



**EMBASSY OF INDIA
ABIDJAN**

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PRESS RELEASE

Celebration Non-Resident Indian & World Hindi Day -2019

The Embassy of India in coordination with the Indian community in Abidjan would be organizing a special function to mark the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (प्रवासी भारतीय दिवस) and Vishwa Hindi Divas (विश्व हिन्दी दिवस) on 10 January at the Embassy Premises. The event will include screening of short documentary film on Mahatma Gandhi, the Greatest Pravasi as well as Hindi Poem recitation and essay competition among the school children.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas or 'Non-Resident Indian Day' is a celebration observed by the people and Govt of India on 9 January to recognize the contribution of the overseas Indian community towards the development of their motherland India. The 9th January commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to Mumbai in 1915. In India the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is being organized from 21-23 February at Varanasi to coincide with the Maha Kumbh Mela. The Prime Minister of Mauritius HE Pravind Jugnauth will be the Chief Guest of the special function.

India is one of the world's oldest cultures and people of India speak plethora of language which influences their customs and culture. Hindi is the official language of India and is one of the oldest languages with great heritage of literature dating back to centuries. Hindi is a direct descendant of an early form of vedic Sanskrit and has immensely influenced arts and culture of various societies around the globe. Hindi Divas (Hindi Day) is being observed across India to promote Hindi as Matri Bhasha (mother tongue) of India.
