

75th



Indian Embassy - Kuwait

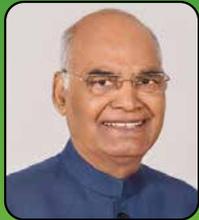
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INDEPENDENCE Day

15-08-2021

- Special

On this Independence Day,
IFL wishes...



Sri. Ram Nath Kovind
President of India



Sri. Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India



Sri. Sibi George
Ambassador of India to Kuwait

&
Our Community

Wow! Ten years in one year!



The dedication of IFL's 75th Independence Day special Magazine !

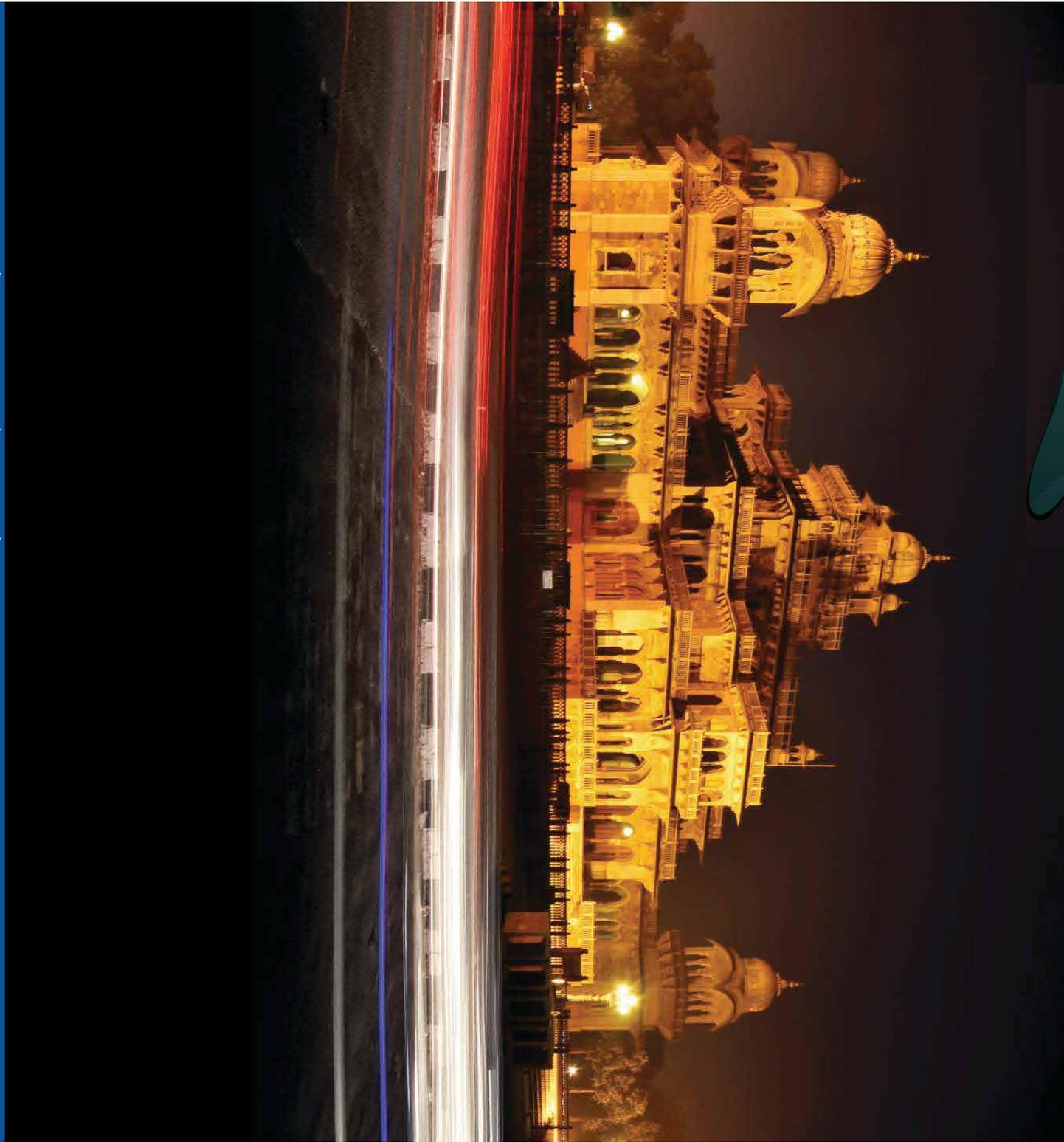
India is proud to celebrate its 75th Independence Day on the 15th August 2021. On this happy day, IFL is proud and happy to join & to dedicate this special magazine to the services rendered by the Indian Embassy, Kuwait.

Under the dynamic leadership of our Ambassador H.E. Sri.Sibi George, his entire team is extending yeomen and admirable services to the Indian community, in these difficult times.
Special pages continue on - page no. 3.....





*Celebrating 75th
Independence Day
with pride*



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Wow!

Ten years in one year!



"Tell me the problems and I'm here to solve it,"

H.E.Shri.Sibi George

-by NCM with Eng Senthil kumar.P

His Excellency Sibi George is the 10th Indian Ambassador to Kuwait to meet and act in a friendly way during my tenure in Kuwait.

IFL, the Indian Frontliners Service Organization has been in coordination with the Indian Embassy for the past 25 years. Not only we, but also the embassy staff would approach us for help and we happily fulfill their needs.

We, the IFL had published 22 volumes so far covering the Indians who are doing great in many of their distinct fields. Whenever new officials arrive at the embassy, they would like to ask for these books to know about these important Indians specialized in their own field of job, business, trading, etc., here.

In that respect - not only me, but our IFL team always have a good understanding with the embassy officials! So, when we raise the problems of the workers, we get immediate relief from the embassy!

It is true that many problems can be easily be solved as we are directly connected with the Indian ambassador and his diligent approach.

We had the privilege of meeting the Indian Ambassador His Excellency Sibi George with a special preference .

His Excellency Sibi George - I have the opportunity to meet him on the very day he formally took over! Like the people's president, people's prime minister, he is the people's ambassador. That much simplicity! He is very friendly with everyone showing no partiality. "Tell me the problems and I'm here to solve it," he says, working down to the earth. I have never seen such a friendly and eminent Ambassador.



More than 10 lakh+ Indians out of the total 40 lakh+ population in Kuwait! Indians play major role in the oil companies- malls-travels-production-construction-transport-food-medicine. From the top position Engineers, Doctors and Nurses to the last working labors and maids/cooks, everyone gets problems and seek the help of the Indian Embassy.

There are many people who are illiterate giving huge sums to the fake agents and getting cheated and after coming into Kuwait get into legal troubles like job problems, visa issues.

The Embassy has the responsibility to do what is legal for these kinds of issues. Under the eminent leadership of the Indian ambassador, the Indian Embassy Staff have to be vigilant round the clock! and do the needful counseling and give proper timely solutions.



Not for name sake...., but he allows all people to speak without any discrimination. He listens to all people.

He insists, "Don't give up on the issues and do not say that our work is done. Give me the solutions and the guidelines." He ensures to hear the solutions and ways to improve the problems.

"The needs of our 10-lakh people cannot be addressed by just mere 70 officials of the embassy alone. Let's work together. This what the Ambassador says!

He organizes meetings regularly in different forums and listens to all the grievances people have. He has increased the activities of the Embassies and the financial assistance to the destitute.

He meets with every single department of Kuwait Government so that he can get favorable solutions when in need. This is one of the rare things we see how he improves the relationship with the Kuwait Government at all levels.

Being abroad, every single problem cannot be expected from Delhi's order- based on the situation it needs to be decided immediately. He wants Indians to live without any difficulties.

This quality of him is basically because he used to see and listen to the sufferings of the poor at an early age. It has grown tremendously in him and that's why he is the People's Ambassador.

To do any foreign service, they should choose one language and

study. He chose Arabic and went to Egypt to study there and started his work at the Indian Embassy. After that, Pakistan-Iran, Saudi, Qatar, Washington DC, Switzerland and Kuwait!

He took over the task during the crucial moment of Covid-19 pandemic. There were lot many people who have lost their works, salary and livelihood. They have to be looked after.

He encouraged the activities of the Indian Communist Service Group (ICSG) which was set up mainly to daily wage earners, no one should go to sleep with hunger. Food supplies were given through the Indian Embassy and supported many Indians. He fastened the emergency tickets for those who have to return home without any valid visa, etc., through Vande Bharath mission.

Sibi- neither relaxed nor tired. He is maintaining a cordial relationship with local dignitaries and officials and strengthening India-Kuwait relations. "Indians are good, skillful, and always respecting the local laws and our people should act better and not to damage the hard earned name and be happy always," insists the Ambassador H.E. Sibi George.

The leadership qualities and the way he approaches enhance the administration. The performance of the People's Ambassador His Excellency SIBI GEORGE has been well received in this one year of time. This is a big boon for all the Indians in Kuwait.



M.A. Asad Khan

GM-Managing Partner- KSCS, G5 Gen. Trad, & ALLewaa Security Services

His excellency ambassador of india shri Sibi George, is one of the competent ambassadors, which in our language we say "raj doot" which means "the representative of india".

He has worked tirelessly and played his role well for the wellbeing of indian diaspora and achieved a lot, which is quite enormous in a short span of one year. He is visiting most of the ministers, under secretaries and promoting India to a different level which I personally think that it's very difficult during this pandemic situation.

Apart from his various achievements, he has also improved the standard of services provided by the embassy to the expats. He started zoom meetings with all the representatives of different Indian associations, answering various queries of the people, especially the ones who are stranded back home and putting them at ease, which is tremendously a great job.

He is the backbone of Indian schools in kuwait and always attended to the grievances of students and parents due to the multiple challenges and uncertainties related to examinations because of this pandemic.

I can say that myself being living in kuwait for long 46 years, I feel the great changes in the services of the ambassador as well as the services for the expats through embassy. In addition, it's a historic decision by the government of India to allot kuwait as the first center for national eligibility cum entrance test (Neet) examination outside India, which is also a feather in the cap.

In a nut-shell, he is a good human of vision and mission, down to earth person, always striving hard for the welfare of his subjects entrusted to his care without any discrimination on the path of peace and safety.

Happy Independence day!.





Ashok Kalra

(Managing Director/Partner)
Mughal Mahal Gen Trad & Cont Co.W.L.L.
Fmr. Hon. Chairman (Indian Community School)

Since taking charge as Ambassador of India to Kuwait in August 2020, His Excellency Sibi George, has been pursuing a dynamic policy that has enlivened the embassy, energized the community, and enhanced India's stature among both officials and ordinary citizens in Kuwait.

Attempting to list the ambassador's numerous initiatives and proactive measures over the past one year is quite as arduous as trying to keep up with his daily schedule at the embassy. Nevertheless, we are seeking to record at least some of his achievements that have enhanced relations between the embassy and the community, as well as between India and Kuwait.

One of the first steps initiated by the ambassador upon taking charge was to reinstate all Indian associations that had earlier been de-registered. He re-engaged the associations as partners of the embassy in interacting with the community. The reinstatement was welcomed by the community as a sign of the new ambassador's desire to engage with all community members.

The relaunching of the embassy's 'open-house' policy, but now making it a regular weekly event each Wednesday, is another initiative that has won applause from the community, as it allows anyone to directly interact with the embassy and find solutions to their problems.

In a bid to continue its engagement with the community, the embassy also now organizes regular webinars and virtual meetings with the community. Feedback forms that help the embassy monitor the quality of services it provides, have now been placed in the embassy's foyer and at the three passport centers.

It is also worth noting that within a year of the ambassador taking charge, several Indian national-level competency assessment exams, including JEE, NEET and NATA have opened centers in Kuwait for conducting these tests. This has proved a blessing to thousands of students and parents who would otherwise have had to travel to India in order to answer these tests.

A new drive spearheaded by the ambassador was the launch in 2020 of the Indian Community Support Group(ICSG). Since its formation, the ICSG, led by senior community members, has been in the forefront of lending assistance to distressed community members, by delivering tens of thousands of essential food kits to fellow-citizens in urgent need of support, especially at the start of the pandemic.

Beginning In May of this year, when India faced a health emergency from a shortage of medical oxygen to treat COVID-19

patients, the ICSG once again swung into action. The group, in coordination with the embassy and in cooperation with various other Indian Associations in Kuwait, procured and shipped thousands of tons of oxygen cylinders, liquid medical oxygen, cryogenic tanks and other related equipment through the sea-air-land bridge set up for this purpose by the Governments of India and Kuwait.

More recently, in July, the Group in coordination with the embassy also announced an ex-gratia payment of Indian Rupee 100,000 to the next-of-kin of Indian domestic helpers who succumbed to the pandemic in Kuwait.

Besides his role in setting up and guiding the activities of ICSG, the ambassador has also launched a slew of initiatives, as part of the embassy's new out-reach program that aims to revitalize interactions within the community, and to enhance and promote relations between India and Kuwait through institutional and individual ties and linkages.

Among the new groups launched under this out-reach initiative are:

Indian Business Network (JBN) — a platform to help enhance existing relations and generate new ones between businesses in India and Kuwait. The platform works to boost trade and investment between the two countries, and further the Indian Government's 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat' (Self-reliant India) initiative.

Indian Professionals Network (IPN) — provides a stage for Indian professionals in various fields to share their knowledge and experience in their specialization, as well as best practices in their fields of expertise with others in the network, for mutual professional enrichment.

Indian Cultural Network (ICN) — a set up that aims to highlight the cultural diversity and art forms of India and to recognize and promote the artistic skills within the Indian diaspora in Kuwait.

Indian Sports Network (ISN) — an initiative to underline India's achievements in various sports, enhance sports participation among the diaspora, and promote the Indian sports industry and its exports to Kuwait.

Late last year, as part of two important anniversaries coming up in 2021, namely the 60th anniversary of the start of India-Kuwait diplomatic relations, and the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence, the ambassador initiated a slew of programs to highlight the two important commemorations.

In a recent address, the ambassador urged Indian associations to participate and suggest plans for celebrating these two events. "To celebrate the 60th anniversary, I am looking at organizing 600 events and to celebrate the 75th anniversary I am looking at organizing 750 events," said Ambassador George, revealing the new dynamism he has brought to the embassy in its outreach to all sectors of the Indian community, and in relations between India and Kuwait.





Peeyush Jain
COO, ROC Ltd &
President IIT-IIM Alumni Association

Although if I have to write the help and support from our ambassador for the Indian community, the list will be too large to complete in one article. So I will mention about the latest and most important support at the time when India was facing the second wave and needed oxygen.

H.E. had messaged me checking for the availability of oxygen. I met him and explained that the oxygen is available but it's the logistics that is the challenge with all the local formalities for export and the shipping. It will not be possible to reach the much needed oxygen on time.

He just said, you manage the oxygen supply and leave the

logistics to me. He arranged an air-sea bridge between India and Kuwait utilizing 3 Indian naval vessels and 2 Indian air force planes besides the Kuwait air force and commercial vessels.

We sent 450 MT liquid oxygen and almost 15000 oxygen cylinders to India within a month during Ramadan and 'Eid.

Kuwait became the country to supply the largest consignment of oxygen to India. Believe me when I say that it was a mammoth task and no short of a miracle to send such a large shipment. Try sending your suitcase to India or from India to Kuwait using sea and you will know how much time it takes and the documentation required.

In the shipment of oxygen, no procedure or safety protocols were by-passed but they were only expedited, thanks to the good relations of our ambassador with the local authorities as well as with GOI.

Hats off to such a leader and diplomat. He is a true gentleman.



S.K. Wadhawan
Chairman, Samara Group of Co.

My deep appreciation to our Ambassador Shri Sibi George and his team for leading from front in coordinating the much needed supply of Oxygen to India and also giving us an opportunity to stand with our government and people at the time of need.

We are indebted to you Excellency for your exemplary leadership.

Thank you Sir!

This is an occasion for all of us to express our deepest gratitude to

HH The Amir and the Government of Kuwait for standing with India at that grave moment of Pandemic by extending all possible help in rushing medical oxygen, concentrators and medicines by air and sea bridge.

This noble gesture will always remain etched in our mind and souls. Thank you Kuwait and long live India Kuwait friendship.

We are glad worst is over in India and Kuwait of the devastating second wave of Covid.

I thank Almighty for His benevolence.





K.S. Lamba

MD, Almailem group of companies

H. E. Sri. Sibi George joined as ambassador of India to Kuwait on Aug 04, 2020. In a relatively short period of time, he has undertaken invaluable, bold and significant decisions.

From the moment he took charge of the office at the Indian Embassy in Kuwait, the ambassador has been passionately proactive in addressing the issues of corona related human disaster.

His efforts to engage with all Indians directly, indirectly, through Indian organizations, webinars has been commendable.

His strongest appeal is the easy access to him and to any of the Embassy officials, by any Indian national. Under his guidance the Embassy team is committed to ensuring that its services are delivered

efficiently and effectively.

Through all this, His Excellency's approach has been extremely endearing and caring. His style of working has been a perfect balance of generosity and good leadership. His personality emotes his down to earth attitude which is seen and felt in his body language.

His priority to maintain strong interaction and relationship with the Kuwaitis at various Government, business and personal levels has been outstanding.

With nearly a million Indians in Kuwait, his positive and affirmative interaction with the Kuwaitis has had, and will continue to have far reaching respectable effects on the Indian diaspora in Kuwait.

We are indeed fortunate to have him here with us.



Shivy Bhasin

Bhasin & Co.

Over the years, the Indian Embassy in Kuwait with its dedicated staff and Ambassadors has cultivated a solid relationship between our Mathrubhoomi and Karambhoomi.

It has served the Indian diaspora with care, concern and provided 'A' class consular services.

Presently, we are blessed with an outstanding Ambassador Shri.Sibi George who is enthusiastic about further cementing and developing a strong, economic, political and cultural bond between Kuwait and India. He has been successful in his endeavor.

He is hard working, a good listener, caring, down to earth and hands-on administrator. He is sympathetic to peoples woes and comes across as someone who can solve all your problems.

We congratulate him on successfully completing his one year in Kuwait and ask 'Paramatma' to bless him so that he continues to serve his country and humanity at large.

Best wishes,

Jai Hind.





D. Ram Mohan Reddy

Chief Operating Officer
New India Assurance (Govt of India PSU), Kuwait.

“Winners don't do different things, they do things differently”

“Under Adverse conditions - some people break down, some break records”

-Shiv Khera

The above lines perfectly suit our beloved Ambassador Mr Sibi George. It is needless to say, in a span of just one year, he has shown his strong mark of leadership which has created lasting impression in the minds of not only the expat Indian population living in Kuwait but also the local leadership of Kuwait.

We can confidently say, from the very first day of his taking charge, he never rested even for a minute, every second his thoughts were dedicated for the betterment of the Indian expats.

In normal terms one year is just a small period, but he could show, how much can be achieved in this short period. His immense compassion and kindness added to his pleasing personality, which made him to address every issue with an everlasting smile on his face. He didn't mind the time or tiredness, as he always carried a mission with him, a mission to see his people living here in better conditions.

Frankly, the time he took charge were the hardest times, when the pandemic was at its peak, but nothing stopped him from his

strong determination to reach his desired goals. Every day was a day of some activity or the other, ending up with an outstanding achievement.

It was a total turn around; Indian Embassy was truly a home away from home for all Indians here. So many initiatives were planned and perfectly executed, which were widely appreciated by each and every Indian living here.

His regular interaction, with all the Indian associations, bringing all of them together through various networking platforms was a great initiative.

Regular interactions and meetings with Kuwaiti Govt officials and leadership could create a camaraderie environment between both the countries, which helped in Kuwait becoming a savior in providing oxygen and medical equipment to India, which could save lives of many Indians breathing hard for life during those difficult times in the early part of this year, the credit entirely goes to our Ambassador, who could garner support from all corners.

The recent announcement of granting Rupees one lac to Indian underprivileged expats who become victims of Covid was another feather in his cap. To sum up, it is needless to say, he has left no stone unturned for the welfare of the Indian living here.

"I pray thee, then, Write me as one that loves his fellow men."
James Henry Leigh Hunt. Salutes to Mr Sibi George, may his tribe increase.



Dr. V. Binumon

Principal & Senior Administrator- ICSK senior

On the occasion of the completion of one year of His Excellency Shri. Sibi George as the Ambassador of India to the State of Kuwait, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to him for all his tireless efforts for the upliftment of the members of

the Indian diaspora and his contribution especially to the education sector in Kuwait.

In this context I would like to highlight His Excellency's unstinting efforts for making the Kuwait government agree to conduct the CBSE Board practical when CBSE compelled all the schools in Kuwait to conduct the same.

I am really thankful to His Excellency, for his wholehearted support to the student community in Kuwait and for his diligent determination in raising the issue regarding the NEET Centre to the government of India & for its positive outcome.

All the students and staff of The Indian Community School, Kuwait would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to His Excellency for giving the opportunity to the students residing in Kuwait to write the NEET exam in Kuwait itself by allocating a NEET centre to the students of Kuwait. This will go a long way in supporting the Indian community in Kuwait in order for their children to have access to quality education.

I would also like to point out that in a Zoom meeting held recently by His Excellency with the Principals of all the Indian schools in Kuwait, he has assured that all the possible steps are being taken to bring back the stranded teachers from India.

I want to also extend my gratitude to His Excellency for all the support offered to ICSK and for being an epitome of solutions. As the world is facing an unprecedented challenge in the form of COVID-19 pandemic I thank you for continuing to be in full readiness to extend all possible assistance to the members of the Indian community in Kuwait in coping with the current situation.

I wish His Excellency the very best in all his future endeavours.





Satish Sharma

Manging Director

Insure & Secure Insurance Brokerage Co, Kuwait

H.E Ambassador Sebi George's entry to Kuwait was synonymous with the arrival of the Covid virus on the world scene and in Kuwait which was no exception.

If it had been any other individual he would have taken the situation with a grim heart and not done anything and wait for the Covid to disappear. How ever Ambassador Sebi saw this as an opportunity and immediately went into action with a positive mind frame.

During his short tenure in Kuwait, he has successfully met all the Government officials in Kuwait and made a rapport with all the high officials and this approach not only made him a favorite with the Kuwait officials but also helped India in the form of support received from the Kuwait government in handling the Covid crisis.

Whether it was the support in supplying local Indian community with food and ration during the lockdown periods or it was garnering

support and sending huge shipments of Oxygen cylinders to India or helping in the repatriation of Indians who had lost their jobs Ambassador Sebi was always in the fore front.

He sacrificed his own comforts for the sake of the Indian community and without actually taking notice of the number of hours he worked daily including holidays he has become a One Man Army fighting 24X7 for the cause of the Indian Community.

It is definitely for the good luck of the Million plus Indians in Kuwait, that an Ambassador such as H.E Sebi George was captaining the ship in this difficult whether and ensuring that the ship continues to sail smoothly without any discomfort to the passengers.

God Bless H.E Ambassador Sebi with good health and great energy to continue to serve the cause of the many thousands of Indians who look at him as a beam of light guiding them in a foreign land.

If it was not for HE Ambassador Sebi many Indians would have lost their confidence in a foreign land but this has not happened because of the ever available and assuring support of Ambassador Sibi George .



Dr. Surendra Nayak

Ex-President, IDF

I am resident of Kuwait since last 20 years working in MOH and actively involved in community activities.I got opportunity to meet most of the ambassadors since then.

In my experience I haven't met any such ambassadors earlier with so much energy, willpower and desire to give maximum to the Indian diaspora.

From his day of arrival to Kuwait in 2020 August during the peak of first wave of Covid pandemic I feel he has not taken rest .He has come in to action from day one by meeting community leaders, various prominent Indian associations those involved in community activities.

As the President IDF got opportunity to welcome him as new ambassador, on behalf of Indian doctors forum. Since then Indian doctors forum is closely working with Ambassador HE. Sibi George in providing all assistance relating to health through Teleconsultation, vaccination awareness and Covid safety information through seminars and social media platforms.

I feel we are so lucky to get HE Sibi George during the crisis period. Through his proactive approach in solving difficulties faced by Indian

diaspora he will be one of the most successful Ambassadors in Kuwait doing so.

I have been following his activities closely may it be quick efficient services regarding renewal of passport,attestation and other consular services ,professionals having degree recognition issues, omestic workers having difficulties of food ,shelter and travel issues, vaccination registration and many more.

Being a member of ICSG group worked closely with ambassador in sending oxygen recently during crisis of second wave. The way in which oxygen was sent to india is not less than a miracle. Coming in to quick action oxygen cylinders and containers were sent through 6 ships and special military aero plane.

To organize the need to get clearance from port, customs, red crescent, civil aviation, ministry foreign affairs and industry were arranged so smoothly that even on Eid holiday officials worked. It's a great service by Embassy.

Recent success in getting NEET center for the aspirants of medical.

I am sure our beloved ambassador will be successful in all his efforts of building up Indo Kuwait friendship to newer heights. Wish him the best. We are proud of him and wish to work with him to render any assistance.

Jai Hind.



Dr. Amir Ahmed
President, IDF

His Excellency - Shri Sibi George is a blessing to the Indian community in Kuwait.

In a very short span of 1 year, he has endeared himself to the Indian community residing in Kuwait by his constant and continuous efforts in trying to resolve many problems faced by the largest 1 million expat Indians residing in Kuwait.

We are going through very difficult times during this ongoing

pandemic.

Under the direct supervision of the Honorable Ambassador, all the officials at the embassy have been reaching out to the Kuwaiti officials in various ministries and resolving problems and bringing relief to our people.

His Excellency willingness to listen to people, understand the issues, accept suggestions and workout ways to achieve the best solution to the problems.

He is awesome. He is a person who walks his talk.



Ushering in Hope & Friendship

-by Madhulika & N.C. Mohandoss

---A burning desire to help the larger community was what made him join the Civil Services and still drives his overall approach to his work.

Referring to Kuwait as a friend and neighbor, the ambassador stressed the importance of Kuwait as a partner in the new strategy of "Self Reliant India". He said "I represent every Indian in Kuwait and on behalf of each and everyone of them I wish to express the deepest gratitude to H.H. the Emir, the Government of Kuwait and the people of Kuwait for hosting us with dignity and fairness always."

The ambassador has increased the activities of the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) which was set up in 2009 to assist overseas Indian nationals in times of distress. "I have set up a committee of senior officers in the mission to examine each request and provide all possible assistance immediately to deserving applicants," says the Ambassador.

A burning desire to help the larger community was what made him join the Civil Services and still drives his overall approach to his work.

Having joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1993, he is a veteran diplomat who has served in Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, USA, Pakistan and Egypt before moving to Kuwait with his wife Joyce and three children. While back in Delhi in 2017, he was in charge of the Africa Summit.

He recounted during his talk, "My parents, George and Ammini fully supported me all through my student days both financially as well as by encouraging my ambitions and the choices I made."

Reminiscing about his training days, Sri George recalled that after the foundation course at the Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy of Administration in Mussoorie, he spent time at the Foreign Service Institute in Delhi for further training in international relations, diplomacy, hospitality, international trade which included courses at IIM Bangalore as well as IIFT in Delhi in addition to training with the tri-services. Subsequent mid career trainings took him to IIM Ahmedabad and ISB Hyderabad.

After finishing 2 years of intensive training he had to go abroad and choose a foreign language. So, he selected the Arabic language and went to Cairo (1995-1998) to learn Arabic as well as to serve in the Indian embassy in Cairo as their political officer.

"I believe that while we should give our children freedom, at the end of the day, we should never forget that we are what we are because of our parents. We owe it all to them." says the Ambassador.

In his many outreach endeavors through the special Wednesday Open Houses as well as meetings with various organizations and stakeholders, Sri. Sibi George has one message to all Indians.

"It is a matter of pride that Indians here have earned the respect of the people of this country and have contributed to its growth and development through their hard work and should continue to do so while respecting all local laws and traditions."

An openness to listen to all suggestions, (even those made over a round of Golf, a game that the Ambassador is passionate about); a drive to help those fellow Indians who need support and a dynamic and action oriented approach has already earned the new Ambassador of India to Kuwait, Sri . Sibi George much acclaim .

We wish to extend him from the entire Indian community and assure our utmost support in all that the Indian embassy endeavors to do under his leadership for the welfare of the expatriate community.





Sunil Menon

CEO Al Qabandi United Company, Kuwait

On this proud day and year when we are celebrating the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence, I wish to thank all my fellow citizens in various fields of work and business who have contributed to the growth and development of our country and to the young generation of Indians who are our future flag bearers.

The Indian Ambassador to Kuwait HE Mr. Sibi George and his team at the Indian Embassy is a household name in Kuwait for their personal interaction with the Indian diaspora and their sincere efforts to resolve various issues faced by our fellow citizens living in Kuwait.

Often, I have wondered if his clock has few hours more than the others. I was a witness to the prompt response of his excellency and his team to various challenges including mails and messages sent to the embassy seeking support and directions.

We Indians here have been fortunate to have the best Ambassadors even in the past but the pandemic and the associated challenges during the past 18 months makes the achievements of our present Ambassador worth a special mention.

Each and every diplomat/ member/staff of the Indian Embassy

have been equally supportive and kudos to them for their effort.

Also we pay respect to our Freedom Fighters and kneel down in appreciation for their struggles and sacrifices for centuries that won us our Independence.

There is no success without pains and the same applies to our country and its proud citizens. During this moment of joy let us not forget some of our own countrymen who work hard in Sun and rain, often with no proper clothes or protection from the harsh conditions. Many of them cannot find one square meal a day.

Similar situation is widespread in various parts of the country and often we wonder what is the fault of these people and the reasons for their plight.

Luckily we have many NGOs and organisations that do their little bit to alleviate the sufferings of such people. IFL is one such group of good samaritans which was founded with an aim to support people in need.

I wish them all success. Our real Independence is when majority of our population is self sufficient. HAPPY Independence day to each one of you.

JAI HIND!



S. Ramadoss

President - IFL
MD, Global Technology Co.

A student of Political Science and well versed in Arabic, the ambassador has not wasted time in bringing in reforms and new initiatives especially given the difficult times in which he has taken up his new duties.

Sibi George is a man with a mission and a belief. His belief is that Kuwait and India are bound in an everlasting, mutually beneficial partnership that has enriched both these great countries culturally as well as economically over the last century.

His mission is to engage with all sections of the Indian diaspora in Kuwait and to render all possible help and aid that the Embassy can provide to those Indian who need it the most especially during the COVID pandemic.

He is actively consulting community stakeholders on the relief and aid work being done to support those who have lost their livelihoods and require sustenance. He has taken several steps to improve regular consular services as well as special services put in place due to travel / visa and other restrictions arising due to the current crisis.

The Embassy under the directions of Sri. George has launched a host of digital outreach initiatives including social media platforms to connect with the community such as ICN (Indian Cultural Network), IPN (Indian Professionals Network), IBN (Indian Business Network) and a digital thematic library to reach out to everyone for sharing India's cultural heritage and its new resurgence.

The ambassador expressed confidence that the embassy would be able to find amicable solutions to all issues by working along with the concerned authorities in Kuwait.

Yes. We can say he succeeded in the mission!





Ashfaque Ahmed Khan
President, Indian Cultural Society Kuwait

Ambassadors are a source of protection and inspiration. Kuwait, being the second home for many Indians, rely on the Embassy for their betterment.

Having a dynamic Ambassador like H.E. Sibi George is like a boon for us Indians.

I have seen his immense services for the Indian community since the date he has taken charge.

His efforts benefit not only the bilateral business communities but also the common public like Labourers and other skilled workers. His TOILING efforts to keep the community intact by regular virtual events is remarkable.

The embassy has kept a thorough supervision and communication through online meetings reaching out to every Indian in Kuwait, under the leadership of Sri. Sibi George.

It would be unfair, if I don't mention the collaboration of Embassy with ICS, which even in the difficult pandemic times have brought some entertaining events for the Indians present in Kuwait, back home and abroad. These Cultural events have rejuvenated the energy among us.

All this could be possible only by his initiative and motivation.

On behalf of ICS, I would congratulate H.E. Sibi George for his impressive endeavours.



Chaitali B Roy

there are constraints.

"Diplomacy is a vast ocean of exploring possibilities to promote and protect your country's interests and your people abroad while building a mutually beneficial partnership with your host country," said Ambassador Sibi George, Ambassador of India to Kuwait. "Each relationship is important. No relationship can be neglected or ignored."

India and Kuwait have a historic relationship that can be traced back to several centuries. The stability, security and prosperity of this region is so important to us. Apart from trade and investment, there are crucial areas, including security, the safety of maritime lanes, the fight against terrorism, defence, science, and technology.

Over the years, this relationship has grown into a mutually beneficial longstanding dynamic partnership. Each time I see a dhow or a replica of a dhow here, I remember the forefathers who traded across the seas with India. Every family in Kuwait has some kind of connect with India. I thank the leadership of the State of Kuwait for hosting a large Indian community in Kuwait.

I am happy to be in Kuwait which is in one of the most important regions for India. My first and foremost responsibility is to build upon the vibrant relations between our two countries. I call this relationship a longstanding dynamic partnership. While I work on building on this bilateral relationship, one of my priorities is to ensure the welfare of the large Indian community here, particularly in these times of the Covid 19 pandemic. We are all facing a difficult situation, including in Kuwait. There are many challenges.

My endeavour is to make the consular service in the Embassy a pleasant experience for all Indians in Kuwait. There are challenges,

It is a work in progress. But we are on the right track. The welfare of those who need help and support is a priority.

They are not liabilities; they are not strangers; they are our brothers and sisters, they are not problems, they are our priorities. We will effectively use the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) for the welfare of the community.

We have a program where we provide lunch to all needy Indians who visit the Embassy every day. Our open houses, our interactions with all stakeholders, will bridge gaps with the community, if any, that exists.

There is absolutely zero tolerance in my Embassy for any form of corruption, nepotism, bias or partisanship. We are ready to work 24x7 to enhance our relationship with the host country and to ensure the safety and welfare of the community.

The Embassy is adopting a multipronged approach in our outreach programme. There are four kinds of events that we focus on: firstly, events aimed at highlighting the New India to the world, its economic and scientific achievements and transformation, both at national and state levels; secondly, events to celebrate and showcase India's rich and varied cultural diversity, its civilisational heritage and its several festivals; thirdly, events to celebrate the life and contributions of our national heroes, and fourthly, events to engage the community closely to ensure their welfare and keep them informed on the Embassy's efforts to support them address their concerns.

I am sure that each of these events contributes to building bridges between India and Kuwait and contributing to the community's welfare here.

In recent years, India has made significant progress in agriculture,



food production, energy, healthcare, education, and various science and technology fields. We have made our mark in the international arena in information technology, mass media and communication, space technology, defence production and Nuclear energy and solar energy. India has some of the world's best technical institutes like the Indian Institute of Technology and the Indian Institute of Science. In a nutshell, India has emerged today as a vibrant modern economy.

I am convinced that this highly talented community has so much untapped potential to celebrate India in Kuwait and promote our strong relationship. Indian Cultural Network (ICN), Indian Professionals Network (IPN), Indian Business Network (IBN) and Indian Sports Network (ISN) are platforms aimed at connecting with these talented Indians in Kuwait. There is an open invitation to every Indian to join these platforms.

We are celebrating two important milestones this year. This year marks the 75th anniversary of India's independence. It also marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Kuwait.

I have a plan A and plan B. Plan A is to celebrate these important milestones with hundreds of cultural and other events in celebrating India in Kuwait and events to highlight the historic and growing partnership between the two countries.

Plan B is to focus more on virtual events, again hundreds of those events, celebrating India and its relationship with Kuwait. In all these events and efforts, the many Indian associations in Kuwait are our partners. Depending on the evolving Covid 19 pandemic situation, we will work on Plan A or Plan B starting next month.

During the pandemic, India and Kuwait have cooperated closely in diverse areas. Last April, India sent a medical team to Kuwait to supplement the Government of Kuwait's efforts. A few weeks back,

Kuwait received 200,000 doses of the Oxford vaccine from India in their fight against Covid.

The Covid 19 crisis has become a global challenge of a magnitude that humanity has not experienced in recent memory. It is throwing up new challenges to every country, every society and every family, including in India and here in Kuwait.

In this crisis period, India and Kuwait are partnering to address it. I am happy to see the immense contributions of our doctors, nurses and other medical professionals here in the fight against Covid 19. They are saving lives.

As the pharmacy of the world, India is the largest producer of vaccines in the world, with about 60% of the global share. It has used its strengths not just to launch the world's largest vaccination drive in India, but it has made Indian manufactured vaccines affordable and accessible to all of humanity.

So far, India has supplied about 230 lakh doses of vaccines to friends and partners worldwide. Indian vaccine capacities will generate another 1.1 billion doses for the WHO-led COVAX scheme that distributes them to developing countries worldwide.

It is a matter of great pride to each of us to see how India has not only developed its own indigenous vaccines but also supplied them to several countries including most countries in our neighbourhood, extended neighbourhood and in countries as far as Brazil.

This is also reflective of the economic and scientific transformation that India witnessed in recent years. There is huge potential to build on this partnership in healthcare between India and Kuwait.

- Content taken from Ambassador George's extensive interview to the Arab Times.



Dr. Mahendhran

Chairman,
IEI Kuwait chapter

IEI has been recognized as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization by the Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.

This year we are planning to deliver a series of seminars in collaboration with Indian embassy.

Thanks to HE Sibi George, Indian Ambassador to Kuwait who always supports IEI and giving the Indian embassy platform for these events.

Our Ambassador H. E. Sibi George, is a person who always works tirelessly for the benefit of the Indians living in Kuwait. During the most

challenging pandemic times when all our minds were filled with anxiety, he gave us hope and cleared.

His contributions are not limited to the Indian community in Kuwait but also supported Indians in motherland also by the way of arranging oxygen!

His efforts are highly appreciated.

On our 75th Independence Day celebrations and 60th year of establishment of diplomatic relations between Kuwait and India, it gives me great pleasure to extend my wishes to all!





Nazneen Ali

Finance Manager – Bank Muscat, Kuwait, General Secretary, Writers’ Forum Kuwait, President, MKM, Kuwait

Sibi George – A Man with a Unique Perspective

The appointment of H.E. Sri. Sibi George as an Indian Ambassador to Kuwait brought in a new era for the Indian diaspora residing in Kuwait. Though appointed during the challenging times of the current pandemic, Sri. Sibi George engaged himself closely with the Indian community through personal interaction, digital outreach initiatives and reinstatement of community organization registrations.

He is a man with caliber and unique perspective. These distinguished qualities coupled with a keen interest in serving the community has aided him in building strong relationship with the Kuwaiti Government for the mutual benefit of both the nations.

The Indian Community in Kuwait is grateful to him for all his support and engagement in resolving our queries and supporting us in all matters; be it our anxiety about the Boards exams, or the issue of stranded Indians returning to Kuwait or the travel uncertainties; Sir Sibi George and his team has extended all possible support to bring us at ease. Through his endeavors he has been able to build confidence and trust in the larger Indian society in Kuwait and we wish that continues during his entire tenure.



Dr. Devipriya

A chance encounter.

I got the opportunity to accompany IFL Founder –my dear friend Writer NC.Mohandoss with family to meet H.E. Shri. Sibi George, Indian Ambassador to Kuwait.

Whole Indian community have only admirable words for His Excellency. Everybody praised his tireless efforts and services to the community ever since he assumed duty.

When I asked about his family H.E. recollected the tough situations

that his kids had to face due to the ever-shifting nature of his job. On the contrary, he acknowledged the global exposure that his kids have had.

In the course of our conversation, his simplicity and openness impressed me. He enquired me regarding my family, job and my stay in Kuwait. At that instant, I realised how effortlessly he was connecting to an ordinary person such as me.

When asked about how he handles stress, he replied with a question, "What do you mean?". He continued, "See, if one enjoys what one does, there is no question of stress or de-stress."

This, to me, was the moment of truth and gave me an insight into his personality. The sense of hope and optimism that emanates from him is remarkable.



सत्यमेव जयते

Message of H.E. Mr. Sibi George, Ambassador of India to Kuwait



On the Occasion of the 75th Independence Day of India

On this very special and joyous occasion of the 75th Independence Day of India, it is my honour and privilege to extend Warm Greetings and Best Wishes to my fellow countrymen and women in Kuwait. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation and profound gratitude to all well-wishers and friends of India in Kuwait, particularly to the leadership, the Government and the people of the State of Kuwait, for their steadfast commitment to the close and friendly relations between India and Kuwait and also

for their support to the Indian community in our fight against the devastating Covid 19 pandemic.

I would like to reiterate India's commitment and keenness to further strengthen and expand the long standing dynamic partnership with the State of Kuwait. The mutually enriching and multi-faceted bilateral relations between our two friendly countries are rooted in history. These close ties have been nurtured by continuous civilizational linkages and vibrant people-to-people affinities. Presence of a large number of Indians in this friendly, peace-loving and vibrant nation of Kuwait is a testimony to the enduring spirit of cooperation and understanding that exists between the two countries and its peoples.

This year, we mark 75 years of our Independence. It is a significant milestone in our quest to build a New, Resurgent and Self Sufficient India. India of today is a nation that inspires other nations across the world, and is a leading country in the comity of nations when it comes to stability and prosperity coupled with sustainability in true sense. We, the people of our country, have forged this robust nation of ours with strong and vibrant democratic traditions through sheer grit, resilience and selfless efforts

and sacrifices of millions of people over decades. This is the result of our collective human endeavor, of our devotion to duty, of our commitment to hard work, of our relentless dedication to not only the well-being of the people of our nation but also to the larger cause of humanity. For this continued success, we owe a great deal to our founding fathers for the most prized national inheritance - the Indian Constitution. Our Constitution, which is widely acclaimed as one of the finest in the world, is an expression of the principles and values we have committed ourselves to; an eternal fountain of wisdom and guidance; a fundamental source of the law of the land and the power of its people; and an encapsulation of the essence of our nationhood.

The past year and a half have been challenging for India and the rest of the world as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to threaten the very existence of human race. Millions of lives have already been lost and livelihoods of hundreds of millions have adversely been impacted. During this hour of crisis, India has once again risen up to the occasion. We not only managed to face the COVID - 19 pandemic with great fortitude but while we did this, we stayed true to our age old ethos of Vasudaivakutumbakam, where we treat the world as one big family. India was and continues to be the first responder to calls of help and assistance from other countries. We sent medicines and medical supplies to over 150 countries in the world. Our medical professionals travelled the world to augment and support healthcare infrastructures of other countries. In yet another display of our commitment to this idea of universal brotherhood, India supplied vaccines to more than 90 countries around the world, including 200,000 doses of Made-in-India "COVISHIELD" vaccine to the friendly State of Kuwait, and rightfully justified our credentials as the "Pharmacy of the World".

Despite the global macroeconomic headwinds due to the ongoing pandemic, Indian economy continues to remain on firm footing. Hon'ble Prime Minister's clarion call for Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India), which envisages a merger of the local with the global, has played the role of catalyst in this economic revival. Innovation and adaptability to the situation have been the important pillars of our comprehensive approach in dealing with the pandemic challenge. This has been particularly demonstrated in the way India ramped up its medical equipment manufacturing infrastructure during the pandemic period. While before the pandemic, there was not a single company in the country producing masks and PPE kits, within a few months around 1,100 such companies became operational. In just three months, India



has become the second largest manufacturer of masks and PPE kits in the world. And during the entire process, there was strict adherence to the policy of non-compromise with quality.

To give a further fillip to growth and development, Government continues to introduce various measures like Production Linked Incentives which envisages increase of scale and efficiency of Indian manufacturing. This is in line with the objective to Make in India for the world. Major structural reforms, including through introduction of simpler tax systems, creation of capable human resource base, development of a strong financial system and building of hard and soft infrastructure, continue to be undertaken to enable us to harness the true, latent potential of Indian economy. Also, despite the disruption caused by the pandemic, India attracted the highest ever total FDI inflow of USD 81.72 billion in the financial year 2020-21. This is a testimony of the belief of the global investor community in our long-term growth story and the strength of our underlying strong economic fundamentals.



India is currently in the United Nations Security Council as a non-permanent member and has assumed the Presidency of the Council for the current month of August. In a historic first, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired a UNSC debate titled 'Enhancing Maritime Security - A Case for International Cooperation'. Speaking at the event, Hon'ble Prime Minister stated "We want to make an inclusive framework on maritime security in our region based on the vision of SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region). This vision is for a safe, secure, and stable maritime domain". This in a nutshell summarizes our vision of creating an environment of peace and security to ensure a better world for the entire humanity, which has been the guiding spirit of India's foreign policy. India places an undeterred faith and belief in multilateral approach and has always taken the lead on issues of global concern such as international terrorism, climate change, energy security, food security, and the reform of multilateral institutions, including the UN Security Council.

The Gulf and Middle East region occupies a pivotal place in India's foreign policy framework. We are each other's extended neighborhood, and peace, security and stability of countries in this region is imperative for prosperity and economic development of India. GCC is one of our largest trading blocs, meeting a

significant percentage of India's energy requirements and hosts over 8 million Indians.

I also take this opportunity to inform all our friends that India-Kuwait bilateral relations continue to intensify with increasing number of bilateral visits from both sides. His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Ahmed Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, State of Kuwait, visited India in March this year. During the visit, in a significant development marking an upward shift in our bilateral institutional engagement, our two countries upgraded the existing Joint Ministerial Commission to the level of Foreign Ministers. This was followed by the visit of His Excellency Dr. S Jaishankar, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India, to Kuwait in June 2021.



The visit was highly successful as it imparted further momentum to a relationship which is firmly on an upward trajectory. Highly successful and productive discussions that covered all the dimensions of our bilateral relations were held during the visit. A wide range of topics of mutual concern and also some issues that needed deeper understanding and greater alignment were discussed between the two sides. Considerable progress was made on cooperative frameworks in the areas of Defence, etc. Generous appreciation for the Indian community living in Kuwait from the Kuwaiti leaders stood out as a consistent theme during the interactions. During the visit, a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Recruitment of Domestic Service Workers was signed which will streamline the entire ecosystem of the recruitment process and provide mutual benefits and protection to employers and employees.

When India faced the second wave of COVID-19 and the consequent shortage of medical oxygen, our traditional partner, Kuwait, rose to the occasion and became a leading global supplier of medical oxygen helping us tide over the critical situation. I take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to the leadership, the Government and the people of the friendly State of Kuwait and also to the Indian Diaspora in Kuwait for all the assistance.

Our bilateral trade and investment ties continued to remain strong despite the adverse impact of the pandemic and its associated precautionary restrictions implemented by the concerned authorities. During the entire crisis period, India



remained a steady and reliable partner for Kuwait maintaining its supply of exports of essential commodities including foodstuffs. To further strengthen our bilateral trade and investments linkages, the Embassy has been organizing various business promotion events under the themes of "Aatmanirbhar Bharat", "States Facilitation", and "Invest in India" in hybrid/virtual formats. The overwhelming response from the business communities of the two countries was heartening to see.

The Embassy celebrated every national festival and days of national importance and also organized various other events, including International Day of Yoga, Open House sessions, COVID-19 awareness related seminars and roundtables, NEET Day Kuwait, etc. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to all the esteemed guests who graced our events with their presence and to all the friends of India who collaborated with the Embassy to make all these events highly successful and memorable.

As I had highlighted right at the beginning, it is the people-to-people ties that forms the bedrock of this strong and enduring relationship. Indians form the largest expatriate community in Kuwait and are present in almost all segments of Kuwaiti economy. In all my interactions with the Kuwaiti leadership at various levels, I have been reassured that the Indian Community in Kuwait enjoys the trust and confidence of the friendly people of Kuwait because of the community's law-abiding nature, its peaceful character, work ethic and cultural compatibility.

We at the Embassy place highest priority to the welfare and well-being of the Indian Community in Kuwait. I thank the Indian Community Support Group (ICSG) and the many Indian professional bodies, cultural groups and associations and the many volunteers and media representatives for joining hands with the Embassy in its efforts to support the Indian diaspora in facing the many challenges posed by the devastating Covid 19 pandemic. I thank our brave frontline healthcare professionals, our doctors, our nurses and our scientists who have been working selflessly in trying to protect our lives and that of our loved ones. I salute our children who have managed a difficult school year with extraordinary resilience and understanding.

The Embassy is your 'Home Away from Home'. During the year, we have

continuously worked to further improve the quality of our services to the Community and will continue to do so in the future. We have introduced 12 new, dedicated 24*7 Helpline WhatsApp numbers to address your issues; we continue to take your feedback and have widened the network of feedback form availability to include your nearest supermarket; all suggestions received through this mechanism are reviewed for applicable implementation; we have introduced an AYUSH information cell; and have also created a new 24*7 helpdesk at the premises for various ongoing registration drives.

Our various Outreach Platforms, viz., Indian Business Network (IBN), Indian Professionals Network (IPN), Indian Cultural Network (ICN), Indian Sports Network (ISN) and Indian Readers' Network (IRN) continue to function smoothly as we work together towards building Brand India in Kuwait and further strengthening India-Kuwait relations across the entire spectrum. We look forward to launching an Indian Women's Network to provide a platform to celebrate the contributions of our women in Kuwait.

This year, 2021, marks the 60th Anniversary of Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between India and Kuwait. The Embassy aims to celebrate this momentous milestone in a befitting manner with year-long commemorative events. We have already organized a number of events under this theme and I look forward to work with each of our Diaspora members in organizing more events in the days, weeks and months ahead.



Once again, on this joyous and proud occasion of the 75th Independence Day of India, I wish every Indian in Kuwait good health and happiness. I conclude by conveying my Best Wishes for the continued good health and well-being of His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait; His Highness Sheikh Misha'al Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Crown Prince of the State of Kuwait; His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al Hamad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait; and to the Government and the friendly people of the State of Kuwait.

Happy Independence Day!



Ravi Varrier

Chief Executive Officer
Al-Rashed International Shipping Co., Kuwait

Today we are celebrating India's 75th Independence Day. 74 years ago, on this day, India was born as a free democratic country which had many challenges ahead. During the past 74 years, India overcome different hurdles and Indians earned global recognition in various fields.

This Independence Day, don't just celebrate the freedom, but take pride in what India have achieved.

We have come a long way since Independence even as we face multiple challenges in health sector. A decrease in death rates is considered one of the major achievements that came India's way in this sector. Similar improvement was noticed in maternal mortality rate also. Government's efforts yielded further result as the number of tuberculosis and HIV cases are also witnessing a declining trend as per WHO.

While life expectancy was around 37 years in 1951, it almost doubled to 65 years by 2011. We have also managed to get rid small pox in 1975, polio in 2014, and maternal and neonatal tetanus in 2015. Moreover, India has pledged to eradicate TB by 2025.

India ranks 3rd worldwide for pharmaceutical production by volume and 14th by value. The country has an established domestic pharmaceutical industry, with a strong network of 3000 drug companies and 10,500 manufacturing units.

The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has provided impetus to stop open defecation and prevent spread of communicable diseases. Mortality in children under five years came down to 39.4 in 2017 from 126 in 1990.

The number of schools witnessed a dramatic increase during the post-independence era. Literacy rates have increased significantly, from 18.3% during 1950s to 52% during 1990s to 69.30% during 2011 to 74.37% during 2018.

More than 100 million children receive education at the primary level. The increase in numbers at the secondary stage is also impressive. Education at college and university levels has also increased enormously. Today, there are about 300 universities in India. Diversification of education at senior school, college and university levels has also been taken up by the Government of India.

Today, India stands as the second fastest growing economy as well as the most vibrant democracy in the world. But India is not just one of the world's largest economies; it is one of the youngest too. While this unique demographic holds the promise of making India a thrumming engine of the world economy.

Love motherland, Let's make clean and green it's every side. An inspiration to the world my country, my pride.

Happy Independence Day!



M. Mullick

G.M, Kulaib Inter. Trd. Cont.

Today we celebrate the glory of freedom. We don't understand the value of freedom until we lose it, so let's remember that and never let go of our freedom.

Remembering our past is extremely important. But we also need to think about building our future. It's been more than two centuries since our grandparents won our first and most crucial battle, but we need to will cherish and nurture it thought dedication and commitment to accomplish even greater things.

Happy Independence Day!



Dhiraj Oberoi

Managing Partner, KITCO

No country at India's stage of development (e.g. with more than four-fifths of adults not literate, in 1951) has experimented with full-fledged democracy—universal adult suffrage with a multi-party polity in a federal structure—and achieved peaceful transfer of power, not once but over and over again.

We are now moving towards the 75th year of Independence. With the inspiration of countless great personalities like Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Swami Vivekananda, the Indian community across the world has played an important role in our freedom. It is time to remember the freedom fighters who worked for India's independence while remaining outside India.

Happy Independence Day!



Happy Independence Day

All Staff, Executive Management & The Partners Salute the People & Government of India on the Country's Glorious

Independence Day

Over 900,000 Indians proud to share in the social, cultural & economic progress of Kuwait






Happy Independence Day

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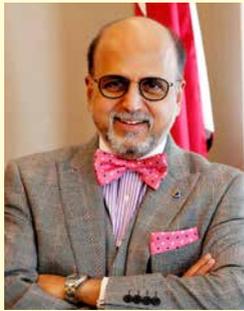


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Dr. R. Seetharaman
CEO, Doha Bank Group

The development India achieved since independence is multifarious. Some of them are tangible and others intangible. Spread of literacy, bringing more and more people in the mainstream, building strong democratic institutions etc are some of the factors which cannot

be measured in quantitative terms; but the impact of these inclusive measures are felt widely. Besides, they are the great pillars, which will unleash a sustainable growth path to India's future development.

Modern India nothing is impossible, and growing at a rocket speed, from education to service to technology, everything is evolving in a mature form. The growth of the Services Sector in India is a unique example of leap-frogging traditional models of economic growth.

India's services sector, which contributes more than 50% of the GDP and employing 24 per cent of Indian workforce, will be a major driver of growth in the future. A special mention has to be made about telecom and software development, which has pushed up the growth in the services sector. India's services sector covers a wide variety of activities such as trade, hotel and restaurants, transport, storage and communication, financing, insurance, real estate, business services, community, social and personal services, and services associated with construction.

Equally significant is the focus that India is laying for facilitating technology to jump start proliferation of innovations and discoveries. The digital infrastructure being laid across the country, increasing penetration of internet and app based technologies, especially in the rural areas, focus on R&D etc are indicators of India's stride towards consolidating the growth.

India now ranks third in terms of the most attractive investment destinations for technology transactions globally. India has climbed up in the top five nations for space research globally. According to the Global innovation index (2020), India ranks 48th overall in terms of innovation and ranks amongst the top 15 nations in Information and Communication Technology and R&D-intensive global companies.

Indian companies in the deep tech space are making significant leaps in innovation. With its cutting-edge technologies, these companies are solving issues affecting the

real-world around them. From enhancing network security to developing contactless sleep monitoring device, and detecting tuberculosis, these startups are using deep tech to solve real world problems.

Application of IT tools is scripting significant changes in the Indian agriculture sector. Concepts like precision agriculture, greenhouse cultivation etc are picking up in India, which is also the largest producer of milk and second largest producer of pulses.

India is well positioned to develop cutting-edge solutions and apps for the rest of the globe, thanks to its world-class technological environment and talent pool.

In India, all industry stakeholders are actively involved in the endeavour to commercially launch 5G through R&D investments, technology trials for deployment and study of use cases.

India wants to become a digital society. Aadhaar is the world's largest biometrics database, with 1.2 billion Indian residents enrolled so far.

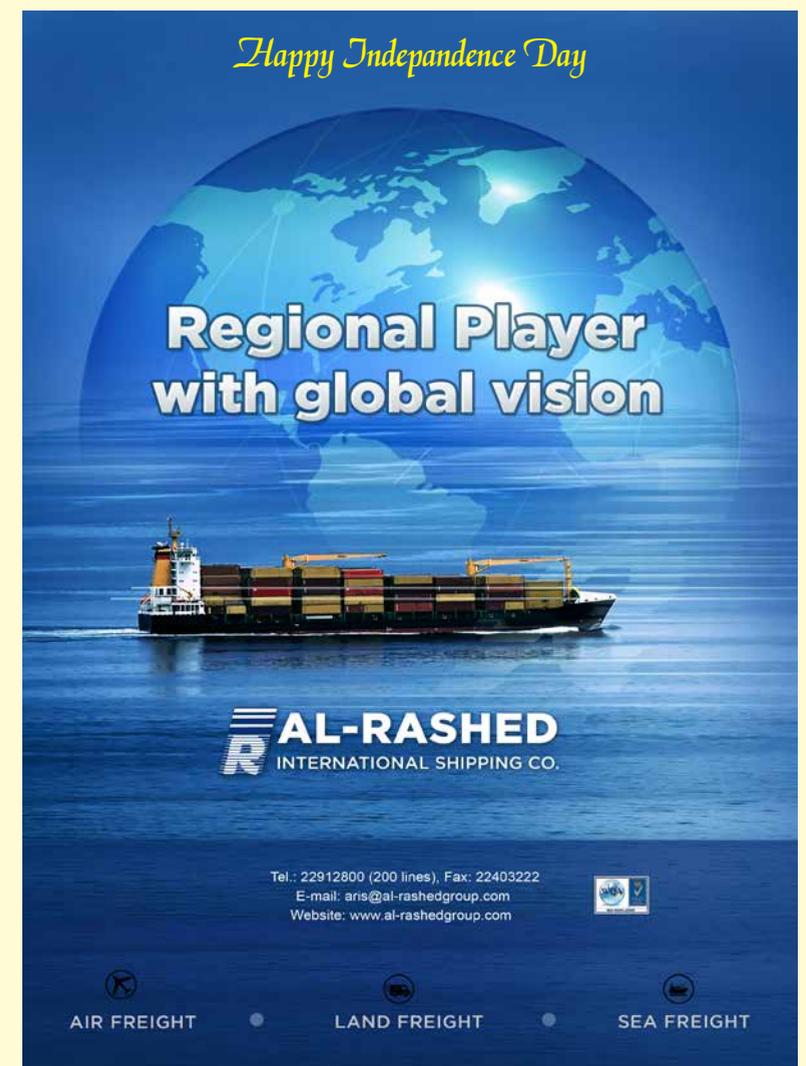
The world is continuously developing, and in a world of rapid growth and increasing complexity, a person can only stand if they cope with the developing technologies. India's readiness to embrace new technologies is set to inspire the rest of the world.

Technology will be the main enabler of access to quality education, healthcare and financial services in empowering people in non-urban and rural areas and Digital India is slowly but steadily connecting rural India with the mainstream, industry leaders.

India needs to work on this part to inspire and motivate young talents to take up basic sciences, thereby driving the country's primary research thrust. The day when every proud Indian citizen will have digital service access is not very far. They are embracing Digital initiatives everyday to connect with the Government.

The country is on the right path and I am sure that if we all collaborate, this vision will be successfully realised. It's an ambitious, but attainable goal.

Happy Independence Day!

Happy Independence Day

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Ashok Kalra

(Managing Director/Partner)
Mughal Mahal Gen Trad & Cont Co.W.L.L.
Fmr. Hon. Chairman (Indian Community School)

As India marks the Platinum Jubilee of its Independence Day I would like to convey my heartiest greetings to the Indian community in Kuwait and to all friends of India in this country. During the past 18 months, India has gone through one of the most challenging periods in our 75 years of Independence. More than 31 million people have so far been affected by the COVID-19 virus in our country with over 410,000 people losing their lives to the illness. The Indian diaspora around the world, including here in Kuwait, have also not been spared from the infection, with many people sadly passing away from the disease.

Let us take a moment to pray for the souls of the deceased and wish those still infected and in hospitals a speedy recovery. Let us also express our collective thanks and utmost gratitude to all the frontline workers in Kuwait and in India, for the selfless and superb efforts they have been exerting to protect and preserve our health and wellbeing during these difficult times. In addition to its health aspects, the pandemic also impacted the livelihood of thousands of our compatriots who lost their jobs and income, and had very little savings to rely on to support themselves and their families. However, the fact that their plight was not ignored by other community members is a matter of pride for all of us. Indians from all walks of life in Kuwait came together as one, and displayed unprecedented instances of sharing, caring and compassion for their fellow citizens.

Many people and organizations donated food and other essential supplies to help the needy overcome their difficulties. In this regard, I would like to mention that the Indian Community Support Group (ICSG), an initiative set up under the guidance of the Indian Embassy, and in coordination with various Indian associations, helped thousands of distressed Indians in dire need of support. Last May, the ICSG began a scheme to collect and distribute essential food kits that benefitted hundreds of community members across Kuwait.

On the global level, India's efforts and contributions in the fight against COVID-19 is also a matter about which all of us can be justifiably proud. Despite our own immense domestic needs for vaccines and medications against the virus, India was the first country to deliver millions of free doses of the anti-COVID vaccines, as well as other medications and medical equipment, to nations around the world. As they say, "What goes around, comes around."

Beginning in May of this year, when India's health system was overwhelmed by a second wave of the virus, the support and assistance we received from the international community, including from the Kuwait government, was amazing and a firm sign of the goodwill that India has generated worldwide, and is a further sign of the global solidarity in the face of a

common adversary. In Kuwait, the ICSG along with other Indian associations and local charities, and in coordination with the Indian Embassy, sourced and shipped hundreds of tons of oxygen cylinders, oxygen-concentrators, liquid-oxygen tanks, and other essential medications and medical equipment to India.

It is also noteworthy that despite the limited resources available, and the various challenges posed in testing, vaccinating and treating patients in a vast country like India, with more than 1.3 billion people, India has so far tested nearly 450 million samples, and vaccinated more than 415 million people. Both of these numbers are currently among the highest in the world. As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of our Independence, let us also take this opportunity to remember the brave soldiers who over the decades have sacrificed their

lives to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country.

Let us also pay homage to the hundreds of thousands of freedom fighters, well-known leaders as well as ordinary citizens, who fought and died so that future generations could enjoy the fruits of hard-won freedom. On the same note, let us also express our gratitude to all the men and women in uniform, who day and night stand vigilant guard on our borders ready to defend the country. Since Independence in 1947, India has pursued a democratic path paved on the principles of tolerance, equality and justice for all citizens; it is a path that has won admiration and respect from the international community.

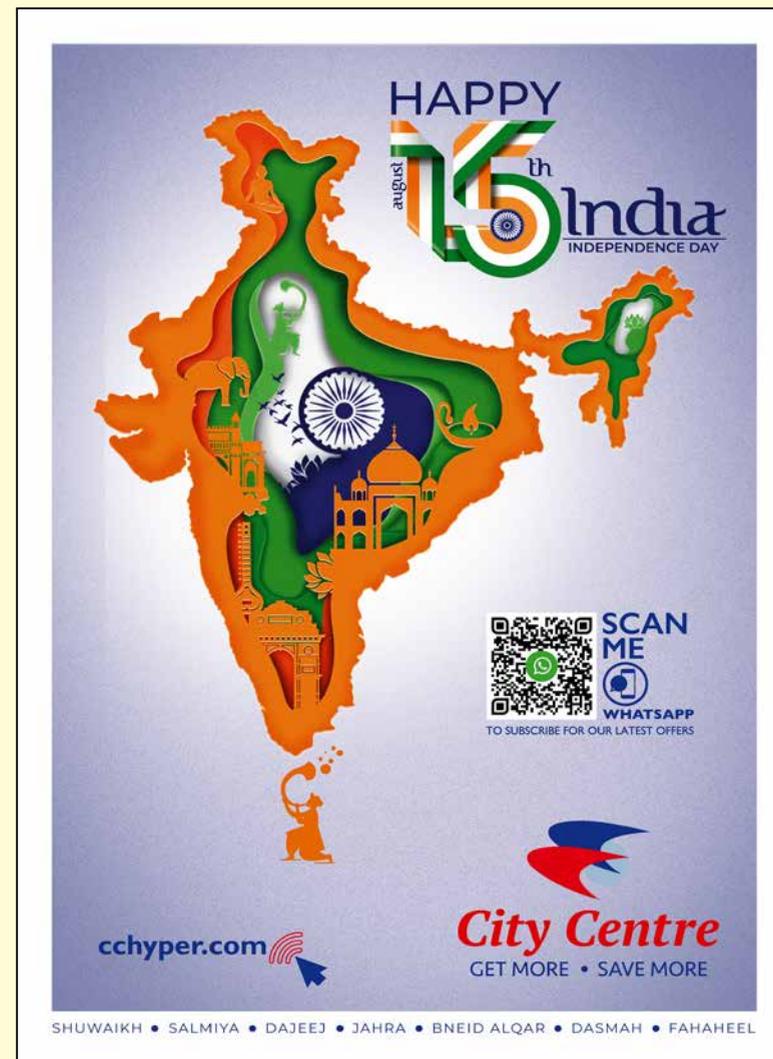
With our 1.3 billion plus people we are often known as the largest democracy in the world; but this tag also confers on us a huge responsibility to uphold and showcase the virtues of democracy to the rest of the world. We need to sustain and promote the traditions and values of a democratic society, and demonstrate to the world how a democracy can function effectively, not just for a privileged few but for over a billion people.

On this Independence Day let us also thank Kuwait and its leadership for hosting the Indian community in this country. India and Kuwait have deep-rooted social, cultural and commercial ties that date back centuries. Today, the nearly one million strong, vibrant Indian community is the largest expatriate group in Kuwait, and is an attestation of the robust people-to-people relations we have maintained and nourished over the decades, and which has allowed us to continue contributing to the socio-economic development of both India and Kuwait. Independence Day is also an opportunity for us to candidly assess our achievements and discern our shortcomings since gaining independence 75 years ago.

While we can look back with pride on our nation's many accomplishments, we should also concede that a lot more remains to be realized. Let us make this Independence Day the occasion when we rededicate ourselves to the nation and pledge to take forward the flame of freedom that was handed to us by past generations, and with the promise to keep that flame burning bright for posterity.

On this occasion, let us commit ourselves to building an India of tolerance, harmony, equality, justice and the rule of law. Let us make the multiplicity of our diversity in language, religion, culture and customs, our greatest asset in building a strong and truly independent nation. To ensure that this century will truly belong to India and to Indians, let us together build a nation where every individual will be able to lift their heads and proudly say, "I am an Indian."

Happy Independence Day!





AN. Natarajan

Hotel Saravanaa Bhavan, Kuwait

Happy Independence Day to everyone, I wish you all faith in the words, freedom in the mind and pride in your souls.

Let's salute this glorious nation on its Independence Day!

It is a great time for you to show the act of freedom. Make yourself known. Never follow others footsteps, free yourself, after-all you are independent!

If there is one place on the face of earth where all the dreams of living men have found a home from the very earliest days when men began the dream of existence, it is India!

Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed – else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.

As you celebrate this day, always have it in mind that no nation is perfect and it can only be made perfect by me and you. Happy independence day, proud to be Indian!

Jai Hind !

Happy Independence Day!



Shaik Abdul Rahiman

Chairman,
The Indian Community School Kuwait and
Indian School of Excellence

Today I wish to congratulate all my compatriots on this significant day of joy and pride. Our independence – it's our beginning. The desire for independence led to the creation of India, and the idea of being independent is still of great value to both individuals and India as a whole. Because of this freedom, I can enjoy the right to write this editorial, worship God in whatever form I desire, celebrate my traditions, create a business, pursue my studies.

I can't be more thankful to everyone who participated in this battle for freedom. Let's make a strong decision, to value our nation and never forget the sacrifices of those who gave us this freedom.

Happy Independence Day!



Happy Independence Day

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Dr. S.M. Hyder Ali
Chairman,
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In its 74 years of independence, India has several achievements to its credit. It has built a modern economy (second fastest growing economy), lifted millions out of poverty, has become a space and nuclear power and developed a robust foreign policy.

It is today the world's third largest market for smart phones and the sixth largest for cars. India's software industry employs more than 4 million people directly and more than 10 million indirectly. The breadth and depth of this growth is reflected in the extraordinary range of projects Control Risks has engaged in Post-Independence era.

India designed and built Asia's first nuclear reactor Apsara nuclear reactor on August 4, 1956. Nuclear power is the fifth-largest source of electricity in India after coal, gas, hydroelectricity and wind power. As of November 2020, India has 22 nuclear reactors in operation in 7 nuclear power plants, with a total installed capacity of 6,780 MW.

ISRO was formed by Dr. Vikram Sarabhai on 15th August 1969. Today ISRO is one of the six space agencies in the world with the capability to build and launch satellites from its own soil.

ISRO built India's first satellite, Aryabhata, which was launched by the Soviet Union on 19 April 1975. In 1980, ISRO launched satellite RS-1 onboard its own SLV-3 making India the sixth country to be capable of undertaking orbital launches. India has launched 118 satellites since 1975. At present, ISRO operates one of the largest constellations of active communication and earth imaging satellites for military and civilian uses.

India sent its first astronaut, Rakesh Sharma, into space in 1984 in a joint mission with the Soviet Union. India had vowed to put an Indian in space by 2022, before its 75th Independence Day. India's first manned space mission, Gaganyaan, to send three persons for 5-7 days.

India conducted a series of five nuclear bomb tests at Pokhran, Rajasthan, in May 1998 under the code name "Operation Shakti". It led to India becoming a full-fledged nuclear state.

India successfully launched Chandrayaan in October 2008 to explore the moon. One of the greatest achievements of Chandrayaan was the discovery of water molecules in the lunar soil. In 2009, India launched INS Arihant, the country's first indigenous nuclear submarine armed with ballistic missiles with



Mrs. Ananthi Natarajan
Ex. IFL President

India is, the cradle of the human race, the birthplace of human speech, the mother of history, the grandmother of legend, and the great grand mother of tradition.

We all are so different, but there is one thing that unites us and it's independence. We should honor it and never forget how hard it was to get it. Enjoy this beautiful Independence Day!

It is the ultimate luxury to combine passion and contribution. It's also a very clear path to happy independent living in real sense.

Today women get more and more empowered in every walk of life -let it be business , international politics - thanks to Kamala Harris ! - health sciences - we see Soumya Swaminathan in WHO to space -let us remember Kalpana Chawla !

This combined strength , of course genderless , will take our independent India to greater levels .

Happy Independence Day!

a range of 3,500 km.

In 2013, Indian Space Research Organisation successfully launched Mars Orbiter Mission to probe Mars. It is the first Asian nation to reach Mars orbit, and the first nation in the world to do so in its first attempt. ISRO's Mars mission is the cheapest mission so far with just Rs. 450 Crores (Rs. 12/km).

India have its own GPS called NAVIC. India is now proudly among five nations in the world which have established their own satellite navigation system. Until today, we were reliant on GPS and systems from other nations, but today we are independent.

In February 2017, ISRO has created a new record by launching 104 satellites in one go. Out of these 104 satellites, only 3 of these were Indian Satellites. Earlier, this record was set by Russia in 2014 by launching 37 satellites in a single mission. US Space Agency NASA has launched 29 satellites in one go.

In February 2019, India's first indigenously developed light combat aircraft Tejas received the final operational clearance for induction into IAF.

India proved its Anti-Satellite capability on March 2019 when it knocked off one of its own satellites 283 km in space, thereby joining a small group of countries — the US, Russia and China — to possess such a capability.

DRDO Chief said the interceptor used for the A-SAT missile test had the capability to hit targets 1,000 km away, but DRDO had intentionally chosen the target at an altitude of 283 km to prevent the creation of space debris. While there are other ways to demonstrate A-SAT capabilities such as "fly-by tests" and jamming, India had relied on the "kinetic kill technology".

In this past 74 years, India has thrived to attain greater heights in every field. With these achievements, it is not hard to believe that India has the potential to become a global Super Power.

Happy Independence Day!

Happy Independence Day

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Ravi Kohli

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All nations take pride in their heritage and Achievements, Why not we?

Did you know that India is the world's largest and oldest continuous civilization, and as per 1961 census, India had 1,652 languages? It also has the second largest pool of scientists and engineers in the world. As the world's largest democracy, a country which is rich in culture and traditions, love and compassion, vision and passion, we often fail to thank the nation for what it has given us.

For instance, our food traditions are unique – from the delicious appams and stew of Kerala to the kulchas and Amritsari chole of Punjab and so much more. Our nation's jewellery traditions are equally fascinating, as is its heritage in sarees and garments. As marketers, we should narrate these stories beautifully, celebrate our native craftsmen and craftswomen who have kept such heritage alive, and contribute meaningfully towards nurturing their future.

Pride in our nation is a powerful emotion. It unites and inspires. It encompasses pride in our history, heritage, achievements and our future. It is also a very constructive emotion, because it brings out the best in us, and encourages us to contribute positively. It is both a self-conscious emotion and a social emotion, so it can stir us individually and collectively.

I think all of us – government, businesses, non-profit organisations, educational institutions, media, social movements, leaders from all spheres of life – should make a special effort to generate and promote pride in India. Marketers have an important role to play in this, because effective communication of emotions and stories is our forte.

Krishna says in Gita, that there are multiple paths to the same truth. Similarly, there may be more than one ways of not only subscribing to a national identity but also of displaying the patriotism towards one's country.

Let's 75th year of independence to bring together all stakeholders including the industry, government, institutions, community groups and individuals to translate the India's Super Power vision into a reality.

Happy Independence Day!



Mathews Varughese

General Manager, BEC

When the Tri Colour unfurls every year on the ramparts of the Red Fort and many parts of India on 15 August, India's Independence Day, it is reminiscent of the supreme sacrifice and resilience with which our freedom fighters battled to free the nation from the clutches of colonial rule. It's a day of our nation's success.

I want to enjoy this unforgettable day. This day means life without boundaries and limits.

Let's celebrate every victory and achievement that we Indians have made. May the spirit of freedom motivate us all towards greater success and glory.

Happy Independence Day!



D. Ram Mohan Reddy

Chief Operating Officer

New India Assurance (Govt of India PSU), Kuwait.

Basic facts of Insurance

Our day to day survival depends on many factors; we are encircled with numerous types of risks and hazards in our everyday life. Various risks such as, accidents, natural calamities, accidental fire losses, business losses, infidelity in business transactions etc. keep attacking us on regular basis. Each passing day has become a challenge, and since last one year or so, the pandemic has loomed large over the lives of each and every person on the earth. Though we cannot avoid these incidents, but we can reduce its impact, with planned Risk Management techniques. Risk Management includes, Avoidance, minimization and risk transfer methods. Out of which the best suited method is transferring of risk, which in other words, is seeking an insurance to safe guard all the risks encountered in day to day life. Just by paying some small sum as premium, all sorts of risks can be covered under insurance. The most important forms of insurance are Property Insurance which covers the property against losses incurred due to fire accidents, natural calamities etc, Burglary Insurance which covers theft related losses, Marine Insurance which covers goods in transit, Motor Insurance which covers Motor accident losses including those incurred due to accidental losses incurred to the third parties. Apart from these property related Insurance forms another important form of insurance is the personal insurances which covers the well-being of humans, this includes, Personal Accident policy, that cover accidental deaths and injuries, Medical Insurance that covers health related medical expenses, workmen Insurance covering the safety of workmen at work, travel insurance that covers the risk involved in foreign tour.

After the pandemic, we have seen much causality and business losses, many people lost their lives and it was an unfortunate experience for many as they lost the bread winners of their families, only those families were saved who had some insurance coverage. Even on property side, we are seeing unprecedented rains in many parts of the world, and too many fire incidents burning huge properties, all these risk factors can be made good only with an Insurance coverage.

Hence, one should not think that the amount incurred to acquire insurance as an undesired expenditure, but it needs to be considered as an investment for the safety of one's self, family and business interests. It is advisable that everyone spare some money from their income to get proper insurance coverage, to take care of all their day to day risk factor. So let us not ignore or neglect the value of being properly insured.

Happy Independence Day!



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Krishnakumar Eacharath

GM, UAE Exchange Centre Co WLL, Kuwait

Krishna says in Gita, that there are multiple paths to the same truth. Similarly, there may be more than one ways of not only subscribing to a national identity but also of displaying the patriotism towards one's country.

Today we are celebrating 75th Independence Day of our nation. Let's 75th year of independence to bring together all stakeholders including the industry, government, institutions, community groups and individuals to translate the India's Super Power vision into a reality.

Happy Independence Day!



Aziz F

Tajmahal Marbles, Kuwait

India is a vast country in the world with many attractions mainly for travel & tourism. The vast country offers myriad options: 36 world heritage sites and 103 national parks. Visiting India is a dream of every foreigner because India has lot to travel and explore many adventures things.

The main reason why India is famous for tourism means all type of tourist destinations in one place. India is the right place for wild safaris, desert safaris, nature seeking places, honeymoon spot, adventurous activities, spiritual places and historical places of India.

According to the biennial World Economic Forum (WEF) Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report, India ranks 10th best for "price competitiveness".

For the history seekers, India is the apt place to visit different historical monuments. One of the things visitors always marvel at in India is the magnificent architecture found all over the country and it varies so much where ever you go. India is famous for many historical monuments and the architectural skill involved. Each historical monument has a great history and its specific identity.

Even some monuments are ideal for architectural skills, for example, Taj Mahal, Red fort, Sheesh Mahal etc. Some historical monuments in India attract science seekers also due to the science behind the construction of the monument. For example Jantar Mantar is a famous observatory in India.

India is the right place for many adventurous acts. India is the place for adventurous acts the nearby Himalayas and different valleys, rivers, mountains. India can be very inspiring and refreshing for the soul. Many people come to India to learn yoga, meditate, or spend time at an ashram.

The day we understand how tourism can change the face of our nation, half of the battle will be won. It can definitely bring more value, income Local Job creation and an image to our nation.

Happy Independence Day!



Remesh Ananda Das

Chief Operating Officer, Oncost

As Independent India turns 74, it is time to look back at where the country found itself at that moment of freedom, and its journey so far. The British left a society with 16 per cent literacy, a life expectancy of 27, practically no domestic industry and more than 90 per cent living below the "poverty line". Today, the literacy rate is up at 79 per cent, average life expectancy is nearing 70 years of age and 280 million people have been pulled out of poverty in the 21st century.

We've earned the right to celebrate, so let's show the whole world how proud we are to be free India! Let's salute our martyrs for the sacrifices they made and appreciate them for giving us Today.

Happy Independence Day!

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Ramdas Nair

Head of Sales & Marketing, BEC

As we observe our nation's 75th birthday, thank you for everyone, who fights to defend our values at home and around the globe. The sacrifices that you and your families make every day ensure the freedom of millions and serve as a guiding light to the world.

Always stand for what you believe, stand for what is right and stand for what you desire. True freedom lies where the mind is without fear. Wishing you and your family a very Happy Independence Day.

Happy Independence Day!



Ajay Goel

Chief Operating Officer, City Centre

Today, as we stand with our heads held high, let us also shed those tears as we remember all those who died for me, you and our whole country, risking their precious lives each and every day. To our martyrs, here is our salute. Let us honour every patriot, because without them, freedom would not have existed. What they did, we can never repay.

Freedom is for everyone. It doesn't see colors or shapes. We've had enough of hate and violence, and now we need to build our new future, full of love and understanding.

Happy Independence Day!



Ashish Jain

Chief Operating Officer

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Gandhi always believed that the youth of a nation is responsible for the country's uplift and development. Mahatma Gandhi left behind a legacy to inspire people. His non-violent ways united millions of people to follow the path of 'Ahimsa' while protesting against oppression.

Meet the young India- emerging with flying colours, dynamic and versatile in every manner. Let the world know – our youth are a force with true national spirit of courage, integrity, sacrifice and innovation and have the power to move mountains and achieve anything they want to. I wish the youth a happy Independence Day.

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Dr. Narendra Dhir
English Optics

Over the last 74 years, India has grown significantly across all sectors. The Mahotsav will showcase India's accomplishments since 1947, instilling a sense of pride. India's development has been remarkable and holds great promise for the future. From space and technology, to health and education,

India's growth story has been impressive and innovative across all sectors.

Independence Day is an amazing opportunity to remind ourselves how hard we've worked for it. Through blood and tears, we fought for our freedom. We made our dreams a reality. And we need to do everything to protect this hard-won freedom.

Happy Independence Day!



Mustafa Hamza
(Vice Chairman & CEO)
Metro Medical Care Group, Kuwait

some of the most memorable movements from India's independence struggle

The freedom struggle of 1857, Mahatma Gandhi's return from abroad, reminding the nation of the power of Satyagraha. Gandhiji understood the pain of the country, caught the pulse of the people. And made this movement the movement of every Indian. It became the resolution of every Indian.

Many movements like Chittoor Andolan, Champaran Satyagrah, Mungger Movement, The Indian Mutiny of 1857, The Non-Cooperation Movement, Quit India Movement and more strengthened our fight for independence, which witnessed a fierce movement for freedom from the "British Raj" during the span of 90 years. Many historical and unforgettable incidents took place during this period, which are still remembered by the Indian people.

Champaran Satyagraha was the first successful Satyagraha on Indian soil. Britishers at that time had forced Indian farmers to cultivate Indigo, which was used for dyeing cloths and not the food crops that was necessary for their survival. Cultivation of Indigo further worsened the condition of several poor farmers, many of whom later died of starvation.

The call for complete independence of Lokmanya Tilak, the Delhi march of Azad Hind Fauj led by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The work of continuously awakening this flame of the freedom movement, in every direction, in every region, was done by our saints-mahants and Acharyas.

Jallianwala Bagh is known for Jallianwala Bagh Massacre that took place on April 13, 1919. Approximately 1650 round were fired on innocent crowd leading to 379 deaths and 1200 wounded. The Jallianwala Bagh incident is regarded as a turning point in the freedom movement. Udham Singh, an Indian revolutionary, later assassinated Michael O'Dwyer in 1940 who had backed Reginald Dyer firing on innocent crowd.

Dandi March', also known as 'Salt Satyagraha' started by Mahatma Gandhi. Due to increased tax on Indians, Gandhi started 'Satyagraha' to revolt against British. He used salt as a medium and said "next to air and water, salt is perhaps the greatest necessity of life."

Youth and scholars in India should take the responsibility that they will help the efforts of the country in writing the history of our freedom fighters. Let's take a pledge to protect the country's unity and integrity and make the nation self-reliant.

Today is not just a day, it is a festival of democracy. This is a moment of great pride for all Indians.

Happy Independence Day!



Ayyob Kachery
Regional Director
Grand Hyper, Kuwait

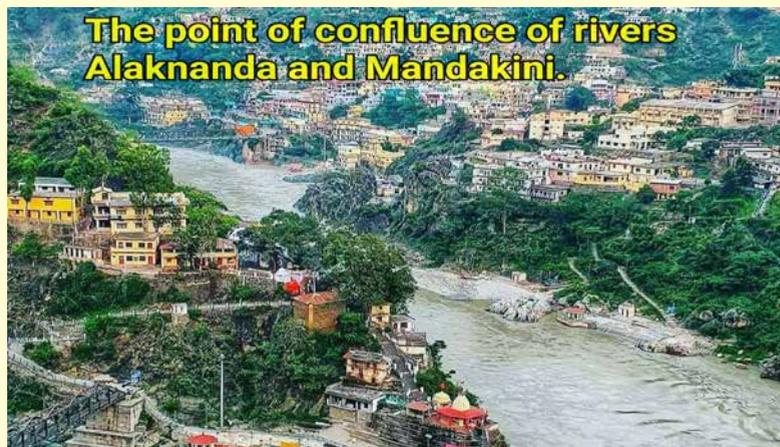
Independent India gave India a capacity it did not have when the British left. It built the scientific base for India's space and engineering triumphs today. The Indian Space Research Organisation

has launched record-setting space probes: India is the first country to successfully place a satellite in orbit around Mars at the first attempt. Today, we are world leaders in Information Technology.

Happy Independence Day!



Lohgarh Fort - Maharashtra.



The point of confluence of rivers Alaknanda and Mandakini.

BEC

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY 75TH INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY!

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Rajpal Tyagi B. Architecture,
Managing Director & Partner
International Interiors

India a former British colony that has been independent for 74 years is currently one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. The country, once a supplier of British tea and cotton, now has a diversified economy with the majority of activity and growth coming from the service industry. The nature of the workforce is also changing, with India now boasting a growing middle class.

The future of the country depends upon our youth - the students. Your perseverance, dedication and commitment will determine the future of India. Let us work to make India a happy and prosperous country.

Happy Independence Day!



K. Chinmaya
General Manager, KIECO

KIECO Exchange, also popular as Kuwait India Exchange, is immensely happy to wish the readers of Indian Frontliners a happy Independence Day of India. Kuwait and India has a strong age-old relationship in many facets of life. Indians travelling all the way from India to be here have taken pride in contributing their best while working and living in this country.

It was State Bank of India, which took initiative four decades ago, to setup KIECO in Kuwait to facilitate the remittances for the Indian expats from Kuwait to India. Thus being closely knit with Indians in Kuwait, we at KIECO would love to be with the Indian community and celebrate on this occasion of 75th Independence Day of India and 60 years of diplomatic relationship between Kuwait and India. KIECO has also come out with "Remit and Win" opportunities for the customers using its mobile app on this occasion.

Wishing you all a Happy Independence Day,

Jai Hind.



Murugesan Nagabushanam
Managing Director,
Rank General Trading & Contracting Co.

One of the oldest civilizations in the world, India is a mosaic of multicultural experiences. India's fabric has been woven by diverse linguistic, cultural and religious threads, held together into a composite national identity. It is this very land of brilliant mathematicians and scientists, from where Aryabhata invented the Zero and Charaka laid down the principles of Ayurveda.

Oh great motherland!!, it is an absolute honor and blessing to be born in this great land !!!!

Happy Independence Day!

Happy Independence Day

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Happy Independence Day

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Nitin Singhvi

SVP & Chief Financial Officer, ATC - Kuwait

Like the history of the freedom movement, the journey of 74 years after independence is a reflection of the hard work, innovation, enterprise of ordinary Indians. Across the world, India is seen not just as a new bright spot of the global economy. It is also seen as an anchor for regional and global peace, security and stability.

We are proud of our Constitution. We are proud of our democratic traditions. The mother of democracy, India is still moving forward by strengthening democracy.

Whether in the country or abroad, we Indians have proved ourselves with our hard work. May 26 is celebrated as Science Day in Switzerland in honour of former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam; because on that day, Kalam visited the country. Today, India's potential and talent are echoed on every platform in the world. India produces the second largest number of scientists and engineers in the world.

India, rich in knowledge and science, is leaving its mark from Mars to the moon. India's space programme is among the top five in the world. In September 2009, ISRO's Chandrayaan-1 used its Moon Mineralogy Mapper to detect water on the moon for the first time.

India is the world's largest democracy. We are a free people of a liberated country. Our elections are overall free and fair, and have been that way for the past 73 years. This is an amazing achievement, especially in a world where millions of people are ruled by totalitarian regimes, or face strong state-imposed restrictions curbing their freedom. Our government goes to great lengths to ensure that all citizens are able to freely exercise their franchise.

Today, every Indian, living in any nook and corner of the world, takes pride in the fact that India has become the sixth largest economy of the world. We are celebrating this Independence Day in a positive atmosphere amidst such positive chain of events.

Happy Independence Day!



George Varghese

Head - Business Development & Marketing,
UAE Ex. Co

Freedom is for everyone, no matter who you are or what you do. Let's celebrate the equality and keep fighting for freedom for every single person in this world. Independence days are celebrated annually in respect and remembrance of a long awaited freedom of the country.

Let's celebrate and enjoy the freedom giving us a possibility to live independently, helpfully, cheerfully, hopefully by reflecting on our past and remembering our national heroes who gave us total freedom after years of pain and humiliation.

Happy Independence Day!



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Dr. Anis Ahmad

Director, Education
Paradigm Pionners Group (UAE, Kuwait & India)
SIMS

This festival of our freedom, this 74 years of our Independence, is the festival for our resolution to take the nation to new heights

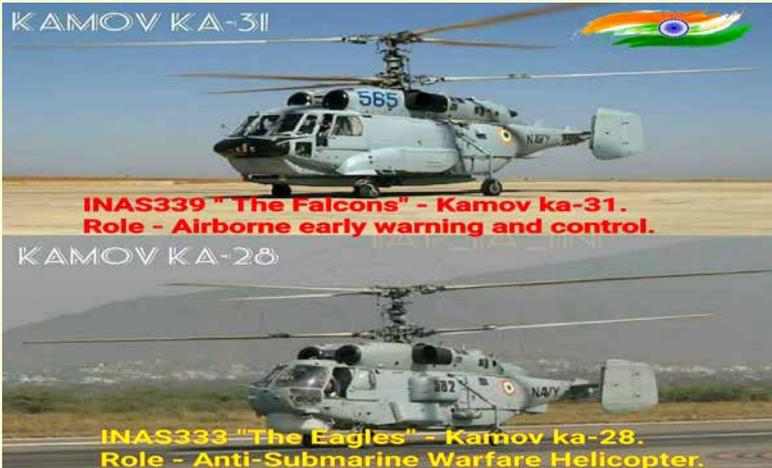
with a new resolve and a new fervour and new energy. We are able to breathe in a free air as the result of the sacrifices, renunciation and penance of our millions of great forefathers. We are also reminded of the youths who kissed the gallows.

For any country, their youth is their future and they have the power to change their country into heaven. Now the biggest strength of India is their youth. Today, about 65% of the population in the country is below 35 years of age. We are proud of our country's youth. Our country's youngsters have completely transformed the meaning of all standards of the economy. They have infused new colours to the country's standard of progress.

As country struggled to tackle Covid surge, the youth of the country came together to fight the pandemic with apps and oxygen to help complete strangers in their drive towards community welfare. The youth, using the power of social media went above and beyond and tried to create a community for people who needed help, online. The penetration of social media in a country like India comes as no shock. This time, it turned into a giant humanitarian platform for Indians.

The youth of our country has completely transformed the nature of jobs. Today the youngsters of the country are taking the nation to greater heights by exploring and engaging in new fields such as Start-ups, BPOs, E-commerce, mobility etc. Youth-led startups are transforming India, one innovation at a time. Start small, but start up – that's what the youth believes and lives by.

Happy Independence Day!



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Eng. Joseph Panicker, FIE, Int. PE
Former Chairman of IEI, Kuwait Chapter

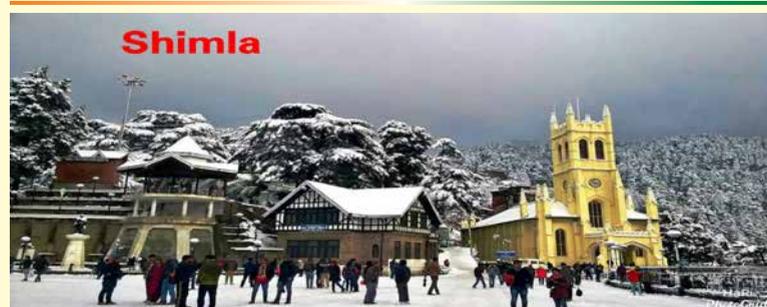
For decades after independence there was this narrative that India being poor and illiterate, therefore, chances of investment in science and technology were remote. Independence brought dreams of not just individual, but also economic, social and political freedom. In the course of 74 years, India has undergone profound transformations across the board to become Modern India. Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan or Self-reliant India is the vision of new India.

"One individual may die for an idea; but that idea will, after his death, incarnate itself in a thousand lives. That is how the wheel of evolution moves on and the ideas and dreams of one nation are bequeathed to the next" Nethaji. India's founding fathers wrote a constitution for their dreams; we have given passports to their ideals.

As a result, India has transformed from a former agricultural wasteland into an urban sea of skyscrapers. It attracts multinational companies and global tech giants. Today, India's space program, our tech Startup eco-system, is leading in the world. Even in the year of challenges due to Covid, many new Unicorns and hundreds of new Tech Startups have emerged in India.

Manufacturing Industry in India has gone through various phases of development over the period of time. Since independence in 1947, the domestic manufacturing sector has traveled from building the industrial foundation in 1950's and early 1960's, to the license-permit Raj between 1965 to 1980. Then it underwent a phase of liberalization of 1990's and finally to the present phase of global competitiveness.

Happy Independence Day!



Suresh K. P

Advertising & Media Marketing Business (Consultant);
Acting Chief Coordinator - Community-ICSG Kuwait
for Covid19 relief works

From historical cities to natural splendours, come see the best of India. India is globally recognized as a megadiverse country rich in biodiversity. With only 2.4 percent of the earth's land area, India accounts for seven to eight percent of the world's recorded living species. Home to 8,000 medicinal plants alone 89,000 species of animals and nearly half the world's aquatic plants!!!

Feel proud of being part of a wondrous nation.

Happy Independence Day!

*Wishing the people
of India peace, prosperity and joy
on Indian Republic Day*

Happy Independence Day

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Syed Anwar
Marina Optics

India is all set to celebrate the country's 75th Independence Day on August 15. This date marks the end of colonial rule in India, making it a sovereign nation. Today India means opportunity, freedom and harmony. We hold our heads high, despite the price we have paid, because freedom is priceless.

Being free means being able to change the world. We are proud to say that our independence gives us an opportunity to make positive changes every single day. Cheers to that!

Happy Independence Day!

Young Business Achiever



Rajesh Kumar Raj is the Chairman & Managing Director at Fresh Island General Trading Co. W.L.L - Kuwait, Managing Director at Goldindia Foodstuff Co. W.L.L - Kuwait, Chairman & Managing Director at Shriyanraj Commodities Pvt. Ltd. - India

When it comes to expat world in GCC there are lots of struggle stories but some deserve the spotlight.

Mr. Rajesh kumar Raj, well known in Kuwait as Raj, is a successful businessman who achieved his dreams of owning the business of his own and running it successfully while creating livelihood for hundreds of educated mass in India and in abroad in very young age.

Fresh Island General Trading Company has effectively established itself as the main importer, distributor, wholesaler and retailer of spices, pulses, legumes, canned food, rice, oils, dry fruits as well as many other food products in Kuwait. It import's 100's of shipments every month mostly from Asia as well as Europe and are able to support Kuwait market with food processing materials and act as distribution channel with reputed Kuwaiti companies with tough competition and dominating bid suppliers.

They have been successful in establishing long-term business relationships with companies and individuals that share and practice mutual belief that honesty, integrity and reliability are very important for everyone's success. Beginning with rice imports and serving millions of valued consumers in Kuwait, Fresh Island is one of the most trusted food company in Kuwait and have extended its portfolio to include spices, pulses, legumes, canned food, oils, dry fruits etc. sustainability is at the heart of their plans for long-term success.

With more than a decade of expertise under its belt, they are able to deliver goods efficiently across Kuwait while protecting their quality through specialized handling and transportation and supplying to catering companies, restaurants, hypermarkets all Over Kuwait.

Mr.Raj says "I wish to take up bigger responsibilities in long-term. With the same quest of progress, our wings are being spreading towards expansion of our businesses in India, UK, UAE and Qatar. My vision is to develop farming and agriculture to provide employment to graduates in agricultural field and traditional farming, everyone should support farming since farmer is backbone for healthy nation".

Happy Independence Day!



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"At the stroke of midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom," former prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru had famously said on August 15, 1947 on the day India earned freedom from the British rule. Fast-forward to August 15, 2021, completing 74 years of Independence, India has treaded a journey towards development, prosperity and a stable nation.

Without freedom, we don't have a name, one vision, one identity, one nation. Let's make a strong decision, to value our nation and never forget the sacrifices from those who gave us freedom.

Happy Independence Day!

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India is perhaps facing the biggest humanitarian challenge since the Independence because of the Coronavirus pandemic. The courage and determination of the Covid warriors who put their lives at risk to save others has been truly inspirational. Let's salute their spirit and vow to fight for independence from this virus.

Let us, as a community, remain strong, and help each other, and the nation, during this challenging time. I request my fellow citizens to take the vaccines and follow social precautions so that we can together beat this virus.

Happy Independence Day!



A.K. Babu I. Razack
General Manager - Finance
Ali Alghanim & Sons Group Gen.Trad& Cont. Co

As we are celebrating the 75th year of our Independence Day, let us not forget, Indian society is filled with innumerable names of women that have made a mark for themselves with great dedication and exemplary perseverance.

Some of them are popular and have wide following while some are totally unnoticed and lost in the long list of women achievers that India has produced.

From agricultural fields to the sports arena, our women are holding the Indian Tricolor high. From Sarpanch to the Parliament, our women are contributing to the development of the country. From schools to armed forces everywhere the women of our country are marching ahead.

Let's celebrate the some 'first' times that an Indian woman achieved something great.

Roshini Sharma recently became the first Indian woman to ride a motorbike from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. Gita Gopinath became the first Indian woman to be appointed as the chief economist at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

A young flying officer Avani Chaturvedi became the first Indian woman fighter pilot to fly solo. Komal is hailed as one of the world's most influential female software engineers and heads the Business Intelligence Team at Uber.

In 2018, the Supreme Court saw a new woman judge in Indu Malhotra. She became the first woman to be raised directly from the Bar. Sudha Balakrishnan became the first CFO of RBI.

Now a days Indian women are taking leadership roles and breaking records. Their outstanding performance in different fields globally is making India proud.

Happy Independence Day!



Dr. Sami P Venkat
Manging Director

Al Maha Star Gen. Trad. for Equipments & Vehicles

Freedom is something you have to fight for. My heart beats with pride when I see the amazing colours of Independence spreading joy and happiness all around us. May the glory of this day be with us forever.

Our forefathers fought for this freedom with extreme commitment, utmost integrity, sincere penance, renunciation and sacrifice; we should never forget the way they laid down their lives for Mother India. And so today we are blessed to be able to celebrate our Independence Day with such pomp and splendor.

Happy Independence Day!



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M. Srinivasan

Bollywood Restaurant

Cleanliness is very important whether it is in our home, office, or public places. It is one of the very basic symbols of a civilized lifestyle. With a Swachh Bharat Mission, India has become a global leader in sanitation. Plastic waste management is next.

Today, let us pledge to realize the dream of a Clean India and a Green India. We need to ensure that our country is healthy to make India a true super-power, and it is our responsibility as Indian citizens to keep this young nation clean and safe.

Happy Independence Day!



S.M. Arif Maricar

Ex. President TMCA, Kuwait

75th Independence Day Greetings.

Do you believe in miracles? Probably, I believe in miracles. The sudden turn of events that bring much more fun and happiness in life is now a miracle. A normal, routine day may turn boisterous if moments are blessed. Now, in today's world, if you can get pure water to drink, fresh air to breathe, healthy food to eat and a comfortable place to sleep - that can be a miracle.

Man has become a slave to the expanding technology power. Every day, a tool is brought into use that can make our lives easy. Even without lifting a finger, you are made to do wonders with the latest technology. Though you can directly pour your liquid food into your food pipe, stomach must start processing the food to generate energy. Unless, the natural process of digestion happens, you cannot brim with energy. Liquid food transferred through blood may help you sustain life and live in this world. Yet, solid food is necessary to make your bones and muscles strong with the strength to walk, run, and jump.

Eating healthy food every day may become a miracle one day. We are now so much addicted to processed food that makes us lazy to cook. We should not wait until a moment comes for us to realize the importance of healthy, natural food in our diet. To remain healthy, we must eat food cooked and prepared in a healthy way with ingredients that will help our body to be healthy and sound.

Happy Independence Day!



Mohammed Ghouse

Founder, Velldon Real Promoters

It is an auspicious day because when we meet again next year to celebrate, we shall be entering into the 75 years of our free existence. This is a momentous occasion.

Independence Day is a festival to celebrate freedom. It is an occasion to enthuse new energy by remembering our freedom fighters. This day is a harbinger of new inspirations. It reignites new fervour, exuberance and enthusiasm.

Happy Independence Day!

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Happy Independence Day

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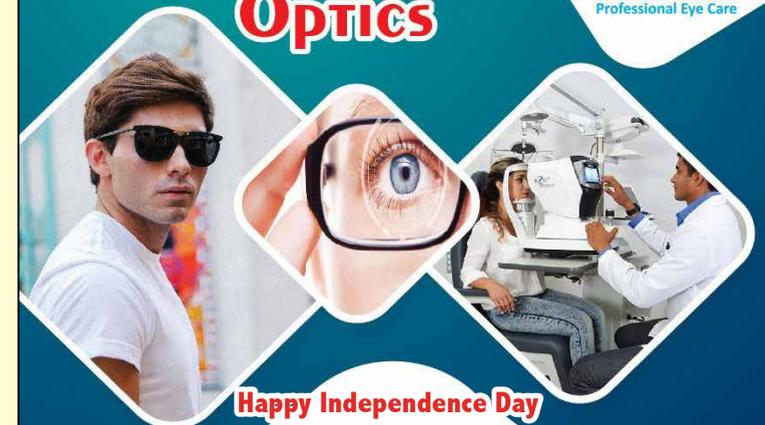
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M. Shahinsha Khan

Managing Director NQG Stationary & Group of Companies Kuwait.
Founder Shahinsha Welfare Trust Chennai.

Just like how we chased the British out of India and got Independence, we will also drive Covid-19 out from our midst. I urge the people of my country to take a pledge of freedom from the pandemic this Independence Day.

On this Independence Day, we need to come together as a nation and take a vow to emerge stronger despite all the setbacks and troubles this pandemic has brought upon us. It's time for us to serve our country — not all of us need to head to the border for that; we just have to stay home and stay safe; or be more responsible when we step out.

Happy Independence Day!



N.V. Perumal

General Manager-Telecom
Abdullah Alkhrij Gen. Trad. & Cont Co. (AGTC)

My love for my nation is fathomless. My love for my people is endless. All I desire for my country is happiness. We are all different in many ways, but there is one thing that unites us and that is independent India. We should honour that freedom and never forget how hard it was to get it.

how hard it was to get it.

Independence Day is a time of celebration and a chance to reflect on the founding ideals that make India great. I believe in India because we have great dreams, and the opportunity to make those dreams come true. Let me be the first person to wish you a special happy Independence Day!



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Thanks to Indian Professional forums and Indian Associations in Kuwait for the contributions towards the Medical Aid to India.

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Mohammed Yusuf Khan

Class: 9 G
Indian Learners Own Academy

Importance Of Independence Day

Once Mahatma Gandhi said, "Freedom is never dear at any price. It is the breath of life. What would a man not pay for a living?"

Do we know how important freedom is? To explain this, let me give you an example. To all the kids and teenagers reading this article, do you have complete freedom in your life? Most of you might not agree as we are still dependent on our parents and whatever they decide for us, we have to agree to their decision. In some cases, we do have some freedom to make our own choices. However, as we grow, we become more and more responsible and start making our own decisions. We become smarter and start making decisions according to our convenience. This example basically defines what freedom is. It is the state of being independent and doing things according to our convenience. When we are under the influence of others, we do feel bad but when we don't get our freedom back even when we deserve it, we have to fight for it, no matter what. This was the exact same situation which occurred in India about 75 years ago.

So, what do you think was the condition of the Indian citizens during the period of the 'British Raj'? It was indeed a very tough period for all the citizens of our country. The British ruled over the Indian Subcontinent for about 200 years. During this period, the Indians had only limited freedom or no freedom at all and were totally under the control of the British. For a long time, the British officials treated us like slaves until we managed to fight against them and drive them out of our country after 200 long years.

We struggled for our independence for so long and worked tirelessly and selflessly under the guidance of our leaders and freedom fighters like Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose, Mahatma Gandhi, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Bal Ghangadhar Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Bhagat Singh and many more. The desire to attain independence led to the rise of several freedom fighters and many of them even lost their lives fighting for India's independence. While some of them chose the path of violence, others preferred non-violence but their main aim was to drive the British out of India. The British treated the Indians very harshly and even tortured them. This cruel behavior of the British towards the Indians led to several revolts and many thousands of innocent Indians were killed. For example, the Revolt of 1857. Even though this revolt was not successful, it did give the Indians the hope that someday we would also become successful. They launched several movements and revolts like the Non Cooperation Movement in 1920, the Quit India Movement in 1942, the Civil Disobedience Movement, and the Dandi March and so on and the British were having great difficulty in controlling the people and their royalty.

'FREE INDIA' was a dream of all Indians under the British rule. Everyone during that rule fought with a common aim of ending British and other colonial authorities in India. After a century of revolutions, struggle, blood shedding, battles and sacrifices, India finally achieved independence on August 15, 1947.

When British rule came to an end in 1947, the subcontinent was partitioned along religious lines into two separate countries—India, with a majority of Hindus, and Pakistan, with a majority of Muslims. Concurrently the Muslim-majority northwest and east of British India was separated into the Dominion of Pakistan, by the partition of India. The partition led to a population transfer of more than 10 million people between India and Pakistan and the death of about one million people. Indian National Congress leader Jawaharlal Nehru became the first Prime Minister of India but the person who had the biggest contribution in the freedom struggle, Mahatma Gandhi accepted no position in the office or parliament.

It has been almost seven decades since India gained independence and the country has progressed at a faster pace. The nation has been growing economically and socially and is heading towards development. If these freedom fighters had not contributed in the freedom struggle, the current situation of the country would have been different. India, the democratic republic might not have headed for success. We are independent and free today only because of the efforts and sacrifices made by our country's freedom fighters.

Even after achieving independence against the British, the nation has faced several other problems. The Constitution adopted in 1950 made India a democratic country, and this democracy has been sustained since then. India's sustained democratic freedoms are unique among the world's newly independent states. Since then, the nation has been facing many economic, religious, social and educational problems but have been trying to overcome them one by one.

The nation has faced religious violence, casteism, naxalism, terrorism and regional separatist insurgencies. India has also been at war due to territorial disputes with the People's Republic of China which in 1962 gave rise to the Sino-Indian War. India has also had disputes with Pakistan which resulted in war in 1947, 1965, 1971, 1999.

India has been progressing slowly and gradually since then. India is a nuclear-weapon state, having conducted its first nuclear test in 1974, followed by another five tests in 1998. From the 1950s to the 1980s, India followed socialist-inspired policies. The economy was influenced by extensive regulation, protectionism and public ownership, leading to pervasive corruption and slow economic growth. Beginning in 1991, neoliberal economic reforms have transformed India into the third largest and one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. From being a relatively destitute country in its formative years, Indian Republic has emerged as a fast growing G20

major economy with high military spending, and is seeking a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council. India has gradually evolved into being one of the world's greatest superpowers and could potentially be the greatest superpower with respect to its growing economy, and military power.

So, this 15th August, as we celebrate our 75th Independence Day, let us all take a moment to salute and pay respect to all these great men and women who laid down their lives, so that we could breathe the air of dignity and freedom.

Wishing everyone a very happy Independence Day!!!

JAI HIND!!

Happy Independence Day




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Indian Frontliners Service Organization, registered with Indian Embassy, Kuwait, was started in 1997 by Writer N.C.Mohandoss with service minded people, to join hands for serving the needy people; To Do Things that Count – For Others;

Indian Frontliners team consists of people from :

- different cultural background - from all ethnic, linguistic, religious and age groups.
- different walks of life – businessmen, industrialists, doctors, engineers, teachers, managers, office staff, technicians, semi-skilled workers, drivers, maids etc.
- different parts of India - from all states in India; from Metropolitan cities, towns and villages
- different economic strata – Millionaires, high-income, middle-income and low-income people

Indian Frontliners' helping hands have reached out to a wide spectrum of the needy person in the society. Indian Frontliners Association, working directly and through other social service organizations, have provided relief and assistance in the areas of Education, Health, Disaster relief, Old-age care, orphanage services, development of differently-abled persons, Animal care, social work & community welfare, rural development, environmental protection etc., In Kuwait,



Indian Frontliners have extended assistance to people in distress like stranded workers / maids, poor and sick labourers in need of medical attention, families of persons who died in Kuwait. Members of Indian Frontliners Team take part in campaigns, such as tree-planting etc organized by the Kuwait Volunteer Work Centre under the guidance of its Chairperson, Madam Sheikha Amthal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Indian Frontliners Books series, have been successful in showcasing the talents and achievements of prominent Indians in Kuwait. The varied themes covered have provided inspiration and motivation for a number of people to actively participate in the community service efforts of Indian Frontliners. Each book in the Indian Frontliners Book series was released by a prominent VIP in a glittering function arranged with sponsorship and participation by way of advertisement by various companies and organizations in Kuwait.

Indian Frontliners and YOU : Indian Frontliners believe that Everybody can be great ... because anybody can serve. Every contribution, whether big or small, makes a big difference to the life some person in need. We welcome you to Join Indian Frontliners and support our activities. Make your life a garland of kind deeds !!

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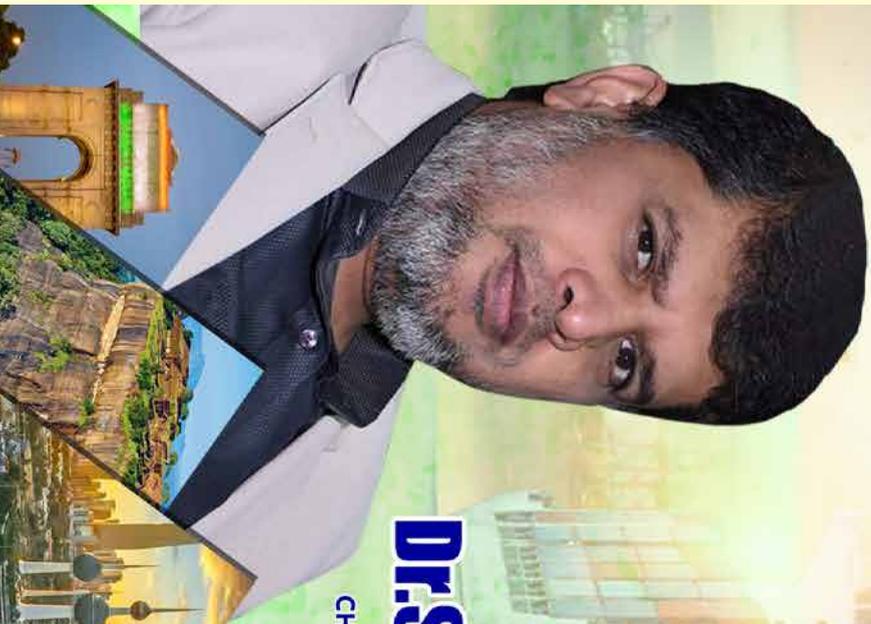
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