

## **Festival of India in Republic of Korea**

The Festival of India was inaugurated in Seoul at the Millennium Hilton on the evening of Monday, November 9, 2015. A 20-minute performance by the Drums of India group sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and a sponsor-supported Indian food festival was held at the inaugural event. 180 specially invited influential guests included senior corporate figures from Korea, cultural figures (noted Korean author and long-standing friend of India, Ryu Shihwa and academics, cultural event managers, and some of Korea's most famous TV, theatre and pop music stars, Government officials, Korean media (English and Korean language), diplomats and Indian community.

The second performance in Seoul at Lotte Culture Hall, Yeongdongpo was held on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 where Drums of India troupe followed by an Odissi Dance Troupe, arranged separately by the Mission performed in front of 150 persons.

The Drums of India Troup performed at the inauguration of India's first Cultural Centre in Busan on November 11, 2015 – India's Cultural Centre is the first standalone Cultural Centre in Korea's largest city. The performance had an audience of around 300 persons including members of the local Consular Corps, officials of the City of Busan including the military garrison, the President and Vice President of the Tongmyong University, leading India-scholars, and business representatives.