

**Sri Lanka High Commission  
Celebrates 69th Anniversary Of  
Independence In Canberra**



Sri Lanka High Commission in Australia celebrated the island's 69th anniversary of Independence at the High Commission premises with the participation of over 300 Sri Lankans in Canberra.

After the hoisting of the National Flag by High Commissioner Skandakumar, school children supported by adults sang the National Anthem in Sinhala and in Tamil, followed by two-minutes silence to honour all those who sacrificed their lives for the Independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country.

**By Next Year, When Celebrating 70 Years Of Independence, We Would Be Able To Look Back And Say With Conviction That We Made A Sincere Contribution...**

Clergy representing the Buddhist, Hindu, Christian and Islamic faiths, invoked blessings on the people of Sri Lanka. Thereafter, the National Day Messages of President Maithripala Sirisena, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and Foreign Minister Mangala Samaraweera were read out.

Addressing the large gathering, High Commissioner Skandakumar said that we are indeed a nation of caring and compassionate people. As he reflected on the events conducted by the Mission, he expressed the hope that by next year, when celebrating 70 years of Independence, we would be able to look back and say with conviction that we made a sincere contribution to the Government's pledge for peace and reconciliation.



