

PRESS RELEASE

Goa and Maharashtra Tourism and One District One Product (ODOP) walls inaugurated at the Indian Embassy

Ambassador of India H.E. Vinod K. Jacob inaugurated Maharashtra and Goa Tourism and One District One Product (ODOP) walls at the Consular hall of the Embassy in the presence of Maharashtra and Goa communities living in Bahrain. These walls highlight touristic attractions as well as exquisite products identified under ODOP scheme, of the States of Maharashtra and Goa.

2. Ambassador Jacob delivered his address in Marathi and Konkani and remarked that the focus on Maharashtra and Goa for the next two months will present all Indians in Bahrain and all friends of India from Bahrain the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of the culture of these States and explore opportunities for commercial links.

3. Under the 'Focus State/Union Territory' initiative of Embassy of India, touristic and ODOP products of a particular State are being promoted in Bahrain for a period of around two months. Embassy has till date featured Rajasthan, Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Haryana and Delhi.

4. Maharashtra and Goa, along India's western coast in the Konkan belt and Western Ghats, share coastal geography, biodiversity, and maritime heritage, along with similar cultural traits like cuisine, festivals, and folk arts. Historically, both had early coastal trade links, but Maharashtra was shaped by the Marathas, while Goa reflects Portuguese influence. Economically, both rely on agriculture, fisheries, and trade, with Maharashtra's diversified industry and services contrasting with Goa's tourism- and mining-driven economy, showing regional continuity with distinct development paths.

5. Maharashtra is one of India's most prominent states, contributing the largest share to the national economy through a strong services sector, a well-established industrial base, and Mumbai's role as India's financial and commercial capital. Agriculture remains vital, supporting a large rural population and producing important crops such as cotton, sugarcane and cereals. Alongside its economic strength, Maharashtra has a rich historical and cultural heritage, shaped by the Maratha Empire, freedom movements, and social reformers, with diverse traditions, languages, festivals and art forms that continue to play a significant role in shaping India's national identity.

6. Goa is a small but economically vibrant state, with tourism as the main driver of growth and employment. Sectors such as fisheries, agriculture, mining and small industries also support the economy, while the state enjoys a high per capita income. Goa has a distinct cultural and historical identity, shaped by a blend of Indian and Portuguese influences, reflected in its architecture, festivals, cuisine and long maritime history.

7. Ambassador Jacob also thanked the Maharashtra and Goa communities for assisting the Embassy in sourcing the ODOP items. A colourful cultural performance, in addition to a variety of traditional cuisine, was also organized by the communities.







