15 August 2021

सत्यमेव जयते

PRESS RELEASE

India's 75th Independence Day in Doha

India's 75th Independence Day was celebrated in Doha with zeal and fervor on 15 August 2021 at the Embassy premises.

The program began with a floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi followed by hoisting of the tricolor and singing of the National Anthem. Ambassador read out excerpts from Hon'ble President of India's message to a gathering comprising of Indian community members, officials of the Mission and their families.

In his address, Ambassador said that the Amrit Mahotsav is a celebration of freedom fighters, the struggle they led to attain independence and the progress made by India in various fields since its independence.

Talking of the huge strides India and Qatar have been making in taking the bilateral ties to new heights, he thanked His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Father Amir and the State of Qatar for their patronage.

Ambassador congratulated the Indian Community and praised them for their contribution towards New India and in strengthening India-Qatar relations. He specially mentioned the health workers, teachers and covid warriors. He encouraged the community to participate actively take part in finding solutions to global challenges such as climate change, health issues and sustainable energy resources leveraging on our expertise and knowledge, for the benefit of both India and Qatar.

While addressing the Indian Community Organistions, he urged the Indian Business community to become voice of 'vocal for local' and 'local for global' campaigns promoting Indian products and work towards India's "Atmanirbharta" (self reliance). In this context, he appreciated the recent Handloom exhibition held by Indian Women's Association showcasing artistry of handloom weavers, the richness and diversity of Indian culture. Recalling the performance of India and Qatar at recently concluded

Olympics and their sportsmanship, he praised the Indian Sports Centre's (ISC) efforts to promote sports. He encouraged ISC to promote traditional Indian sports and Fit India Movement. He thanked the Indian Cultural Centre (ICC) for organizing and promoting activities under "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".

A congratulatory video message sent by H.E. Abdullah bin Hamad Al Attiyah, former Deputy Prime Minister of Qatar was played.

As part of the celebrations many new initiatives for the benefit of Indian Community were launched. Ambassador launched Pravasi Bhartiya Sahayta Kendra (PBSK) Qatar, a welfare initiative to provide round the clock support and information to Indian expatriates in Qatar. PBSK Qatar is reachable at 44953500 and PBSKQatar@gmail.com and is currently available from 8 am to 5pm. is available in Malayalam, Hindi and English and starting 2 October 2021, live chat, whatsapp services will be available. The services will soon to be provided in three more languages – Tamil, Kannada, and Telugu and would be made available for 16 hours in a day gradually. A beta version of a Mobile Application "India in Qatar" was launched on a pilot mode. The app is currently available in App store and will soon be available for android.

Ambassador handed over Indian Community Benevolent Forum (ICBF) insurances to 75 Indian workers.

There was also a launch of an initiative "Bridging Generations" - conversations with senior Indian community members to bring forth their journey in Qatar since their early days which would be 1950s, 60s and 70s for many. It aims to document and pass on the journey of the Indian community in Qatar and with Qatar to younger generations Indians and Qataris.

The cultural element of the program included – singing of the patriotic songs by Maratha Mandal, playing of a video medley of patriotic songs made by Embassy Spouses groups and a dance performance by ICC students.

The celebration was held under strict COVID-19 safety guidelines. It was also live-streamed on the Embassy's social media handles.

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