

**Address by Ambassador Mr. Piyush Srivastava  
Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**At the Inaugural event of the celebration of  
Golden Jubilee of Diplomatic Relations  
between India and Kingdom of Bahrain**

*[Bal Al Bahrain/Little India in Bahrain; 12 Oct 2021; 1745 hrs.]*

**Your Excellency Sheikha Mai Bint Mohammed Al-Khalifa, President,  
Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities;**

**Your Excellency Mr. Tawfeeq Al Mansoor, Undersecretary, Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs;**

**Your Excellency Shaikha Hala bint Mohamed Al Khalifa  
Director, Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities;**

**Your Excellency Mr. Abdulnabi Salman Nasser  
First Deputy Speaker, Council of Representatives;**

**Mr. Hassan Al Madani, Deputy Governor, Capital Governorate;**

**Dignitaries and distinguished guests;**

**Senior officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Bahrain Authority for  
Culture and Antiquities, Kingdom of Bahrain;**

**Members of Indian Community;**

**Friends from Media;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Namaskar!**

**Assalaam Aaleykum!**

**Good evening to all of you!**

1. I am delighted to be part of this momentous occasion of golden jubilee of diplomatic relations between India and Kingdom of Bahrain. We have just witnessed the historic moment of lighting of Bab Al Bahrain in Indian tricolor, and also lighting of Qutub Minar in India in Bahraini national colors.

2. Our deep-rooted civilizational ties, and cultural, trade and people to people connect dates back to thousands of years to the period of Indus Valley and Dilmun civilisations.

3. With the vision, guidance and strong commitment of the Leadership of our two countries, these relations have strengthened and diversified over the years. These now cover all areas of political, security, economic, trade, education and cultural engagement.

4. The resilience of our strong ties has been reflected in the excellent collaboration between the two countries in dealing with Covid-19 pandemic. I would like to express thanks and gratitude to His Majesty the King, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister and Government of Bahrain for ensuring welfare of the Indian community during these difficult times. Kingdom's treatment of the expatriate population of which Indian forms the majority, at par with citizens in terms of medical facilities and free vaccination are exemplary.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests,

5. We are celebrating this milestone occasion in a befitting manner with a series of events during the course of next one year, focusing on diverse aspects of our multi-faceted bilateral ties with participation of government departments, artists and cultural troupes, businessperson, academia, think-tanks, media and people of both countries. The logo for the golden jubilee has already been launched last month.

6. I would like to thank Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities for putting together the magnificent week-long celebrations starting today at the 'Little India in Bahrain' in the heart of Manama. These include cultural events by Indian and Bahraini artists, handicrafts, cuisine and seminars showcasing the rich heritage of our two countries as well as historic connect and contemporary bilateral relations.

7. I am also delighted to share that the renowned Indian classical folk fusion cultural troupe led by Shri Jaywant Naidu will be performing at Cultural Hall today and tomorrow on the occasion of golden jubilee of our diplomatic relations.

8. I take this opportunity to thank Indian and Bahraini business community as well as our companies and PSUs for supporting these events.

9. I look forward to witnessing and enjoying these events over next one week together with the members of Indian community and our Bahraini friends.

10. I am confident that the long standing dynamic partnership between India and Kingdom of Bahrain will reach even greater heights in the times to come.

Long Live India Bahrain friendship!

Thank you.