

**Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre  
High Commission of India  
Georgetown, Guyana**

**Brief annual report with major highlights 2024-2025**

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in Georgetown, Guyana, marked a year of vibrant cultural diplomacy, celebrating India's heritage and strengthening Indo-Guyanese ties. Key highlights include:

**PM Narendra Modi's Visit (November 19- 21):** In 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made history by becoming the first Indian PM to visit Guyana in 56 years, strengthening bilateral ties and India's engagement with the Caribbean. The visit celebrated shared cultural heritage and focused on future collaboration in trade, technology, renewable energy, and sustainable development. The visit marked a new era in India-Guyana relations, emphasizing diaspora ties and strategic cooperation.



**Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana conferred upon Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi the highest national award of Guyana.**



**Prime Minister Modi was received by the Prime Minister Brigadier (Retd) The Hon. Mark Phillips at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport (CJIA).**



**Prime Minister Modi, Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and Minister Charles Ramson with the legendary cricketers of Guyana (West Indies)**



## **Visit of 10-member Rajasthani dance group sponsored by the ICCR**

The High Commission of India, Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), and Surabhi Sisters hosted a grand Holi celebration on March 14, 2025, at the Georgetown Cricket Club, attended by H.E. President Irfaan Ali, Honb'le Prime Minister Mark Phillips, government officials, diplomats, and the Indian diaspora.

A 10-member Rajasthani dance group (ICCR) mesmerized the crowd with Ghoomar, Kalbelia, and Fire Dance, while Surabhi Sisters served traditional Gujiyas and Thandai. Local artists also performed, adding to the festive spirit.

Pre-Holi events (March 9-14) were held across Guyana in collaboration with local Hindu organizations, featuring vibrant colors, dance, and cultural unity. The Rajasthani troupe also performed for International Women's Day (March 8) in Georgetown. The celebrations reinforced India-Guyana ties, following PM Modi's historic 2024 visit, highlighting shared heritage and enduring friendship. More than just a festival of colors, it symbolized unity, tradition, and mutual respect.



**His Excellency President of Guyana Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali and Prime Minister Brigadier (Ret'd), the Honourable Mark Phillips attended the Holi celebrations**



**Rajasthani dance group performance on Holi-2025**



The High Commission of India in Guyana and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) successfully concluded their three-week Spring Film Festival (Vasantotsav 2025) with a screening of the Bollywood sports drama 83, based on India's iconic 1983 Cricket World Cup win.

#### Key Highlights:

- **Cricket Kit Donation:** Indian infrastructure firm Ashoka Buildcon gifted cricket kits to the Georgetown Cricket Club, honoring the historic Bourda Cricket Ground and Indo-West Indies cricketing ties.
- **Dignitaries Present:** Attendees included Jonathan Yearwood (GCC President), Travis Dowlin (ex-WI cricketer), Rae Wiltshire (Georgetown Film Festival President), and Ram Chandra Rao (Ashoka Buildcon).
- **Cultural Diplomacy:** India's High Commissioner highlighted cinema and cricket as bridges between India and Guyana, proposing future collaborations with the Georgetown Film Festival for Indo-Caribbean film exchanges.

The event celebrated shared heritage while paving the way for deeper people-to-people connections through art and sport.



**Audience at film festival VASANTOSAVA**