

Consulate General of India

Jeddah

PRESS RELEASE

16 July 2021

Indian Consulate Reminiscences Indo-Saudi Ties in Haj

Consulate General of India, Jeddah celebrated National Doctor's Day at its premises.

On behalf of Consul General of India, Jeddah I extend a very warm welcome to you all to the celebration of Indo-Saudi cooperation in Haj. India and Saudi Arabia enjoy close friendly ties. Indian Haj Pilgrims have been coming to the kingdom from the very beginning of Haj. Earlier Haj pilgrims use to come by sheep and Haj journey use to take about 6 Months. During that time Moallims from Saudi Arabia use to go to India to gather Haj pilgrim and bring them to Saudi Arabia. Stay of Pilgrims also use to be in the Houses of Moallims and Buildings arranged by them. Over time and with development the journey of Haj has seen tremendous transformation. All these years the relationships between the India and Saudi Arabia Boat at the formal and the personal level have always been very strong. Today India is the Country which sends the 2nd Largest Haj contingent to Saudi Arabia.

This celebration today seeks to highlight the strong bond between India and Saudi Arabia boat at official and the informal aspects. This celebration is part of the Consulate's on going multi-dimensional celebration of 75th Years of Indo-Saudi Diplomatic ties and 75th Years of India's Independence.

I thank you to all for joining us today at the consulate and online. We hope to present you an interesting and memorable programme containing recollections of memories of Haj in earlier years by various officials and the Individuals associated with Haj.

I would like to convey special thanks to Consulate General of India, Jeddah to Hon'ble Minister of Minority Affairs (MoMA) of India, Shree. Muktar Abbas Nakwi and Vice Minister of Haj and Umrah of Saudi Arabia Dr. Abdul Fattah Mashat for sharing Video Messages containing precious words of wisdom and encouragement. These videos will also be screened Today.

2. India celebrates National Doctors' Day on July 1st every year to honour doctors of India and appreciate their contributions to the society. The day commemorates the birth and death anniversary of great Indian physician and second Chief Minister of West Bengal, India, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy.

3. Consul General, H.E. Mohammed Shahid Alam thanked the healthcare professionals for holding the world together with their healing touch in face of the pandemic. He also thanked the Kingdom for taking good care of India's enterprising, hardworking and resourceful health care practitioners in Saudi Arabia.

4. Dr. Ashraf Abdul Qayoum Amir, President of Saudi-Indian Healthcare Forum (SIHF), Jeddah Chapter, spoke on his experience of engaging with Indian Healthcare professionals in Saudi Arabia. He also highlighted the possible areas of India-Saudi cooperation in the field of healthcare. Dr. Iqbal Musani, General Secretary of SIHF, spoke about the contribution of Indian healthcare professional and India being the pharmacy of the world, contributing to more than 50% of the global vaccine production. He also spoke about India's fight against Covid.

5. On the occasion, Dr. M.S. Karimuddin, Vice President of SIHF, Jeddah and prominent member of Indian community in Jeddah was facilitated for his remarkable contribution in strengthening healthcare cooperation between Saudi Arabia and India.

6. The event was a part of the Indian Consulate's ongoing celebration of 75 years of India's independence and 75 years of India-Saudi Arabia diplomatic ties, by organizing activities covering diverse themes.
