



PRESS RELEASE



October 20th, 2025

UNITY AND LIGHT TO THE NATION

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) extends sincere greetings to the Hindu community and all Guyanese on the auspicious occasion of Diwali, the Festival of Lights.

Diwali, or Deepavali, is a sacred festival celebrating the triumph of positive tendencies over negative tendencies of human beings. It symbolizes the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.

As diyas illuminate homes, streets, and temples across Guyana, we are reminded that this radiant festival is far more than a cherished cultural observance. It is a profound reflection of hope, righteousness, and renewal. Ideals that guide us as a people and as a nation.

In Guyana, Diwali has beautifully transcended its religious origins to become a cherished national event, woven into the rich, multicultural fabric of our society. It is a time when Guyanese from all ethnic and religious backgrounds come together to share in the joyous festivities.

The spectacular sight of diyas and lights illuminating homes, mandirs, motorcades, public spaces, and the traditional practice of sharing sweet treats (prasadam) with neighbours and friends, are profound demonstrations of our capacity for togetherness and mutual respect.

The core message of Diwali resonates deeply with the mandate of the Ethnic Relations Commission. Each lit diya is a call to action to dispel the darkness of misunderstanding, prejudice, and division with the brilliant light of empathy, acceptance, and unity.

It is also a reminder that despite the diversely rich backgrounds of our people, a shared humanity and ongoing desire for peace and cultural growth unite us all.

May this festival inspire conversations that build bridges, actions that foster harmony, and a renewed dedication to strengthening the bonds that define us as one people.

The Commission wishes that the divine light of Diwali illuminates the lives of all with serenity, prosperity, and happiness.

Shubh Diwali to all!

Ethnic Relations Commission

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