



**Embassy of India
Bahrain**

PRESS RELEASE

20 August, 2023

**Embassy of India, Bahrain celebrated
77th Independence Day of India**

The 77th Independence Day of India was marked in a befitting manner with a Flag Hoisting Ceremony at the Embassy on 15 August 2023. Rear Admiral Vineet S McCarty, Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet (FOCWF) of Indian Navy accompanied by Indigenous Guided Missile Destroyer, INS Visakhapatnam and Fleet Tanker INS Deepak also visited Kingdom of Bahrain from 14-17 August 2023, marking the occasion.

2. Ambassador Designate Shri. Vinod K. Jacob unfurled the Indian Flag and read out Rashtrapathiji's message to the Indian Community. More than 1300 members of the Indian Community participated in the event which also included patriotic songs by students. Ambassador Designate also met Indian Navy officials from INS Vishakhapatnam and INS Deepak, a section of Laborers, and the Indian Futsal team visiting Bahrain during the time. The Indian Tricolor was also hoisted onboard the visiting Indian Navy Ships in the presence of Rear Admiral Vineet S McCarty (FOCWF) on 15 August 2023.

3. During the visit, FOCWF called on HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince & Prime Minister of Bahrain at Gudaibiya Palace on 15 August 2023. The meeting was also

attended by HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, National Security Advisor of Bahrain, H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy of Bahrain and Lieutenant-General Theyab bin Saqr Al-Nuaimi, Chief of Staff, Bahrain Defence Force among others. During the meeting, regional and global developments and issues of common interest were discussed. Rear Admiral Vineet S McCarty also called on Lt. Gen. Theyab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, Chief of Staff of the Bahrain Defence Force and Rear Admiral Mohammed Ibrahim AlBinali, Commander, Royal Bahrain Naval Force on 16 August 2023 and discussed furthering bilateral security, defence cooperation and aspects of regional maritime security.

4. Ambassador Designate H.E. Vinod K Jacob and Commanding Officers of INS Visakhapatnam and INS Deepak in the presence of Rear Admiral Vineet S McCarty (FOCWF) also hosted a reception on board INS Visakhapatnam on 16 August 2023. The reception was attended by H.E. Dr. Mohammed Ali Bahzad, Undersecretary (Consular), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Senior Officers from Government of Bahrain, Bahrain Defence Force, Bahrain Coast Guard, Combined Maritime Force, US 5th Fleet, sailors of the Indian Navy, members of diplomatic corps and Defence corps in Bahrain as well as members of Indian and Bahraini community.

5. In his remarks during the reception, Ambassador Designate stated that “I look forward to working closely with the Bahrain side to strengthen the bilateral engagement. Even as both countries mark five decades of diplomatic relations, especially encouraging in this regard, is the steady expansion of the relationship to the domains of defence and maritime security. The record of the past few years clearly indicates that our partnership with the Combined Maritime Forces has enabled active contribution to strengthening regional maritime security. It is a fact that over the past few decades the Indian Navy has been successful in building bridges of friendship across the seas. This visit under the leadership of the Commander of the Western Fleet is timely and reflects India’s role as a partner for peace, prosperity and progress in the region. For me personally, the presence of two Indian Naval ships with the FOCWF embarked is a sure sign of the depth of the bilateral

relations even as Indians around the world celebrate their 77th Independence Day.”

6. Focusing on the need to enhance cooperation and ops interaction with regional Navies, INS Visakhapatnam with FOCWF embarked, undertook Maritime Partnership Exercise involving communication drills and maneuvers with Royal Bahrain Naval Force on 17 August 2023.













