



CIIM Golf Invitational and Royal Gala Dinner



B.N. Reddy
High Commissioner of India

India and Malaysia share deep civilizational and cultural links. As India and Malaysia mark 65 years of diplomatic ties, this commemorative golf game celebrates the long-standing sporting links between the two nations. With the focus of both the Governments towards promoting sports, our sporting ties are bound to propel higher.



The CIIM Golf Invitational Tournament and Royal Gala Dinner took place on March 10 at Tropicana Golf & Country Club.

Organised by the Consortium of Indian Industries in Malaysia (CIIM) together with the High Commission of India in Malaysia to mark 65 years of Malaysia-India diplomatic relations and CIIM's 15th Anniversary, the occasion was graced by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunku Hajah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah.

Honoured guest, B. N. Reddy, the

Indian High Commissioner to Malaysia, along with other dignitaries, were in attendance.

Datuk Umang Sharma, CIIM Chairman, shared the history of CIIM, explaining to the 300 guests attending the dinner that the consortium was set up to represent corporate India in Malaysia and its objective was to establish links and facilitate networking between Indian companies and the various industry stakeholders in Malaysia.



B. N. Reddy, the Indian High Commissioner to Malaysia, delivering his welcome speech.



Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah with, (l-r) Vikram Vardhan, First Secretary, High Commission of India; Datuk Vinod Kumar Agarwal, Bharat Group; B.N. Reddy, High Commissioner of India; Datuk Umang Sharma, CIIM Chairman, Shaji N. Meethal, Organising Chairman and Aditya Fotedar, Second Secretary, High Commission of India.



Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah presenting the A Medal champion, Nelvin Raj Jayasnagr, with his prizes. Also present (l-r) is Shaji N. Meethal, Organising Chairman; CIIM Chairman Datuk Umang Sharma and the High Commissioner of India to Malaysia B.N. Reddy.



(l-r) Datuk Umang Sharma, CIIM Chairman, presents A Medal 2nd Place winner, YAM Tengku Arif Bendahara Tengku Muhammad Iskandar, with his prize.



A Medal 3rd Place – Ashok K. Ramavath.



Longest Drive – YAM Tengku Arif Bendahara Tengku Muhammad Iskandar.



Nearest To Line – Akhil Guptae



Nearest To Pin – Prasad Rao.

He shared that there are over 250 Indian companies operating in Malaysia that have invested over US\$3 billion, employing more than 100,000 Malaysians. “With Malaysia India bilateral trade at US\$20 billion last year, Indian and Malaysian economies are on a take-off trajectory moving forward. The Indian economy grew at 8.6 per cent

in 2021 and is expected to grow at a rate of seven percent this year.”

Afternoon golf for a full field of 120 golfers, spearheaded by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, set the mood, while the time on-course facilitated participants with the opportunity to network and strengthen bonds.

Each received an attractive Goodie Bag in their personalised locker

comprising a PG Golf T Shirt, Srixon Golf Cap, 1 Dozen Srixon Golf Balls, Arms Sleeves and a commemorative mug provided by the Indian High Commission.

On-course drinks and Hospitality Marquee kept everyone in good spirits and the weather gods kept the rain at bay until everyone had returned to the clubhouse.

The gala dinner welcomed 300 guests, who were treated to speciality Indian food, and entertainment throughout the night consisted of a blazing display of multi-cultural traditional performances by Malaysian and Indian dance troops. Famous performers representing Malaysia and those flown in from India included DJ Dave and Abid

Anwar, and to top things off, Dato’ Yasmin Yusuff Emceed the evening in her gracious and humorous manner to the delight of all.

In the tournament proper, the champions in the A & B Medal categories received their prizes from Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

Nelvin Raj Jayasnagr, handicap 10, won the A Medal with a score of

38 on countback, while Yew Wai Mok (20) took the B Medal honours with a score of 36.

Finishing a close second in the A Medal was YAM Tengku Arif Bendahara Tengku Muhammad Iskandar (10), 38. Third went to Ashok K. Ramavath (11) 37 ocb, fourth was M. Munawir (14) 37 ocb and Poh Wee Lee (17) 37, was fifth.



Datuk Umang Sharma, CIIM Chairman, presented the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah, with a Srixon Driver. (l&r) Shaji N. Meethal, Organising Chairman and B.N. Reddy, High Commissioner of India to Malaysia.



Datuk Umang Sharma, CIIM Chairman, delivering his speech during the Gala Dinner.



Datuk Umang Sharma's wife Datin Suniti Sharma (l), presented the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunku Hajah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah with a white marble vase made by the descendants of the sculptors who built the Taj Mahal.



Malaysia's DJ Dave performed to the delight of all present.



India's Abid Anwar was flown in to perform.



India showcased its Millets at the dinner.

In the B Medal Sankar Reddy (22) was runner-up with a score of 35 ocb, over third placed Peter Chandran (22) 35 ocb and fourth placed Shaqeel Prakash (23) 35 ocb. The final prize went to Foo Mun Chuan (23) 35, in fifth.

There were lots of extra prizes to be picked up out on the fairways

in the form of Novelty Contests. In the Nearest-to-Pin at East 2 Hole 13, Prasad Rao landed his ball 1 foot from the pin, while at the Nearest-to-Line East 1 Hole 7, Akhil Gupta won the prize when his ball was judged closed at 3 feet from the line. The Longest Drive East 2 Hole 18 was snapped

up by a powerful 230 metre drive by YAM Tengku Arif Bendahara Tengku Muhammad Iskandar.

Before their Majesties took their leave, both were presented with mementoes of the evening, His Majesty received a Srixon Driver, while Her Majesty received a white marble vase

made by the descendants of the sculptors who built the Taj Mahal.

A commemorative 60-page CIIM Souvenir Programme was also produced in conjunction with the celebrations, with messages by B.N. Reddy, High Commissioner of India, Datuk Umang Sharma, Founder Chairman of CIIM and

Shaji N. Meethal, Organising Chairman.

CIIM expressed their deepest appreciation for all the supporting sponsors, with special mention for VFS. Global, Standard Chartered, Liberty Insurance and Larsen & Toubro, who were awarded personalised Pewter Plates. ●

