



# South Asia Times

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## COMMUNITY

### Big Republic-Day turnout at Indian Consulate

By Our Community Reporter

Melbourne: India's Republic Day was celebrated on 26th January last month in Melbourne. The main function was held at the Indian Consulate, Coburg. Wearing colourful and traditional dresses a large number of true believers descended at the Consulate for the occasion. Deputy Counsel Dr. Martand Joshi unfurled the tricolour outside the Consulate building. Flower petals spread around with thin air as the flag of

the world's biggest democracy opened up for the great day.

In a small brief but important speech Dr. Joshi outlined the social, economic and political progress since 26 January, 1950 when India became a Republic. The biggest democracy in the world was now fighting to eliminate poverty with its mighty strides in science and technology,



passage of dual nationality bill by the Indian Parliament. Dr. Joshi also called upon all people of Indian origin to unite as a single community.

Dr. Joshi said. The emergence of a economically strong middle class, according to him, was a positive sign. He also explained the recent

The speech was followed by tea/coffee and snacks. Amidst an Indian atmosphere people networked and had a nice time. Dr. Joshi was naturally a happy man. It was one of the biggest crowds celebrating the R- Day at the Indian consulate. He agreed with South Asia Times that next year will be a bigger celebration.





Soumya - the youngest kid to participate in R-Day 2004