It gives me immense pleasure to extend warm greetings and felicitations to all fellow Indians residing in the State of Qatar on the occasion of the 74th Independence Day of India. I take this opportunity to also thank and express our deep appreciation to HH The Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and the Government of the State of Qatar for their continued patronage and support to the Indian community living here.

India and Qatar enjoy very close, friendly and multifaceted relations. These are marked by very close and personal bonds of friendship between the leadership of the two countries. Regular high-level bilateral exchanges have provided impetus to our relations that are based on strong foundations of long-standing cultural and people-to-people ties. The Indian community in Qatar has provided a solid bedrock in building these relations. I would like to thank and congratulate them for their continued hard work, sincerity and dedication. Their professionalism and law-abiding nature is widely acknowledged and appreciated.

It was a moment of pride to hear His Highness The Amir’s very positive words for the Indian community and their contribution in building Qatar when I presented my credentials a few days ago. The Independence Day is a moment to rejoice and remember the freedom fighters who contributed to the Indian freedom struggle. It is also a time to rededicate ourselves to the cause of continued development of our nation, work for building upon the idea of New India, and strengthen multifaceted partnership between India and Qatar.
SINCE our independence, we have made significant strides in achieving self-sufficiency in food production, becoming an economic power house and engine of growth in the world. Stepping on new frontiers in defence, space, atomic energy and information technology, India, India has emerged as the start-up hub in the world. We are at the forefront of healthcare research and proven ourselves to be a dependable partner in global supply chain. In the past few years, India has made great gains in the areas of total financial inclusion, record housing and infra-construction, ease of doing business, and bold tax reforms.

Over the past few months, we have all witnessed new and unprecedented challenges posed by global pandemic. No part of the world has remained unaffected. Amidst one of the most trying times, India and its 1.3 billion citizens have demonstrated the resolve that we retain the ability to overcome challenges and convert them into opportunities. There is widespread appreciation of the leadership demonstrated by India in building regional and global partnerships and responding to the challenges and exigencies of its times. India not only worked tirelessly to ensure domestic requirements, it also acted as responsible stakeholder in global health supply chains by ensuring timely access to essential medicine and medical items to over 150 countries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a campaign for Atmanirbhar Bharat. It is about India contributing to the global economic and rejuvenation. As Prime Minister said, it would be crucial with care, revival with compassion, reimagining which is a gift to our people. This merges the domestic production and consumption with the global supply chains. The Indians living around the world, including in Qatar, would have a significant role to play. I would like to express deep appreciation for the Indian community in Qatar, who came together and worked tirelessly to extend support to those in need at these times. I would also like to express our gratitude towards the Government of Qatar whose support helped us to facilitate the return of stranded Indians.

India attaches high priority and importance to further strengthening our relations with Qatar. We have strong partnership, in energy sector where we would continue to develop into a comprehensive partnership in a sector which we both have a strategic interest. Bilateral trade has seen significant growth in recent years. We would be working to give it more depth and diversity. The pursuit of mutually beneficial collaborations and investments in infrastructure, information technology, food security, energy security, tourism, defence, healthcare, education would be further hastened. Last year, we had a very successful year of Indian culture in Qatar. We look forward to enhance contacts and connectivity between our people, develop enterprises and harness the full potential of our bilateral cooperation in coming years.

The Indian embassy remains committed to work for welfare and well-being of the Indian community in Qatar. Our outreach to the community especially to the blue collar workers, will continue to be expanded.

In conclusion, I would like to convey that my family deeply appreciate the attention and support given to us as we moved to Qatar recently. We will respect him in equal measure.

I once again congratulate all members of the Indian community on the 74th Independence Day and am confident that you would continue to make positive contributions towards the development, progress and prosperity of our host country, and for further strengthening the bonds of friendship between India and Qatar.
In celebration of India’s 74 years of Independence, customers can send money to their relatives and friends in India, using the fastest international money transfer service in Qatar, with funds credited in 60 seconds to bank accounts. Transferring the money now will entitle customers to benefit from zero transfer fees, low correspondent bank charges, competitive exchange rates, and a 24/7 customer service.

The award-winning mobile banking app is able to provide customers with access to this world-class service and at competitive exchange rates. All they need to do is to download ‘CBQ Mobile’ from their relevant app store to get going. This service has for many years been the market leader in the country and is just another digital first from Commercial Bank. It is easy to use, and exchange rates are continually kept up to date and competitive. This combination of speed, safety, reliability, value of money, and convenience is what makes the app ever popular with a growing number of customers. Existing users rate the app and the remittance service with the highest levels of customer satisfaction, as seen in the bank’s service satisfaction surveys.

Customers not yet using this app can easily convert their banking to Commercial Bank using the CB Instant Account opening feature found in the latest version of the app. Try it for yourself.

Celebrate and send money to India in 60 seconds

Send Money to India in 60 seconds free of charge

Independence Day India!

Happy 74th
The Indian government has launched an initiative SWADES to conduct a skill mapping exercise of the Indian citizens returning from overseas under the Vande Bharat Mission and create a database of qualified citizens who can be referred to Indian and foreign companies for suitable placement opportunities in the country. The returning citizens are required to fill up an online SWADES Skill Card.

The card will facilitate a strategic framework to provide the returning citizens with suitable employment options through discussions with key stakeholders including state governments, industry associations and employers. Commenting on the collaboration, Union Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Subramanian Swamy said, “These are testing times, and it is crucial that the entire country comes together and supports the Centre in its efforts to address the challenges posed by the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

He said the data collected through SWADES Skill Card will help the citizens with job prospects and bridge the demand-supply gap.

The spread of COVID-19 across the globe has had a significant economic impact with thousands of workers losing their jobs and hundreds of companies shutting down globally. Many of our citizens returning to the country through the Vande Bharat Mission of the Government of India may be facing uncertainty regarding their future employment opportunities,” the statement said.

It said lack of chances have registered at the various Indian missions requiring to return to the country and so far, and many have already returned to the country.

India’s Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar said, “In view of the pandemic, we have initiated an unprecedented spread of the novel coronavirus. Alongside this, we have provided all possible support to our citizens stranded abroad and the challenge they are facing due to job losses.”

“We shall actively promote the SWADES Skill Card initiative through our embassies, high commissions and consulates across different countries. The initiative will help in deployment of returning Indian workforce matching their skill sets,” Jaishankar said.

The online form has been created to gather the required details of the returning citizens. The form contains details related to the work sector, job title, employer, years of experience. A toll-free facility has also been set up to support the citizens for any queries related to filling the form.

The online SWADES Skill Form was made live on May 30 and has garnered around 7,000 registrations till June 3. Amongst the data gathered so far, the top countries from where the citizens are returning are UAE, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, “the statement said.

As per the skill mapping, these citizens had been primarily employed in sectors such as oil and gas, construction, tourism and hospitality, automotive and aviation.

The data also suggest that the state which has the highest number of returning workers are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Telangana,” the official statement said.

SWADES SCHEME: India To Conduct Skill Mapping of Returning Citizens
TAKING to micro-blogging site Twitter, India’s External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said that Atmanirbhar Bharat merges domestic production and consumption with global supply chains. He added that it’s not about being self-contained or being closed to the world rather being self-sustaining and self-generating.

"Strong & clear message to the world today by PM Narendra Modi at IGW 2020. Atmanirbhar Bharat merges domestic production & consumption with global supply chains. It is not about being self-contained or being closed to the world. It is about being self-sustaining & self-generating," tweeted Jaishankar.

PM Modi said that India will play a leading role in the global revival. Delivering the inaugural address on Day 1 of the event via virtual conference, the PM said, "In these times, it is natural to talk about revival. It is equally natural to link global revival and India. We believe that the story of global revival will have India playing a leading role."

PM Modi highlighted two factors for India’s contribution to the global revival. The first is Indian talent and the second being India’s ability to “reform and rejuvenate”.

"World over, you have seen the contribution of India’s talent-force. Who can forget the Indian tech industry and tech professionals! They have been showing the way for decades. India is a powerhouse of talent that is eager to contribute. Indians are natural reformers. History has shown that Indians are capable of stepping up to the challenge, be it social or economic," the PM added.

PM Modi said that the government is committed in its resolve to bring the economic growth back on track. "While India is fighting a strong battle against the global pandemic. With an increased focus on people’s health, we are equally focussed on the health of the economy," PM Modi said.

He added, "When India talks of revival it is: Revival with care, revival with compassion, revival which is sustainable. With the current environment and the economy."

He said that in the last six years, India has made huge gains in areas such as total financial inclusion, record housing and infrastructure, one of doing business, bold tax reform including the GST.

"Indians have the spirit to achieve what is believed to be impossible. No wonder that in India, we are already seeing green-shoots when it comes to economic recovery," he said.

The PM further said that India remains one of the most open economies in the world. "We are laying a red carpet for all global companies to come and establish their presence in India. Very few countries will offer the kind of opportunities India does today," he added.

PM Modi praised India’s pharma industry for the role it has played during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The pandemic has once again shown that India’s pharma industry is an asset not just for India but for the entire world. It has played a leading role in reducing the cost of medicines especially for developing countries," PM Modi said.

Atmanirbhar Bharat is being self-sustaining and self-generating: Jaishankar

Taking to micro-blogging site Twitter, India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said that Atmanirbhar Bharat merges domestic production and consumption with global supply chains. He added that it's not about being self-contained or being closed to the world rather being self-sustaining and self-generating.

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KAABI HOLDS TALKS WITH INDIA’S MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS IN NEW DELHI

Minister of State for Energy Affairs Dr. Sanjiv Singh held bilateral talks with H.E. Saad Sherida Al Kaabi, Minister of State for Energy Affairs in a meeting in New Delhi. Singh, who is on an official visit to India, expressed satisfaction over the progress made in India-Qatar bilateral relations. He also focused on the importance of energy cooperation between the two countries.

Industrial Security Agencies from Qatar, India Discuss Protection of Oil Installations

A joint meeting of General Directors of industries from both countries was held on February 2, 2020, at the Ministry of Interior in Doha. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Lieutenant General Khalid Al Attiyah, Director General of Industrial Security, at the Ministry of Interior. The Indian delegation was led by CISF Special Director-General M. Ganesh. The meeting focused on facilitating exchange of experiences in oil installations in the two countries and exploring together the latest technologies in the field of securing vital installations.

INDIA’S DEFENCE MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH ATTIAH

Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held bilateral talks with H.E. Mohamed Al Attiyah during his visit to India in February. They discussed ways of ramping up the bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries. The two ministers reiterated their commitment to carry forward the bilateral defence cooperation, including defence industry collaboration, a statement India’s then Ambassador to Qatar HE P Kumaran.

Indian Embassies Take Part in Doha Jewellery & Watches Exhibition 2020

The Indian pavilion at the Doha Jewellery & Watches Exhibition (DJWE) was inaugurated by DJWE brand ambassador to Qatar, HE P Kumaran, in the presence of India’s then Ambassador to Qatar HE P Kumaran.

QATAR, INDIA DISCUSS WAYS TO ENHANCE AIR TRANSPORT TIES

The ambassador of India to Qatar hosted National Flag Day to celebrate the 71st Republic Day of India in the premises of the embassy. Students from local national and private schools attended the event, and the Indian community celebrated in the same way.

INDIAN ENVOY WITNESSES QATAR NEPAL EMBASSY OPENING

The then Ambassador of India to Qatar HE P Kumaran represented the country at the signing of the landmark Afghanistan peace deal in Doha. He was the first time India officially attended an event involving the Taliban. Diplomats from a number of countries, including Pakistan, Turkey and Indonesia, were present during the signing of the deal.

QATAR INDIA TALKS

The Indian delegation of more than 17 Qatar-based companies including leading names like Tamin Group, Tamin Oil, Tamin Financial Services, and Tamin Contracting was led by H.E. Mohamed Al Attiyah, Director General of Industrial Security, at the Ministry of Interior.

INDIA – QATAR TRADE

A delegation led by the Indian Business and Professionals Council (IBPC) Qatar participated in the Indian Food 2020. The two-day food festival was aimed at promoting food products, ingredients and Agri-tech from India to the people of Qatar. The delegation shared a wide range of products including traditional spices, tea leaves, and honey.

IBPC TAKES PART IN INDUS FOOD 2020

The IBPC Qatar, in collaboration with the Embassy of India in Qatar, organised a B2B conference and discussed ways of enhancing the bilateral trade in the food and beverages sector with leading food suppliers and exporters from India.

International Yoga Day 2020 Celebrated Online

The 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum (QOSM) held a live virtual yoga session on June 21 to mark the International Yoga Day.

Indian Expatriates Celebrate Qatar National Sports Day

Indian community members celebrated the Qatar National Sports Day and participated in programmes at Al Wahba Sports Club and Qatar Sports Club. The event started with the official flag-raising ceremony, followed by a speech by the Indian Ambassador to Qatar HE P Kumaran played cricket with ICC officials and celebrated the Qatar National Sports Day.

Indian Expatriates Celebrate Qatar National Sports Day

The Embassy of India in Qatar and the Embassy of Nepal in Qatar organised a sports event to celebrate the Qatar National Sports Day. The event included a 100-meter dash, a tug of war, and a football match, with Indian and Nepalese athletes participating.

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The Indian community in Doha celebrated International Yoga Day with a virtual event. The event was organised by the Indian Embassy in Doha, along with six major Indian community organisations.

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India to contribute 2.2% to global digital payments market by 2023: Report

Google to invest $10 bn in India to boost digital economy

Reliance breaks into top 50 firms globally ranks 48

India's digital payments can be attributed to regulation of costs of payment systems, laws in place, availability of alternate payment systems, share of electronic money in payment systems, steps taken by the central government and fast payment systems available in the country.

Google CEO Sundar Pichai said it will invest $10 billion in India over the next five to seven years through the ‘Google for India Investment Fund.’

The major investment is significant as it has come in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic and multinational companies look across the world for alternative investment destinations.

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Here is what Indian scientists achieved in 2019

The year 2019 ended with spectacular success of Indian scientists and technology made headlines during the year. Several scientific developments, new and promising technologies made headlines during this year. Here is a collection of such moments that give glimpse of important developments reported by Indian scientists during the year.

CARTOSAT-3: India's Earth observation satellite launched successfully

Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched Cartosat-3 satellite on November 25, 2019 with help of PSLV-C47 from the Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota. PSLV-C47 was also carrying 13 American satellites to space. ISRO has created history with launching of this satellite as it is capable to take closest photographs of any object from the space.

Cartosat-3 is equipped with high-resolution imaging capacity. Cartosat-3 is a robust monitoring earth observation satellite. This satellite will also help in monitoring India’s borders and national borders. It will be placed in an orbit of 597 km at an inclination of 97.5 degrees. The satellite will be placed on the surface of the Moon. The landing site of Vikram was cradled on the southernmost part of the Moon, and the landing site was at a latitude of 43.41 degrees north and longitude of 6.49 degrees west.

CHANDRAYAAN-2:

CHANDRAYAAN-2: Chandrayaan-2 orbiter found lying sideways when it lost contact with the ground towards the south pole of the moon and was declared dead.

CARTOSAT-3:

CARTOSAT-3: Cartosat-3 is equipped with high-resolution camera and will send it to ISRO’s mission control room on earth. It will help in critical satellite navigation services, Indian manned space flight programme and data relay communication-research.

GAGANYAAN MISSION:

DEFINITION OF KG, MOLE AND KELVIN

The central government has sanctioned Rs 3.5 cr for conducting studies to review microchips diversity along the entire length of the Ganges. Researchers believe the 2,500-kilometre-long river stretch contains genes that can promote ‘antibiotic resistance.

The objective of this study is to recognize threats to human life from antibiotic resistance. The study will also try to find out sources of various kinds of bacteria present in the guts of animals which is called Escherichia Coli.

India accepts new standard definition of kg, mole and Kelvin

India accepted a global proposal to redefine four of the seven base units - kilogram, kelvin, mole and ampere. The move will have far-reaching effects, including changes in textbooks. It was announced in an international conference held in Paris last year where representatives from 60 countries passed a proposal to redefine four of the seven base units.

The new definition of kilogram will affect scientific experiments. It will also ensure to continue impart basic knowledge on space technology, space science and space applications to the youth with the intention of arousing their interest in the emerging fields of space activities. The selection of children will be done on the basis of their educational performance and non-academic activities. Selection of children from rural areas will be preferred for this programme. ISRO Chairman K Sivan said, “Students will be taken to the Gaganyaan and Bangabandhu satellites. Apart from this, they will also be taken to the launch centre and lab at IISc. Students will be also given the opportunity to make small satellites.”

ISRO successfully launched electronic intelligence satellite EMISAT

DEFINITION OF KG, MOLE AND KELVIN

In its main objective is to monitor electronic or any kind of human activity on the border of Pakistan. Also, this satellite will monitor radar and sensors on the border. This satellite will not only observe electronic but also human activities across the border area. Earlier, ISRO launched Microsat-R for DRDO.

ISRO launches ‘Young Scientists Programme 4 Crore’

ISRO has started a special programme called ‘Young Scientist Programme’ (Yu-Sci) for school children from this year. The objective of this programme is to impart basic knowledge on space technology, space science and space applications to the youth with the intention of arousing their interest in the emerging fields of space activities. Students will be taken to the Indian Space Station (ISS) in 1998 as a joint project. China has launched two space stations Tiangong-1 and Tiangong-2. International Space Station (ISS) is situated 400 kilometers above the earth.

LOST: APPROXIMATE DATA OF G/ML AND KELVIN

K Sivan said that our space station will be the Gaganyaan mission. India will send astronauts to space for the first time by 2022. The age limit for the selection of astronauts for Mission Gaganyaan was set at 30 years, but no one from this age group could clear the preliminary examination. After that, the age limit was increased to 31 years. At present, life support system, health monitoring system and aircraft support system being finalized in the spacecraft. In 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made an announcement that India will launch its national Space Station (ISS) by 2030.

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI MADE AN ANNOUNCEMENT

India’s Earth observation satellite launched successfully

ISRO, the ‘prime minister’ Vikram was moving towards the south pole of the moon and was not a few seconds away from touching its surface when it lost contact with the ground when it was 2.1 km above the Moon. Chandrayaan-2’s orbiter was placed about 100 km above the moon. The orbiter has eight parabolas, three landers and two rovers. The orbiter will keep circling the moon for a year. As of now, the mission is in its planned landing site. According to the ISRO, the lander ‘Vikram’ was moving forward by the inclination of 97.5 degrees.

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INDIA ACCEPTS NEW STANDARD DEFINITION OF KG, MOLE AND KELVIN

ISRO's engineering satellite, EMISAT, with the help of represented four of the seven base units - kilogram, kelvin, mole and ampere. The move will have far-reaching effects, including changes in textbooks. It was announced in an international conference held in Paris last year where representatives from 60 countries passed a proposal to redefine four of the seven base units. These new definitions will not have any ramifications for the general public but will affect scientific experiments.

ISRO LAUNCHES EMISAT ELECTRONIC INTELLIGENCE SATELLITE

ISRO launched Microsat-R for DRDO. E MISAT is also very important to keep an eye on movement at border. This satellite will not only observe electronic but also human activities across the border area. Earlier, ISRO launched Microsat-R for DRDO.

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