PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

LIVE LIGHTER PERTH BASANT FESTIVAL 2016

My best wishes to everyone celebrating Basant, and welcoming the arrival of Spring.

The freedom to express ourselves and to embrace diversity is what makes Australia one of the most successful multicultural societies in the world.

Our nation is like a magnificent tapestry and every one of our community groups and our cultural traditions, woven into that, is an indelible part of who we are.

At the core of our success are the values that we share: hope, respect and a deep belief that everyone should have the freedom to express who they are.

Cultural celebrations such as the Perth Basant Festival are a powerful reminder that our nation has been greatly enriched by the diversity of its people.

As you gather for this year's event, I encourage you to be proud of an Australia where people of different beliefs and backgrounds can be part of our national tradition, and of a united and tolerant nation.

I wish you, your family and friends, an enjoyable festival.



The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister of Australia

3 November 2016