

**Remarks by H.E. Mr. Vinod K. Jacob, Ambassador-Designate of India to the
Kingdom of Bahrain at The Indian School, Bahrain,
7 September 2023**

His Excellency, President Shri Ram Nath Kovind, His Excellency Dr. Shaikh Abdulla Bin Ahmad Al Khalifa, Under Secretary for Political Affairs, Chairman of the Desarat and Chairman of Board of Trustees of King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Co-existence, Mr. Yusuf Ali, Chairman of the Lulu, Group, Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank the organizers – Sri Narayana Cultural Society, Bahrain Bilawas and Gurudeva Social Society - for this opportunity to speak. I would like to make six brief points.

First, I am honoured that the first visit during my current tenure is by His Excellency President Ram Nath Kovind.

Second, let me take this opportunity to thank the friendly Govt of the Kingdom of Bahrain and its people for their warm hospitality.

Third, it shall be my endeavour to work with the host government to take bilateral relations to a new level.

Fourth, I sincerely appreciate the kindness shown by the leadership and people of the Kingdom of Bahrain towards the Indian community. The 200-year old Sreenathji Temple in the heart of Manama is a visible symbol of this.

Fifth, I request the Indian community to reciprocate this kindness and continue to contribute actively to the economic progress of the friendly Kingdom of Bahrain

Sixth, I wish all of you a happy Onam and a happy festival season. Let us remember the teachings of Sree Narayana Guru and live life following Guru's principles of one cast, one religion and one God for all.

Thank you.