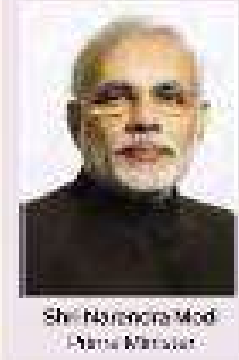


Smt. Droupadi Murmu
President



सत्यमेव जयते



Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE

I extend warm wishes and greetings to all Indians and friends of India in Qatar on the glorious anniversary of India's 75th birthday. This, the day when the Constitution of India came into force in 1950. Each year, on this day, we, the people of India reaffirm our love and respect for the principles and values enshrined in our Constitution and renew our commitment to fulfill them to our thoughts and actions.

Over the past more than seven decades, the values of Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity enshrined in our Constitution have guided and inspired us to follow the vision of the leaders of our freedom struggle. This is an occasion to pay tribute to them as well as to our leaders who have transformed India and the world forward to have created our security and well-being. It is also an occasion for Indians around the world, Indian and foreign, to rejoice in India's successes.

Today, India is globally recognised as the world's largest democracy, 11th largest world economy, fast emerging innovation capital of the world, and an indispensable partner in addressing global issues. India is seen as a role model for countries across the world by taking along its diverse, multilingual, multi-ethnic, and multi-cultural people towards a path of development and progress.

In 2020, India's 100th anniversary laid the theme of 'Vision for India - One Nation, One Family, One Future' enabled India to shape the global discourse. As PM Modi said India offered the world an alternative form of 'a sustainable human centric progress'. India led the effort for greater equality in G-20 and ensured the inclusion of the African Union as a permanent member of the forum. India realised and demonstrated, amplified the voice of the Global South, championed development, and fought for the empowerment of women. During India's 'Freedom', the G-20 adopted an Action Plan on SDGs, established a Digital Public Infrastructure Repository, and introduced initiatives like building a 'cleaner, greener planet'.

India has continued to be the fastest growing major economy, with its GDP estimated to grow well above 7% in 2023. In the past five years, India is set to become a US\$ 5 trillion economy. This growth has an unprecedented pace of infrastructure development in the country, whether it be in the fields of highways, airports, ports, power, or renewable energy. India remains a top global nation for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows, recorded US\$ 100 billion especially in 2022 in coming years. The booming digital payments ecosystem (US\$ 1 trillion monthly transactions), the spirit of innovation, and the launch of the world's largest office space market (around 20000 acres) are some of the major milestones achieved in recent months.

India's march towards becoming an "innovation hub" continues forward with our Global Innovation Index ranking improving to 40 in 2023 (vs. 51 in 2018). The report further especially showed the strength of India in the field of science and technology. In August 2023, the launch of India's Chandrayaan-3 mission on the Moon's South Pole drew global attention to India's space, the fourth country to do so while being the first to land on the South Pole.

As we welcome the 75th anniversary of the glorious year, we also remain committed to the world's goal of 'India 2047' - a developed India by the year 2047. The vision is to transform India into a developed country meeting all 17 Sustainable Development Goals such as economic prosperity, social and environmental sustainability, and effective governance. Meeting this vision demands an ever-evolving institutional framework to India's industry, and a profound recognition of our vast potential, talent, and capabilities.

On this day, it is a privilege to reaffirm India's friendly and established relationship with Qatar which have seen firm strength in strength over the past years. The year 2023 marked 180 years of establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations between India and Qatar. Our relationship is not just a number phenomenon that has become historical India-Qatar for International. In recent years, the relationship has continued to grow and evolve further through regular and substantial engagement. PM Modi and His Highness the Emir met in Doha on the sidelines of COP28 held in December in the UAE and reaffirmed several areas of mutual interest.

The economic relations between India and Qatar have continued to grow steadily based on mutual trust. The bilateral trade reached a quarterly US\$ 8.177 billion in Q1 2023-24. Qatar remains an important source of LNG and LNG for India and both sides are discussing options for further expansion of this important aspect of the bilateral relationship. India's exports to Qatar and Qatar's investments in India have also demonstrated growth. Recent months have seen particularly significant investments from Qatar to India, with exports of large investments by QIA Indian companies, Adani's Adani-Eden Energy.

The depth of the India-Qatar relationship is reflected in our strong people-to-people ties. Today, Qatar is a second home to over 100,000 Indian nationals. The large and diverse Indian community in Qatar has played an important role in Qatar's development as well as in nurturing the bilateral relationship between the two countries. The Indian diaspora shares

Qatar's pride in emerging as a hub of culture and sports in the region. Our community sees at the launch of the Al Jassrah Gate's new sports hub in Q1 2023. Over the past few months, India teams have visited Qatar to participate in the Asian Football Championship as well as tournaments in chess, shooting, and badminton. We also welcomed Qatar's football team to India when both countries played a FIFA qualifier match. This depicts that players from Bollywood and other entertainers of India are regularly screened in Qatar. Indian film stars continue to look for Qatar for shooting their films.

I would like to express my appreciation to the various Indian community organisations in Qatar for their work. We remain committed to promoting and supporting the welfare and well-being of the Indian community in Qatar. We seek to provide best services to our community and assist any Indian in distress. Our consulate will continue building upon our services and these over the years.

I take this opportunity to convey our felicitations and gratitude to His Highness the Amir of the State of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, His Highness, Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the members of the Royal Family, the Government and the friendly people of this wonderful country for their continued support and warm relationship with the Indian community in Qatar.

I once again extend my warm greetings and love to the Indian people in this rich, beautiful city, and thank them for their continuing invaluable contribution to the growth and development of India and Qatar. Jai Hind!

Shri Vipul
Ambassador of India to Qatar



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Ambassador of India to Qatar

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