

**Embassy of India
Brasilia**

PRESS RELEASE

As part of the 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, an apostle of peace and non-violence, Government of India had organized events across the world. In Brazil, The Embassy of India in Brasilia had organized various events and activities in different parts of Brazil. To give a befitting conclusion to this celebration, a bust of Mahatma Gandhi was installed at the prestigious Parque da Cidade (Sarah Kubitschek City Park) of Brasilia. This is the first-ever bust of Mahatma Gandhi to be installed in Brasilia.

2. The inauguration of the bust was done on [09 January 2020](#) coinciding the historic return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India, which is celebrated as Pravasi Bharatiya Divas honouring the Indian Diaspora. H.E. Mr. Pacro Britto, Acting Governor of the District Federal (Brasilia) unveiled the bust in the presence of Ms. Vanessa Mendonca, Secretary of Tourism of the District Federal and Mr. S. Koventhan, Charge d’Affaires a.i. The unveiling ceremony was attended by senior officials of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry and other senior representatives from the Government and related agencies, International organisations, cultural entities, Indian community, etc. Around 150 people attended the event.

3. Charge d’Affaires a.i. Shri S.Koventhan in his address welcomed the guests and thanked the Government of the District Federal for the support extended in realising the bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Brasilia and touched upon the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi. In her address, Secretary of Tourism of GDF Ms Venessa Mendoca mentioned that the presence of Mahatma Gandhi as a great value addition to the Park and to remind the visitors of the relevance of the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi in the strife torn contemporary world. Acting Governor, after unveiling the bust, spoke of the *“shared goal between India and Brazil based on bonds of friendship and cooperation, striving to mitigate issues of concerns for the progress and prosperity of humanity”*.

4. On this occasion, the Brazilian students of Hindi classes organized by the Embassy sang the favourite Bhajan of Mahatma Gandhi – ‘*Raghupati Raghava Rajaram*’.

10 January 2020