

**Remarks by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at the VCC Conclusion  
Ceremony  
December 12, 2025**

Good evening my dear students.

It is a pleasure to join all of you today for the conclusion ceremony of the July to December 2025 semester of the Vivekananda Cultural Centre.

VCC has always been an important part of the Embassy's engagement with the people of Japan and I am pleased to see so many students here this evening. Each of you has devoted your time, discipline and curiosity to learning something meaningful whether yoga, a classical dance form, tabla or Indian languages. Your presence today reflects your commitment and I congratulate all of you.

This semester, the Centre conducted an impressive range of classes totalling 462 students across programmes. This is not just a number. It is a sign of the growing interest in Indian culture in Japan.

Many of you may choose to continue your learning in the next semester. Some may take the skills you acquired here into your own professions such as performers, yoga practitioners, teachers or simply as individuals who carry a deeper appreciation for India. Whatever path you take, I hope the time you spent at VCC becomes a source of strength, creativity and confidence.

At this occasion I would like to thank our teachers for their dedication. Whether it is a yoga session at Tsukiji Hongwanji attended by thousands, a dance performance at a cultural festival or a quiet classroom session here at the Centre, your work plays a vital role in shaping India's image in Japan.

To the students, I would like to say that your improved performances over the period of the last 6 months is a reflection of your enthusiasm. Culture thrives only when people participate wholeheartedly and you have done exactly that.

As we conclude this semester, I hope each of you carries forward not only the skills you learned, but the values behind them such as discipline, respect,

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perseverance and curiosity. These qualities will serve you well wherever life takes you.

Let me once again congratulate all the students of the July-December 2025 batch. I look forward to seeing many of you return in the next semester and I hope the relationship you have built with VCC continues for many years.

Thank you and my best wishes to all of you.

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