans, Ministry of Defence, expressed their deep appreciation for the extraordinary gesture of the Jamsaheb and the Royal Family of Kolhapur in providing refuge to Polish women and children in their States in the period 1942 to 1948. Director Siwek pointed out that the Polish camps in India were very different from those elsewhere which were run by the British colonial administration, as the Indian Maharajas had funded and run the camps using their own resources. Andrzej Jan Chendynski, President of the Association of Poles in India, recounted touching memories of his childhood spent in Valivade camp in Kolhapur of attending the first hoisting of the Indian tricolour at the camp on 15 August 1947 as a Polish scout. Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick, in her remarks, saluted the affectionate hearts of the Indian Poles who had built the beautiful stone memorials in Warsaw that were evocative reminders of their story, the bedrock today of the people-to-people ties between India and Poland. In particular, she paid homage to Wieslaw Stypula, Roman Gutowski and others who called themselves Jamnagari Dziecy Maharadzy, or the Jamnagari children of the Maharaja, who had kept alive the story of the Good Maharaja through the decades.

The event was graced by many who had spent their childhood in the Indian camps, their family members and representatives of the Maharaja School, Bednarska. At the end of the ceremony, wreaths were laid by the participants at the memorial.

\*\*\*\*\*

14 August 2025

#### **Press Release**

The Embassy proudly hosted the closing event of the school visit of Rajkumar College, Rajkot to the Maharaja Schools (Bednarska School), Warsaw on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at the Embassy premises. We welcomed Mrs. Maria Kotowska, Director of the Board of Governors of the Maharaja schools, Ms. Alicja Skreta, Director, IB, Bednarska High School, Mr. Bartlomiej Pielak, its Deputy Director and senior students and parents of the school. We also welcomed Mr. Mahendrasingh Chauhan & Ms. Vaishali Tandon, Senior faculty of the Rajkumar College, Rajkot and students of the school. Padmashri Awardee Prof. Krzysztof Byrski and the Gutowski family graced the occasion.

Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick recalled, with a brief overview, on the historical role of the Jamsaheb of Nawanagar, affectionately known as the Dobry Maharaja in Poland, in furthering the people-to-people relations between India and Poland. She expressed her satisfaction that the exchange programme between the two schools was one more happy outcome of that historical relationship. The Jamsaheb was one of the patrons of the Rajkumar College and the Maharaja schools in Warsaw are named after him. She reminded the audience that Prime Minister Modi had been the first Indian Leader to pay homage to the memorials of the Jamsaheb and the Kolhapur family during his visit to Poland in August 2024.

The students shared their learnings from the exchange programme. A small group of students from the Maharaja school had visited the Rajkumar College in Rajkot in November 2024. At the end of the event, the audience were delighted to hear a beautiful music score on the violin by Ms. Melania Piekarzewska.

\*\*\*\*

#### **Press Release**

To celebrate the International Day of Women in Diplomacy, HE Mr. Pawel Kowal, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Polish Parliament, hosted a luncheon for women ambassadors in Warsaw at the Polish Parliament.

The Day recalls the contribution of Ewa Curie, Special Adviser to Secretary-General of NATO, and later the First Lady of UNICEF. Ms. Curie was the illustrious daughter of a great mother, Marie Sklodowska-Curie, who was the first woman to have won a Nobel prize. The Day celebrates women diplomats and their contribution to international diplomacy today.

Mr Kowal and the ambassadors exchanged views on how to encourage greater participation by women in diplomacy. Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick expressed her deep appreciation of the Government of Poland's welcoming attitude to women ambassadors, and of the important role played by women diplomats in implementing Polish foreign policy.

\*\*\*\*\*

24 June 2025

Press Release: Celebration of the International Day of Yoga 2025.

The Embassy of India celebrated the 11<sup>th</sup> International Day of Yoga on 21 June 2025 at the premises of the Embassy. The open-air Yoga Session was attended by several hundred Yoga practitioners including members of the diplomatic community, Polish Yoga lovers and members of the Indian diaspora.

- 2. In her address, Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick shared that Yoga is an ancient Indian practice which has become a universal practice that promotes wellness, physical, mental and spiritual. She noted that at a time when stress, lifestyle diseases and mental health challenges are on the rise, Yoga offers a steady, time-tested path towards holistic well-being.
- 3. All the participants at the Yoga session practised the Common Yoga Protocol developed by Yoga experts in India as an introduction to Yoga.

\*\*\*\*\*

21 June 2025

#### **Press Release**

### **India Women's Day celebrated at the Asia Pacific Museum**

The Asia Pacific Museum, under the patronage of the Embassy of India in Warsaw, hosted Indyski Dzien Kobiet, or India Women's Day, on International Women's Day! There were lectures on the nation-building role played by women in India, including in the Chipko movement, saree-wearing demonstrations, Kathak performances by Ms Ragini Nagar and her students, and an extraordinary exhibition of Madhubani paintings, Barwy Holi, curated by Dr Barbara Banasinska from the Museum's collection.

Ambassador Nagma M Mallick, in her remarks, congratulated the Museum for their efforts in bringing together these diverse elements to celebrate women, and to promote India-Poland cultural relations. She admired the magnificent vernissage of Madhubani paintings, mostly painted by women in rural Bihar, commending the role of Polish art curators on their taste and vision in their early acquiring of this collection, the largest in Europe. She felicitated Polish and Indian women on their achievements and saluted their struggles. Dr Banasinska explained the concept behind the vernissage, and the long years of expertise of the Museum in this facet of Indian art.

The event also celebrated 10 years of the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao initiative of the Government of India, designed to foster the interests of the girl-child.

\*\*\*\*\*

Warsaw, March 8, 2025

#### **Press Release**

### **The India-Poland Social Security Agreement**

The India-Poland Social Security Agreement was signed by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick, for the Government of India, and Mr Sebastian Gajewski, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy, for the Government of Poland, on 25 November 2024 in Warsaw. The two signatories also signed the Administrative Arrangement to the India-Poland Social Security Agreement.

The conclusion of the Social Security Agreement was announced by Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi during his Joint Press Conference with the Prime Minister of Poland Mr. Donald Tusk during his historic visit to Poland on 22 August 2024.

After the ratification of this Agreement, Indian citizens working in Poland and Polish nationals employed in India will enjoy portability of social security and pension-related benefits.

\*\*\*\*\*

Warsaw, November 25, 2024