

# **Digital Newsletter- March 2022**



# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

No	Contents	Page No
	5 <sup>th</sup> FOREIGN OFFICE CONSULTATION	
1	5th Foreign Office Consultations between India and Bahrain, held in New Delhi	1-4
	BAHRAIN- 86th MEMBER OF ISA	
1	Bahrain joined ISA and became the 86th country to sign and ratify the ISA Framework Agreement	5
	BILATERAL DEVELOPMENTS	
1	Indian and Bahraini Parliamentary delegations met on the sidelines of 144th IPU	6
2	Ambassador called on Minister of Finance & National Economy	7
3	Ambassador Piyush Srivastava called on Minister of Works	8
4	Ambassador Piyush Srivastava met Undersecretary for Political Affairs, MOFA	9
5	Ambassador Piyush Srivastava visited BIBF	10
6	Ambassador met Chairman and other board members of the Bahrain Businessmen's Association	11
7	Ambassador Piyush Srivastava visited facilities of Asry Bahrain	12
	EVENTS	
1	IOC Inter States Cricket Tournament organized under the patronage of Embassy of India	13-14
2	Ambassador Piyush Srivastava inaugurated the Science Fiesta 2022	15-16
3	Embassy of India, Bahrain organized India-Bahrain Virtual Buyer Seller Meet	17-18
4	Indian Embassy Ladies Team put up a stall at the Diplomatic Charity Bazaar	19
5	Contribution raised by the Indian Stall at the Diplomatic Charity Bazaar handed over	20
6	Ambassador awarded winners of the grand finale of "Devji- BKS Balakalotsavam 2022"	21-22
7	Ambassador addressed the 2nd International Women CA Conference	23
8	Ambassador felicitated the winner of 'Bharat Ko Janiye' quiz	24
9	Indian Ladies Association conducted 'Annual Day and Induction Ceremony'	25
	NEWS BRIEFS- INDIA	
1	India-Japan, Partnership for a Peaceful, Stable and Prosperous Post-COVID World	26
2	India-Australia, Propelling Comprehensive Strategic Partnership forwar	27
3	PM Narendra Modi hails efforts of everybody involved in Operation Ganga	28
4	India sent humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan	29

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

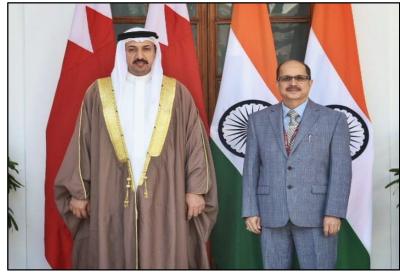
No	Contents	Page No
5	India signs agreement with Sri Lanka to develop 100 MW solar plant	30
6	India achieves \$400 billion goods export target for the first time	31
	BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX 2022	
1	Embassy of India conveyed congratulations to Bahrain, BIC and Indian Motorsport Drivers	32
	OPEN HOUSE	
1	Embassy organised the Virtual Open House on 25 March 2022	33

#### 5th Foreign Office Consultations between India and Bahrain, held in New Delhi

Date- 28/03/2022



H.E. Dr Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary, Political Affairs MOFA Bahrain and H.E. Dr Ausaf Sayeed, Secretary, MEA India cochaired the 5th Foreign Office Consultations between India and Kingdom of Bahrain, held in New Delhi.









Meeting reviewed growing bilateral cooperation in fields of hydrocarbons, renewable energy, healthcare, fintech, education, food security, infra, tourism, security & maritime coop. and people-to-people engagement, & discussed matters of mutual interest in regional & multilateral arena.





Dr. Shaikh Abdulla called on Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri V. Muraleedharan and met Deputy NSA, Shri Vikram Misri, during his visit.







Dr. Shaikh Abdulla, also met and interacted with scholars and members of India Fouundation, Manohar Parrikar IDSA, and ORF.

# **BAHRAIN- 86th MEMBER OF ISA**

Bahrain joined ISA and became the 86th country to sign and ratify the ISA Framework Agreement

Date- 29/03/2022



Bahrain joined ISA and became the 86th country to sign and ratify the ISA Framework Agreement. Hon'ble Minister of State Shri V. Muraleedharan received Bahrain's Instrument of Ratification of ISA.

#### Indian and Bahraini Parliamentary delegations met on the sidelines of 144th IPU

Date- 22/03/2022





Indian and Bahraini Parliamentary delegations met on the sidelines of 144th Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting in Bali, Indonesia. Both sides discussed means of increasing bilateral Parliamentary exchanges and cooperation.

### **Ambassador called on Minister of Finance & National Economy**

Date- 17/03/2022



Ambassador Piyush Srivastava called on H. E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance & National Economy and discussed issues of common concern, and ways to further strengthening bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

#### **Ambassador Piyush Srivastava called on Minister of Works**

Date- 22/03/2022



Ambassador Piyush Srivastava called on H. E. Essam bin Abdullah Khalaf, Minister of Works, Bahrain and discussed furthering bilateral cooperation on issues of common interest including agriculture, food security, infrastructure and investment fields.

#### Ambassador Piyush Srivastava met Undersecretary for Political Affairs, MOFA

Date- 14/03/2022



Ambassador Piyush Srivastava met H.E. Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al-Khalifa, Undersecretary for Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bahrain and discussed bilateral, regional and multilateral matters of mutual interest.

#### **Ambassador Piyush Srivastava visited BIBF**

Date- 02/03/2022





Ambassador Piyush Srivastava visited the impressive & hi-tech facilities of the recently built Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF) and met its Director Dr. Ahmed Abdul Hameed Al Shaikh & his team to discuss potential areas of cooperation between the institute and the relevant Indian training & academic institutions.

#### Ambassador met Chairman and other board members of the Bahrain Businessmen's Association

Date- 13/03/2022



Ambassador Piyush Srivastava met Mr. Ahmed Abdulla Bin Hindi, Chairman and other board members of the Bahrain Businessmen's Association to discuss possibilities of intensifying cooperation between business bodies of two countries to further promote trade and economic relations.

#### **Ambassador Piyush Srivastava visited facilities of Asry Bahrain**

Date- 21/03/2022





Ambassador Piyush Srivastava visited facilities of Asry Bahrain, the Arabian Gulf's leading shipbuilding, repair and fabrication facility and met its Managing Director H.E. Mazen Mohammed Matar and his team to discuss ongoing cooperation with Indian companies and explore ways to intensify it.

#### IOC Inter States Cricket Tournament organized under the patronage of Embassy of India

Date- 25/03/2022



As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Bahrain Cricket Federation (BCF) in association with Indian Overseas Community (IOC) Bahrain, under the patronage of Embassy of India, Bahrain, organized IOC Inter States Cricket Tournament.



Team Maharashtra won the tournament in which eight teams representing Indian States of GOA, GUJARAT, KARNATAKA, KERALA, MAHARASHTRA, TAMIL NADU, TELANGANA and UTTAR PRADESH participated. Ambassador Piyush Srivastava was the Chief Guest and Mr. Mohammed Kooheji, Bahrain Chamber, Mr. Aarif Hejris Diyar Al Muharraq & Mr. Yousif Lori, Capital Governorate were guests of honour. Mr. Hatim Dadabhai, President and Md. Mansoor, Chairman, Advisory Committee BCF were also present.

#### **Ambassador Piyush Srivastava inaugurated the Science Fiesta 2022**

Date- 26/03/2022



Ambassador Piyush Srivastava inaugurated the Science Fiesta 2022 organized by Science India Forum to honour the toppers of Sastra Pratibha Contest & Bahrain Students Innovation Congress. Ambassador congratulated all participants & felicitated the winners of both contests.



More than 11000 children from schools in Bahrain participated in SPC, a science quiz contest, with 16 winners titled 'Sastra Prathibhas'. Top 2 teams of BSIC from Bahrain participated in the National Children's Science Congress held by Department of Science and Technology, India in February 2022 and presented their innovative ideas.

#### Embassy of India, Bahrain organized India-Bahrain Virtual Buyer Seller Meet

Date- 22/03/2022



Embassy of India, Bahrain in association with APEDA organized India-Bahrain Virtual Buyer Seller Meet on agriculture & food products. The event, supported by Bahrain India Society & Bahraini Businessmen's Association, was attended by more than 110 participants including Lulu Hypermarket, Aljazira Supermarket & Megamart.



Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Piyush Srivastava highlighted importance of food security and said that India is Bahrain's trusted partner and intends to intensify trade and technological cooperation in this sector. The event focused on processed food, fruits & veg, animal products, cereal & cereal products. APEDA's e-catalogue containing details of importers and exporters of India and Bahrain of these products was also released on the occasion.

#### Indian Embassy Ladies Team put up a stall at the Diplomatic Charity Bazaar

Date-03/03/2022







Indian Embassy Ladies Team, with support from Lulu Hypermarket and local Indian women craftsperson, put up a stall at the Diplomatic Charity Bazaar organized by Children and Mothers Welfare Society, Bahrain. The stall exhibited tastefully curated handcrafted textiles sourced directly from weavers from India, Ayurveda products, home made spice powders, pickles and ancient craft of block printing.

#### Contribution raised by the Indian Stall at the Diplomatic Charity Bazaar handed over

Date- 17/03/2022





The contribution raised by the Indian Stall at the Diplomatic Charity Bazaar was handed over by Mrs. Monika Srivastava, Spouse of Ambassador Piyush Srivastava to Shaikha Hind bint Salman Al Khalifa, President Children and Mothers Welfare Society, Bahrain.

#### Ambassador awarded winners of the grand finale of "Devji- BKS Balakalotsavam 2022"

Date- 03/03/2022







Ambassador Piyush Srivastava awarded winners of the grand finale of "Devji- BKS Balakalotsavam 2022", annual talent festival conducted by Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam.



Close to 1000 children participated in over a month-long art, painting, song, dance & writing competitions. The event also witnessed a beautiful bouquet of cultural performances by children.

#### Ambassador addressed the 2nd International Women CA Conference

Date- 25/03/2022



Ambassador Piyush Srivastava addressed the 2nd International Women CA Conference on 25 March, 2022 which was attended by distinguished women leaders and entrepreneurs from India and Kingdom of Bahrain. Ambassador commended BCICAI for their active role in contributing to enhancing bilateral economic cooperation and organizing such important conferences, social & cultural activities and working for welfare of Indian community.

### Ambassador felicitated the winner of 'Bharat Ko Janiye' quiz

Date- 11/03/2022





Ambassador Piyush Srivastava felicitated the winner of 'Bharat Ko Janiye' quiz, Mr. Jatin Jayadeep in a function held at Indian Embassy.

#### Indian Ladies Association conducted 'Annual Day and Induction Ceremony'

Date- 27/03/2022





Mrs Monika Srivastava, spouse of H. E. Ambassador Piyush Srivastava, and Patron of Indian Ladies Association highlighted ILA's active role in the Indian community welfare activities at the 'Annual Day and Induction Ceremony' of ILA. This includes Sneha Recreation children centre, various socio-cultural events showcasing India's rich cultural heritage & women empowerment. Mrs Srivastava also welcomed the new ILA Executive Committee led by Shipra Dhir Passi & praised the tremendous work of the outgoing committee.

# **NEWS BRIEFS- INDIA**

#### India-Japan, Partnership for a Peaceful, Stable and Prosperous Post-COVID World

Date- 03/03/2022



PM Narendra Modi and Japanese PM Kishida resolved to further advance the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership at the 14th Annual Summit.

### **NEWS BRIEFS-INDIA**

#### India-Australia, Propelling Comprehensive Strategic Partnership forward

Date- 21/03/2022



PM Narendra Modi and Australian PM Scott Morrison concluded the 2nd India-Australia Virtual Summit. Leaders committed to closer cooperation in trade, critical minerals, migration & mobility, education.

## **NEWS BRIEFS- INDIA**

#### PM Narendra Modi hails efforts of everybody involved in Operation Ganga

Date- 15/03/2022



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has hailed the efforts of all those who were involved in Operation Ganga to evacuate Indian nationals from war-hit Ukraine.

### **NEWS BRIEFS-INDIA**

#### India sent humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan

Date- 03/03/2022









India's humanitarian assistance carrying wheat left Attari, Amritsar on alternate days for Jalalabad, Afghanistan. This was part of India's commitment of 50,000 MTs of wheat for the Afghan people and was distributed by World Food Programme, Afghanistan.

# **NEWS BRIEFS- INDIA**

#### India signs agreement with Sri Lanka to develop 100 MW solar plant

Date- 11/03/2022



India and Sri Lanka signed an agreement to develop a 100 MW Solar Power Plant at the island-nation's eastern port district of Trincomalee, thereby continuing to enhance investments from India in various sectors in Sri Lanka that would contribute to growth and expand employment.

### **NEWS BRIEFS-INDIA**

#### India achieves \$400 billion goods export target for the first time

Date- 23/03/2022



India's merchandise exports touched an all-time high of \$400 billion on Wednesday, a 37% jump over the previous fiscal, driven by an upsurge in shipments. Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the ambitious target of exporting goods as a key milestone in the country's journey towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat for self-reliance in manufacturing.

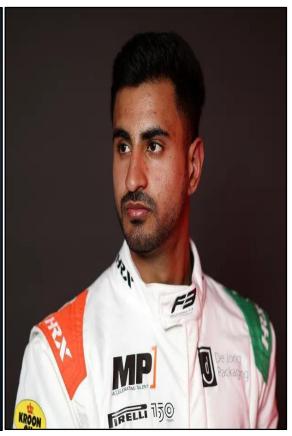
### **BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX 2022**

#### Bahrain hosted the first Formula 1 race of the 2022 season successfully

Date- 10/02/2022







Team Bahrain and Bahrain International Circuit hosted the exciting first Formula 1 race of the 2022 season successfully! Embassy of India conveyed congratulations to Indian Motor Sport drivers Jehan Daruvala and Kush Maini for their impressive performances in Formula 2 and Formula 3 racing categories of Bahrain GP 2022. Jehan Daruvala won the second position in Sprint race of Formula 2 category.

### **OPEN HOUSE**

#### **Embassy organised the Virtual Open House on 25 March 2022**

Date- 25/03/2022



Embassy of India organised the Virtual Open House on 25 March 2022. Ambassador Piyush Srivastava interacted with the local Indian community members as well as the associations directly regarding consular and labour issues. Hari krishna Erranholi, an Indian citizen long stranded in Bahrain, has now returned to India on 2nd March. Another Indian national, Mr. Pedda Sayanna Rachitty has also travelled on 21st March. 3 distressed Indian ladies have also been successfully repatriated to their hometown. Ambassador expressed his gratitude to the local government authorities, as well as appreciation to Indian associations including ICRF, World NRI Council and Budaiya Gurudwara for support and assistance in resolving a number of issues concerning our community members.