

## **PRESS RELEASE**

The 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India was celebrated by the Embassy of India, Bucharest, Romania, on 26 January 2019. Two events were organized on the occasion: the Flag hoisting ceremony in the morning at the Embassy premises & a Dinner Reception in the evening at Hotel Hilton, Bucharest. The morning function started at 0930 hrs at the Embassy premises in the presence of around 150 guests representing the Indian Diaspora and the friends of India. The Ambassador, Shri THANGLURA DARLONG, unfurled the tricolor, which was immediately followed by singing of the National Anthem. The President's message was then read out by the Ambassador. This was followed by singing of patriotic songs and a cultural programme. Light refreshments were served during the occasion. The evening programme was held at Le Diplomate Hall in the Athenee Palace Hilton Hotel, Bucharest from 1800 to 2100 hrs. Around 350 guests, comprising the Diplomatic community, high ranking Romanian Government officials, representatives of the academia, the business community, Indian Diaspora and friends of India attended the event. The Chief Guest was Dr. ANA BIRCHALL, Deputy Prime Minister for the Implementation of Strategic Partnerships of Romania. The National Anthems of both India & Romania were played by musicians from the famous George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra. The video compilation of Mahatma Gandhi's favourite devotional song (hymn) "Vaishnav Jan Toh Tene Kahiye Ji" sung by the singers from around the world was played immediately thereafter. Finally, a group of Ladies showcased the traditional Indian costumes from 14 states of India. Some photographs of the events are attached.

\*\*\*\*\*