



Smt. Droupadi Murmu
President of India



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Shri. Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

Ambassador's Message

ON the momentous occasion of India's completion of 75 years as a Republic, I extend my warm greetings to all Indians and friends of India in Qatar. I also take this opportunity to convey our profound gratitude to His Highness the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the esteemed Members of the Royal Family, and the Government of Qatar for their support and patronage of the Indian community in Qatar.

Over the past 75 years, India has made great strides in realising the vision of our founding fathers while being guided by the principles of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity enshrined in our Constitution. As the world's oldest and the largest democracy, India continues to be a beacon of inspiration, demonstrating the strength of its democratic institutions and dynamic governance. The democratic spirit has historic and deep roots across the length and breadth of the country and the citizens proudly exercise their rights to shape their destiny. In this context, the year 2024 was special as India successfully completed the largest ever democratic exercise in the world. More than 968 million voters exercised their choice and elected the government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Elections were also held in several States during the year. Jammu and Kashmir held its first elections post-Article 370 marking a new chapter in its political landscape.

We can be proud that India's economy, despite the global challenges, continues to remain the best performing among the large economies of the world and on course to become the third largest economy by 2030. The nation continues to provide an ecosystem that fuels innovation, promotes investments in infrastructure, manufacturing and technological sectors while ensuring the growth of its people. The total Foreign Direct Investment into India crossing the milestone of \$1 trillion recently is a testament to the investor confidence in India's polity and economy. Government's flagship programmes like Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Mudra Yojana, and the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

continue to transform lives by ensuring health-care access, affordable housing, financial inclusion, and food security. The success of ISRO's SpaDeX docking experiment again showcased India's prowess in S&T. The implementation of Bharatiya Nyaya Samhita has reformed the colonial criminal justice system.

In sports, India's win in Cricket World Cup and the crowning of Gukesh D. as World Chess Champion provided moments of national pride.

On the international stage, India continues to be a responsible nation guided by the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - the belief that the entire world is one family. India's continued championing of climate action, renewable energy, and digital public infrastructure in words and in action have drawn international acclaim. As the voice of the Global South, India remains steadfast in advocating for developing nations in international forums, including the UN, G20, BRICS and G7, with sustainability and equity at the core of its agenda. We will continue to share our journey and experiences with the developing world and have deeper engagement across the world.

I am happy that the historic India-Qatar partnership is moving ahead with high-level engagements and growth in trade, investment, energy and other areas. The visit of Prime Minister Modi and his meeting with His Highness the Amir and other Qatari leadership in February 2024 provided a renewed momentum to the relationship. Our External Affairs Minister Dr.



HE Mr Vipul
Ambassador of India to Qatar

S. Jaishankar visited Qatar in June 2024 and met Qatar's Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. The two leaders also met on the sidelines of India-GCC Strategic Dialogue held in Riyadh under the Chairmanship of Qatar in September 2024. In December 2024, Dr Jaishankar attended the Doha Forum and met with Qatar's PM/FM and Minister of Commerce & Industry. Qatar's MOS for Foreign Trade also visited India in December 2024 and met India's Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal.

Earlier, in October, India's MOS for External Affairs and Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh visited Qatar and participated in the ACD Summit and the 2nd ACD Business Forum in Doha. He met Qatar's MOS for Foreign Affairs on the sidelines of the Summit. In September 2024, India's Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman met with Qatar's Minister of Finance on the sideline of the AIIB Annual Meeting in Uzbekistan and discussed advancing partnership particularly in areas of trade, investments, and digital innovation. At official level, the two sides have engaged for the 5th India-Qatar Foreign Office Consultations, Joint Task Force on Investments and Joint Working Group on Trade and Commerce.

India and Qatar share a long-term energy partnership since 1999. This partnership was renewed in February 2024 when QatarEnergy and Petronet signed a contract for the supply of 7.5 million tonnes of LNG from Qatar to India for 20 years starting 2028 when the current

contract expires. Another agreement for supply of LNG by QatarEnergy to GAIL for 5 years was concluded a few weeks back. An Indian company Haldia Petrochemicals contracted supply of Naphtha from Qatar. Trade between India and Qatar also remains robust at about \$14 billion. Both countries have an expanding investment relationship with growing investments of Qatar Investment Authority in India and large presence of Indian companies in SME sector in Qatar. There are significant opportunities for expanding cooperation in new areas like renewable energy, AI, health-tech and fin-tech which can be harnessed by the startups and innovation ecosystem of both countries. India's Minister of Railways, Communications and IT attended the Web Summit in 2024 and explored some of these areas with his Qatari counterparts.

The Indian community in Qatar continues to be a strong bridge between the two countries in various spheres especially for trade, tourism, culture, or people-to-people ties. Their dedication, skills, and cultural values have enriched both India and Qatar. About 180 Indians from Qatar participated in the recently concluded 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention 2025 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Qatar's delegation was among the largest contingents among 75 countries. The event celebrated the achievements of Indian diaspora and was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who also urged the diaspora to contribute to Viksit Bharat 2047.

It is our constant endeavour to serve the community at our best. We have taken measures to ensure time-bound delivery of passports and other consular services. I would also take this opportunity to thank various Indian community organizations in Qatar who play key role as our partner in strengthening community bonds and providing various services. As we celebrate the 75 years of our Republic, let's renew our commitment to India's Constitution and strive for a future defined by peace, prosperity and progress. Let's also continue to build on the enduring friendship between India and Qatar!

Jai Hind! Jai Qatar!



The Malayalam edition of the book
"As Seen, Read, and Lived: Qatar Through My Eyes"
 by Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim Al Thani
 will be released during the
New Delhi World Book Fair,
 on **5 Feb 2025,** at **Bharat Mandapam**

