

The Emperor's Birthday Reception in Guyana

On December 14th, a reception to celebrate the Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan was held at the Guyana Marriott Hotel in Georgetown. His Excellency Mitsuhiro Okada, Ambassador of Japan, and Mrs. Okada hosted the reception which was attended by approximately 100 guests, including His Excellency David Granger, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Mr. Samuel Hinds, former Prime Minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, the Honourable Mr. Keith Scott, Minister within the Ministry of Social Protection, Ambassador Audrey Waddell, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Kashir Khan, Honorary Consul-General of Japan in Guyana.

The Reception began with a speech from Ambassador Okada, followed by the national anthem of Guyana, after which President Granger offered remarks before the playing of the Japanese national anthem. In his speech, Ambassador Okada referred to Japan's diplomatic activities during this year, noting the G7 2016 Ise-Shima Summit and the Fifth Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Conference, as well as the deepening relations between Japan and Guyana, highlighting Japan's financial and technical assistance to Guyana in priority areas such as climate change and disaster risk reduction.

In his remarks, President Granger said that the bilateral relations have strengthened since the enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor and noted that cooperation in the areas of electricity, conservancy management, disaster preparedness, skills training, solid waste management, water and youth development has been a cornerstone of relations between the two countries.

During the reception, there was a display of calendars showcasing different aspects of Japanese culture as well as a photo exhibition showing the Embassy's activities of the year.



Japanese Ambassador Mitsuhiro Okada delivers his speech at the reception
(Left: Ambassador Okada, Centre: President David Granger, Right: Mrs. Sandra Granger, wife of President David Ganger)



President David Granger gives remarks at the reception



Japanese Calendars on display



Guests view the Photo Panel Exhibition