



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
MBABANE (Eswatini)
PRESS RELEASE

As part of **India@75** celebrations and the **International Day of Yoga 2021 (IDY 2021)** celebrations, High Commission of India, Mbabane organized the following events in the recent past:

India@75

17 June 2021

Interaction with BAWSS Foundation: As part of India@75 celebrations and to commemorate the World Menstrual Hygiene Day (May 28), High Commissioner handed over sanitary pads collected with the assistance of Rotary Club of Mbabane Mbuluzi to BAWSS Foundation on 17 June 2021 for distribution to needy school girls. HE also briefed BAWSS Foundation about the real 'Padman' Arunachalam Muruganatham and his innovative pad making machine on the occasion. Mr. Muruganatham is a social entrepreneur from Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, India. He is the inventor of a low-cost sanitary pad-making machine and is credited for innovating grassroots mechanisms for generating awareness about traditional unhygienic practices around menstruation in rural India.

13 June 2021

Indian Cuisine Promo Launch: As part of India@75 celebrations, High Commissioner hosted an Indian Cuisine Promo Lunch at Cafe Amora, Woodlands Shopping Complex, Mbangweni. Participants included Senator Thuli Dladla, Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation, Princess Lindiwe Dlamini, Home Minister (with spouse), Finance Minister Mr. Neal Rijkenberg (with spouse), Minister of Tourism, Mr. Moses Vilakati, Mayor of Mbabane Mr. Zephaniah Nkambule (with spouse), Ms. Bongilo Mbingo, Mayor of Ezulwini and other dignitaries attended the lunch.

01 May 2021

Eswatini Mum's Funday Event: As part of India@75 celebrations, High Commission supported the initiative of Eswatini Mum's Funday event at the Albert Millin, Mbabane on 01 May 2021. About 50 mothers and their families embraced the event, despite pouring rain accompanied by piercing cold. High Commission showcased Indian arts and crafts at its stall. Achievements of the High Commission for the last 20 months since its establishment in August 2019 were highlighted by the High Commissioner in her speech to the gathering. Emaswati artisans sponsored by the High Commission to the 34th Annual Surajkund International Crafts Mela (01-16 Feb 2020), participated in the event showcasing their talents acquired in India and nurtured on return. Their stall was the main attraction of the event. Business Women Eswatini (Vukani Bomake), an initiative to empower rural women by Business Women Eswatini also organized a stall and displayed their hand made products.

02 May 2021

Iftaar to the Indian community at Manzini and Mbabane: As part of India@75 celebrations, on **02 May 2021** High Commissioner hosted an Iftaar for the Indian community in and around Manzini-Matsapha area at the **Manzini Club**. High Commissioner briefly addressed the gathering (about 75 Indian and Indian-origin) and encouraged the participants to be vigilant of Covid19. Achievements of the High Commission for the last 20 months since its establishment in August 2019 brought out in pamphlet form were distributed. In a **separate Iftaar event** hosted by the High Commissioner on **09 May 2021 at the Mountain Inn Hotel of Mbabane**, about 30 Indian/Indian-origin people participated. High Commissioner interacted with the community leaders on various issues pertaining to diaspora, consular and commercial matters.

11 May 2021

Donation of 100 blankets to Philani Maswati Charity: As part of India@75 celebrations, High Commissioner visited Philani Maswati Charity Organization at Mantjonga, Manzini Region and toured the Community Centre on 11 May 2021. She gifted 100 blankets made by Vukani BoMake (Business Women Eswatini) to the residents of Elders Home. Mr. Ndelelayekuphila Masuku, Member of Parliament from Mkhweni; Mr. Strydon Mpanza, Member of Parliament from Shiselweni II; Chairman of Philani Maswati Charity Organisation Lutfo Dlamini; and Secretary of Philani Maswati Charity Organisation Mcolile Hlophe presided over the interaction with the community.

21 May 2021

Community Kitchen to Ntongozi Inkhundla: As part of India@75 celebrations, at a ceremony held in Ntongozi Inkhundla on 21 May 2021, High Commissioner formally handed over a community kitchen built by the HC to cater to the needs of about 100 children living in the area, many of whom are orphans and disabled. Some women of the Inkhundla were earlier facilitated by the High Commission to train at Barefoot College, Tillonia as Solar Mamas under ITEC. Eswatini Tourism Minister Moses Vilakati, an elected MP from the Constituency, who was present on the occasion, thanked the HC for the gesture. The Chief of the community Prince Umntfwanenkhosi Masuku Dlamini while appreciating the gesture conveyed his gratefulness to India's donation of the first lot of Covid vaccines to Eswatini with which he himself and other elders in the community were vaccinated.

29 May 2021

High Commission's at 'The Market': As part of India@75 celebrations and to commemorate World Menstruation Hygiene Day, HCI Mbabane organized a stall at 'The Market' held at the Albert Millin, Mbabane on 29 May 2021. The stall showcased various Indian handicraft items, Tourism/State promotion material etc. The Trailer of Movie 'Padman' and TedTalk show 'The Real Padman – A.Muruganantham' were shown to the visitors at the stall.

International Day of Yoga 2021

02 June 2021

Yoga session by Iyengar Yoga Teacher Julie Hertslet: As part of Curtain raiser to #IDY2021 Iyengar Yoga Teacher Julie Hertslet, conducted a yoga session with her students on 02 June 2021, demonstrating various yoga asanas.

11 June 2021

Yoga session at Form-Scaff Eswatini: On 11 June 2021, HCI Mbabane Yoga team visited Form-Scaff Eswatini in Matsapha for a 'curtain raiser' event of #IDY2021 and conducted Yoga session.

12 June 2021

HCI Mbabane joins 'Shukuma Initiative': On 12 June 2021, Hon'ble Harries Bulunga, Minister of Sports & Youth Affairs of Eswatini joined the High Commission's Yoga team along with the Eswatini Sports Council in 'Shukuma Initiative' in Timphisini where awareness of Yoga was explained and Yoga practised with participants.

16 June 2021

Yoga session at Fitness Zone, Gables: On 16 June 2021, HCI Mbabane organized a Yoga session at the Fitness Zone, Gables in which several Eswatini nationals from Ezulwini and other places took part.

18 June 2021

Meditation Session at HCI Mbabane: A Meditation session with Brahma Kumari's Brother Gohe was held at High Commission of India Mbabane Auditorium for HCI and UN officials.

18 June 2021