

Embassy of India

Ashgabat

Ambassador's Remarks at the Celebrations of National Unity Day

(Ashgabat, 31 October 2025)

Representatives of Government of Turkmenistan, Members of the Indian Community and Friends of India in Turkmenistan,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Namaste, Gununiz hayyrly bolsun! Warm greetings and felicitations to you all on the occasion of the National Unity Day of India as well as the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel!

2. As you are aware, Sardar Patel was one of the leading figures of India's long and non-violent struggle for its independence. He served as the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of the newly independent India. Fondly remembered as the "Iron Man of India", Sardar Patel was instrumental for the integration of more than 560 princely states into India. He is also known as the "Father of Indian Civil Services" for his pioneering role in the creation of "All India Services" for effective administration. In recognition of his outstanding services for nation building, the Government of India decided to mark his birthday (31 October) as the National Unity Day in India every year since 2014. You might also be aware that the Prime Minister of India H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi had inaugurated the 182 m high statue of Sardar Patel, known as "Statue of Unity", near Kevadia (Gujarat) in 2018.

3. India and Turkmenistan are bound by ancient civilizational, cultural and people-to-people linkages. As part of its "Extended Neighborhood" policy, India desires to further strengthen its longstanding bonds of friendship and cooperation with

Turkmenistan. I am glad to note that our countries cooperate closely under the framework of the United Nations as well as the India-Central Asia Summit. You might be aware of the ongoing rapid economic transformation in India under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi. Today, India is among the global leaders in the fields of information technology, real time digital payments, start-ups, education, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, space etc. As the world's 4th largest economy and its fastest growing major economy, India stands ready to share its developmental experience and expertise as per the needs and priorities of Turkmenistan in diverse fields. Once again, I would like to extend my warm wishes to you all on the National Unity Day of India and the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel! Dhanyavaad! Kop Sagbolun!
