



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

May 8, 2016

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone taking part in the Teeyan Da Mela Festival hosted by Watno Dur TV and Radio Network.



Teeyan Da Mela gives South Asian Canadians an opportunity to celebrate and recognize women for the work they do, whether inside or outside the home. We have made enormous progress in advancing women's rights and well-being, but there is still a lot of hard work to do. Far too many women and girls around the world continue to face injustices and discrimination. Our government is committed to advancing equality between the sexes, starting with a Cabinet that achieves gender parity.

I commend the festival organizers, Watno Dur TV and Radio Network, for highlighting women's contributions to society and for sharing the best of South Asian traditions with your fellow Canadians. Canada is a country defined by—and celebrated for—its pluralism. Our ethnic, religious, and racial diversity is what makes us uniquely Canadian and allows all members of society to thrive within a multicultural fabric.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable celebration.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P.J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada