

# Independence Day Celebrations

Contributed by Griselda Araujo  
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Indian Social Club Muscat organized the 68th Independence Day cultural extravaganza at the majestic Oman Auditorium, Bustan Palace & a Ritz Carlton Hotel, on 15th August 2014. A large gathering comprising the dignitaries, parents and all other invitees occupied the huge hall to its full capacity.

H.E. Shri J.S. Mukul (Ambassador of India to Oman) was the chief guest.

The different wings from ISC were invited to stage cultural items depicting the festivals of India and its diverse culture and traditions. It was a spectacular show of colorful folk dances accompanied by vibrant music and synchronized lighting.

The performance from the Goan Wing was class apart. It was an exhibition of the uniqueness of Goa, showcasing the East-West fusion of dance and music and which truly represents the evolving Goan culture. The talented youth team under the dynamic leadership of Gayle enthralled the crowd with their elegance, grace and flamboyance. The carnival style stage setting was impressive and set the tone for the performance. As the curtains were drawn there was a thunderous applause from the audience. Moreover, after the programme, the convenor Antonio Goes was commended by the dignitaries and ISC officials for the fine display by the Goan Wing. It was also an uplifting moment to all those Goans who got the opportunity to witness the celebrations.

The youth who participated deserves lots of praises and admiration. They put in a lot of hardwork, sacrifice and dedication to prepare themselves for such a splendid show. The Goan Wing would like to thank each and every one of them starting with the mastermind who took the responsibility of getting everything organized:

1. Gayle Veronica Araujo
2. Griselda Karen Araujo
3. Alston Rodrigues
4. Reia Desouza
5. Karen Josephine Rangel
6. Ryan Fernandes
7. Amanda Rosario
8. Pravin Ernest Coutinho
9. Dean Chris D'souza
10. Praveen Divakar

The Goan Wing would also like to express their appreciation and gratitude to:

• Bhal Joshi, Diksha Joshi, Ida Lopes and Bernard Lopes for volunteering to represent the Goan Wing in the Goan traditional dress and be part of the welcoming team at the function.

• Savio Carvalho for the wonderful stage setup.