



INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS

Press Release

Indian Council for Cultural Relations Celebrates 136th Birth Anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

New Delhi, 11 November 2024— The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), under the Ministry of External Affairs, celebrated the 136th birth anniversary of its visionary founder and the first President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. ICCR honors Maulana Azad's remarkable contributions to India's cultural diplomacy and his enduring legacy in promoting India's external cultural relations.

As part of the celebrations, ICCR hosted a commemorative gathering at its headquarters, Azad Bhavan, New Delhi, where Deputy Director General, Anju Ranjan, along with ICCR personnel, gathered to pay their tributes. Additionally, a solemn floral tribute was offered at Maulana Azad's Mazar near Jama Masjid, Delhi, where senior ICCR officials laid a ceremonial chadar in his honor.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, born on 11 November 1888, was a prominent freedom fighter, scholar, and poet. Appointed as independent India's first Education Minister, Azad played a pivotal role in shaping India's educational and cultural policies. He founded ICCR in 1950 to foster cultural exchanges, mutual understanding, and goodwill between India and other nations. ICCR has since stood as a testament to his vision, building bridges of cultural understanding and cooperation worldwide, particularly through the promotion of Indian culture, art, and scholarship.

Maulana Azad's legacy continues to inspire ICCR's mission to cultivate cultural diplomacy, supporting exchanges and collaborations that celebrate India's diverse heritage.

New Delhi
11th November 2024
