

A Message from the Honourable Dr. Harold Robertson Consul General for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

I am pleased to convey greetings to the Indian Community in New York and surrounding areas from the Government and people of Trinidad and Tobago as we celebrate one of the seminal events in the history of our country - the one hundred and sixty-fifth anniversary of the arrival of East Indians to Trinidad and Tobago.

From the early outflow of Indians who left their home country bound for the Americas, Africa, nearby Asian Islands and other parts of the British Empire, the Indian diaspora has expanded and is perhaps today the largest diaspora in the modern world.

The history of East Indian experience is one filled with heroism. It is the story of ordinary men and women of humble beginnings who struggled under very trying circumstances and faced severe travails in their effort to recreate a new life for themselves in their transplanted surroundings. It is also a story of great success.

In Trinidad and Tobago the example of our East Indian bretheren is one worthy of emulation by our youth and indeed by all. Our Indian brothers and sisters continue to make remarkable contributions in academia, medicine, science and technology, business and culture. They continue to demonstrate that consistent application of self will yield success and their dedication to their families remains unwavering.

In a society characterized by multi-ethnic pluralism, the sterling efforts of the descendents of India join with those of other groups who came from far off lands to make pivotal contributions to the successful melting pot that is Trinidad and Tobago.

My family and my staff at the Consulate General, join me in extending Happy Indian Arrival Day greetings to all.