

**Ambassador's Remarks on the 165<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of  
Rabindranath Tagore**  
*(Ashgabat, 7 May 2026)*

*Deputy Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan H.E. Mr. Gurbanmyrat Myradaliyev, Members of Indian Diaspora and Friends of India.  
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*Namaste, Good Morning. Ertiriniz hayyrly bolsun!*

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the celebrations of the 165<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of the renowned Indian Poet Rabindranath Tagore, in this beautiful city of Ashgabat. I would like to convey my special gratitude to the Deputy Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan for his gracious presence in today's event.

2. As you know, Rabindranath Tagore, fondly remembered as "Guru Dev (*Respected Teacher*)" was not just a poet but an author, playwright, philosopher, composer, painter and an excellent educationist. In a world deeply divided by race, religion, language etc, Tagore was a champion of the universal values of humanity, tolerance and co-existence. In 1913, he became the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize for Literature, for his collection of poems "*Gitanjali (Song Offerings)*". You might be aware that Tagore's works "Jana Gana Mana" and "Amar Sonar Bangla" were adopted as the National Anthems of India and Bangladesh respectively. The "*Visva-Bharati (Universal India) University*" founded by Tagore in 1921 still continues to impart holistic learning to its students, by combining India's traditions with the ideals of global education. It is heartening that the statue of Tagore was installed by the Government of Turkmenistan in this beautiful cultural park named after the great Turkmen poet Magtymguly Pyragy, as a vivid reflection of the civilizational bonds of friendship between India and Turkmenistan. I also take this opportunity to congratulate my fellow Indians on the first anniversary of

Operation Sindoor, which showcased India's strategic clarity and calculated force in the fight against terrorism.

3. In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm that India considers Turkmenistan as a close partner and a fellow developing country in its extended neighborhood. In line with the ancient Indian philosophy of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (*World is one Family*)" India will continue to share its developmental experience and expertise as per the needs and priorities of Turkmenistan, without any ulterior motive. I am confident that the India-Turkmenistan partnership will scale greater heights in the coming days under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi and the President of Turkmenistan H.E. Mr. Serdar Berdimuhamedov. Once again, warm greetings to all of you, on the occasion of 165<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. Sag bolun!