

**High Commission of India
Windhoek**

Press Release

High Commission of India, Windhoek hosted National Day Reception at Mercure Hotel on 7th February 2025 to mark the 76th anniversary of India's Republic Day.

2. Deputy Minister for International Relations and Cooperation of Namibia Hon'ble Jenelly Matundu was the Chief Guest on the occasion. She expressed gratitude to the attendees and commended India's remarkable progress as a democratic nation. The Chief Guest wished High commissioner for a successful tenure in Namibia. While thanking India for the humanitarian assistance, she fondly remembered India's assistance in setting up the computer centre at the India Namibia Centre of Excellence in S&T, participation of three Namibian diplomats at the Sushma Swaraj Institute, location of 8 cheetah in India and addition of 4 Cubs to the cheetah population.

3. Her Worship Cllr Ndesihafela Larandja, Mayor of Windhoek; His Worship Cllr Blasius Goraseb, Mayor of Swakopmund and Cllr Clemencia Hanases, Deputy Mayor of Windhoek were some of the other notable attendees from the Government of Namibia. In addition, Diplomats from resident Missions, businessmen, academicians, media, Indian community members etc. totalling around 200-250 also attended the Reception.

4. In his address, High Commissioner Rahul Shrivastava emphasized the importance of India's relations with Namibia, noting the potential for continued cooperation in areas such as trade, education, defence, culture, capacity building, ITEC, S&T, digital, development cooperation and other areas of mutual interest. He also acknowledged growing engagements at political level and people-to-people connections between the two nations.

5. A short cultural programme to demonstrate India's rich cultural diversity was the highlight of the reception. Guests were treated to a culinary journey through India, with a wide range of delicacies and refreshments that highlighted the country's diverse culinary traditions, in addition to displaying of India's Ayurvedic products and One-District-One-Product (ODOP) items from Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

6. Separately, High Commissioner Rahul Shrivastava unfurled the National Flag on the morning of 26th January 2025 which was well attended by Indian community members and friends of India and Namibia. High Commissioner read out excerpts from the President of India's address emphasizing the nation's accomplishments, inclusive growth, and progressive strides. He also acknowledged the Indian diaspora's invaluable contributions and updated them on the High Commission's initiatives, projects, and recent milestones of bilateral partnerships with Namibia. Local talents representing Indian states renditioned patriotic songs and performed dances at the celebration.

Windhoek
7 February 2025