

**Speech by H.E. Mr. Piyush Srivastava,  
Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**On the occasion of Constitution Day celebrations and launch of EoI's  
Consular Appointment Mobile App**

*[M.P. Hall, November 26, 2021; 0830 hrs.]*

Representatives from Indian Associations;

Representatives from Media houses;

Dear Members of Indian Community;

A very Good Morning to all of you!!!

1. Let me, first of all, welcome you all to the Embassy and extend my warm wishes on the occasion of the Constitution Day of India.

2. Today is a significant day, as we celebrate the Constitution Day to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India. The constitution of India provides the fundamental rights, core principles and duties of the citizens towards the country. We just witnessed the high level celebrations held in India on this important occasion and ourselves have read the Preamble.

3. I would like to recall Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's words during the constitution day celebrations last year. I quote "Our efforts should be such that a common citizen's understanding of the constitution becomes more extensive. For that, it is very important to know and understand the Constitution. I consider it necessary for the coming generations to have constant awareness campaigns about the Constitution. Specially, in schools and colleges, our new generation will have to get introduced to it closely. Our constitution has many special features. But one very special feature is the importance given to duties. Mahatma Gandhi himself was very keen about this. He saw a close link between rights and duties. He felt that once we perform our duties, rights will be safeguarded".

4. It was in 2015 that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had marked 26 November as the Constitution Day in India to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution.

Friends,

5. It is a matter of great happiness that on this special day, we will also be launching the user friendly mobile application for scheduling appointment to avail the consular services in the Embassy. The EoIBh CONNECT App will also be extended to consular appointment at IVS in the next phase.

6. Yesterday, I had visited the new facility of our outsourcing agency, IVS at Dana Mall. To provide better services and facilities to the community, the outsourcing centre IVS has been shifted to Dana Mall yesterday. The new location is better equipped with all amenities to serve the public. I am sure these two steps will make provision of our Consular services more efficient and convenient for both the members of our community and the Bahraini public.

Friends, Ladies & Gentlemen,

7. Now as the Covid situation in both our countries has improved; both governments have taken significant steps to ease travel of our people to each other's countries. This is in line with tradition of close cooperation and collaboration between India and the Kingdom of Bahrain across all sectors including in dealing with Covid-19 protocol.

8. Government of Bahrain has approved Made-in-India vaccine- Covaxin for emergency use in Bahrain. Fully vaccinated travellers from India with WHO or Kingdom's approved vaccines can now have quarantine-free travel to Bahrain. Similarly, fully vaccinated travellers from Bahrain can also travel quarantine-free to India. This, I am sure, will lead to increase in tourist inflows in both the countries.

9. Government of India is committed to the welfare of Indian diaspora. I would urge all of you to create awareness about the Government of India's flagship schemes of Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojna, Pre-Departure Orientation Training as well as Indian Community Welfare Fund among the members of Indian community so that they can avail of these schemes. Similarly, it is important for the members of community to be in dynamic touch with the Embassy through Global Pravasi Rishta Portal which will also enable the Embassy to serve our diaspora better.

10. I also take this opportunity to commend our community associations who are constantly working to spread awareness among our community members, particularly the workers and labourers about the rules and regulations in Bahrain as well as the need to go through Government of India's eMigrate portal which is a transparent process and is designed to help our workers and domestic maids traveling abroad for employment purpose so that they do not fall victim to unscrupulous agents ending up being illegal migrants here and facing a lot of problems.

11. The Embassy has been constantly updating its website and social media handles for the benefit of community members. We are also revamping our website to make it more user-friendly, informative and interactive. I would urge community members to regularly visit them and also provide their comments or suggestions to improve upon the same.

12. The calendar of the next year is full with a diverse range of activities for continuing our celebrations of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence and the golden jubilee of diplomatic relations. I look forward to active participation of

Indian associations and community members in these activities. We should make special efforts to involve our Bahraini friends in these celebrations which will make the events more meaningful and enjoyable.

I thank you all for joining in today's celebrations.

Thank you.

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