



**Embassy of India  
The Hague**

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**Press Release**

**Commonwealth Service of Remembrance 2024**

The Embassy of India, The Hague hosted the annual Commonwealth Service of Remembrance on behalf of the Netherlands Joint Committee of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on November 10, 2024 (Sunday) at the Westduin Cemetery in The Hague.

2. Ambassador of India to the Netherlands H.E. Kumar Tuhin paid his respects to the fallen soldiers of the Commonwealth on behalf of the people and Govt. of India and on behalf of the Joint Committee. In his remarks, he highlighted the selfless and valiant contributions made by the soldiers of India to the Commonwealth war efforts during the First and the Second World Wars. On this occasion he read out the excerpts from poem 'The Gift of India' by celebrated poetess, freedom fighter and politician Smt. Sarojini Naidu – honoring the contributions of Indian soldiers in the war effort.

3. All other members of the Joint Committee – Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and United Kingdom were represented by their ambassadors at the event. Ambassadors of other countries and members of Diplomatic Corps joined the representative of the Dutch Govt. and Municipalities of The Hague and Wassenaar as well as other organizations to honor the bravery and dedication of the soldiers of the Commonwealth. The Scouts and Children of the Commonwealth laid flowers on the graves of the fallen soldiers and members of the Stijkel Group, an important Dutch resistance group.

4. India is a member of the Netherlands Joint Committee of the Commonwealth and hosts the Service every 6<sup>th</sup> year in the Netherlands. Two soldiers of India are buried at the Arnhem Cemetery in the Netherlands. The Service was last hosted by India in 2017.

The Hague  
11.11.2024