



भारत का राजदूतावास, बहरीन
Embassy of India, Bahrain

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PRESS RELEASE

Celebrations of 72nd Republic Day of India

On the occasion of 72nd Republic Day of India, a Flag Hoisting ceremony was held in the Embassy complex on **Tuesday, 26 January 2021 at 7.30 am**, followed by reading of message of Hon'ble President of India by the Ambassador Piyush Srivastava. Due to the Covid-19 situation and the prevailing local guidelines regarding social distancing norms and restrictions on large gatherings, the ceremony was restricted only to the members of the Mission. However, the flag hoisting ceremony was telecast live on the Embassy's social media accounts.

2. Apart from the flag hoisting ceremony, Embassy also celebrated National Day Reception virtually in the evening with cultural program including performances by Indian school children and special address by the Foreign Minister of Bahrain, H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani and the Ambassador which was telecast on social media accounts of the Mission. The event was extensively viewed online by the local dignitaries, diplomats and members of Indian community.

3. In addition to the above celebration, the Embassy distributed approximately 1000 food kits containing dry ration to the needy members of our community with the help of Indian associations.

4. On this occasion, Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF) bulletin was also released by the Ambassador. The bulletin contains the activity summary of the past one year especially on the outreach programs to the underprivileged community members, during COVID-19 crisis. The ICRF is working under the patronage of the Ambassador of India for the general welfare of the Indian workers in Bahrain.

5. As a curtain raiser to the celebrations of 72nd Republic Day of India, the Ambassador inaugurated "INDIA FEST" on 24th January, a festival showcasing Indian food, cuisine, fashion and culture, launched at Lulu Hypermarket in Bahrain. The main attraction of the festival was exotic and high-quality products - apples and saffron from Kashmir. Lulu Hypermarket is also hosting 'Foods of India' festival wherein popular Indian restaurants are taking part in the event. The carefully curated selection of regional foods will give visitors a taste of the amazing variety of

India's culinary heritage.

6. The Daily Tribune and Gulf Daily News (English dailies), Bahrain This Month and Salaam Bahrain magazines brought out special supplement to commemorate India's 72nd Republic Day. Ambassador's message and interviews to various media houses in Bahrain highlighted India's "Atma-Nirbhar Bharat" initiative, its pharmaceutical and vaccine prowess, and Hon'ble PM Modi's commitment to provide affordable vaccine to all (#AffordableVaccines4All) as per India's philosophy of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".

7. The event was well received by the Indian nationals as well as friends of India living in Bahrain and there was enthusiastic participation at the 72nd Republic Day celebrations. (As per rough estimate, over 6000 people have watched the celebrations online).
