

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

**CULTURAL EVENT**

Organised by the

**TELUGU KALA SAMITHI**  
*[09 July 2021, 1900-1930 hrs.]*

**Mr. Siva Yellapu, President of Telugu Kala Samithi, Bahrain**

**Presidents of Telugu & Andhra Associations in the region**

**Dear participants**

**Artists & viewers of the programme**

Good Evening to all of you..!

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate you all for organizing this cultural event.

2. Telugu Kala Samithi, a social and cultural entity in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has not only been at the forefront in organizing socio cultural events, but also reaching out to the community in need.

3. I would like to commend the representatives of Telugu Kala Samithi Bahrain, for actively participating in the virtual Open House conducted by the Embassy and thank them for their efforts in reaching out to the needy Indian nationals and facilitating them to appear and register their grievance.

4. I am happy to note that TKS has come up with this virtual cultural program designed to exhibit our ancient art which will be performed by 130 years old renowned troop, Surabi Natya Mandali, Hyderabad and the Telugu community across the GCC have joined hands in supporting this event. Many congratulations to you!

5. Events, such as this, are an integral part of our celebrations of 75 years of India's independence. One of the main focus of India@75 celebrations is showcasing and celebrating India's cultural diversity.

6. The Indian diaspora has been instrumental in spreading Indian culture and values. Footprints of Indian culture is visible in all walks of life in Bahrain, be it cuisine, dance, art, theatre, music etc. Our vibrant community in Bahrain plays an important role in promoting our bilateral ties and further strengthening the existing goodwill between our two countries.

7. India and Kingdom of Bahrain have civilisational and close bilateral relations and people to people connect. These have strengthened and diversified over the years.

8. Our two countries have closely cooperated and collaborated in dealing with the global pandemic. The Leadership and Government of Bahrain took special care of the expat community of which Indians from the majority, during Covid-19 pandemic, including providing free vaccination to citizens and residents alike. I urge the Indian community to support Kingdom's efforts, get themselves vaccinated and stay safe. As you may be aware that Embassy is carrying out a special vaccination drive to help those of our community members who are finding it difficult to take vaccination or getting registration for vaccine, for this we have setup the link on our website and social media handles.

9. I once again congratulate the Telugu Kala Samithi, Bahrain for organizing this event. I wish the members and their families of Telugu Kala Samithi all the success in their future endeavours.

Thank you.

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