

Consulate General of India

Jeddah

12 October 2021

PRESS RELEASE

Indian Consulate Celebrates International Day of the Girl Child

Celebrating the girl child, the Consulate General of India, Jeddah organized a program title “*Beti-Ghar Ki Chirag* (Daughters-Lamp of the House)” on International Day of the Girl Child on 11 October 2021. The program was part of the Consulate’s celebration of 75 years of India’s independence or “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”.

2. Delivering the keynote address on the occasion, Consul General of India Mohd Shahid Alam pointed out that the importance of women and girl, who comprise half of the world population, in finding solutions to the challenges we face today. He emphasized the importance of providing equal opportunities to the girl children and women to ensure more equitable representation of women at workplace and a sustainable future for all of us.

3. The program rich in content with inspiring speeches delivered by successful Indian women. Ms. Hamna Mariyam Khan, Consul at the Indian Consulate spoke about the nuances of using more gender-appropriate words in communication. To make the program impactful in shaping the ideas and perceptions of the young students, speakers were included from those who grew up in similar environment, facing similar challenges, and still succeeded. Ms. Dheenah Dastageer, an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) Officer who grew up in Saudi Arabia, instilled confidence among the young students with her speech on ‘*Aspirations, Struggle and Resilience*’.

4. Former students of International Indian School Jeddah (IISJ) Ms. Sumayya Fathima, Corporate Trainer, and Ms. Zainab Salim, Investment Manager, boosted the spirits of the students with their real-life experiences and practical lessons on ‘*Challenge*

Yourself to step out of the Norm and *'Rewriting the Rules of the Game'* respectively. Ms. Farahdhunnisa Vice Principal of IISJ Girls spoke about the *'Significance of Financial independence of Women'*. Another student of IISJ, Ms. Sumaiya Wasim shared stories of some successful women. Interesting and meaningful quizzes in between kept the program engaging while putting in a new dimension of information about gender awareness and examples of successful women.

5. In connection with India's 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' or 75 years of independence, CGI Jeddah has been organizing a series of activities covering diverse aspects including culture, business & commerce, sports, Hajj and entertainment.
