

High Commissioner's Message to the Cape Town Malayalee Association on the occasion of Onam

My greetings and good wishes to the Cape Town Malayalee Association on the occasion of Onam.

The spirit of Onam is celebratory. May this spirit infuse your activities through this new year and may you know joy, virtue and fulfilment in this journey.

We are proud of our diaspora which has distinguished itself in foreign lands through dedication, discipline and excellence. South Africa is no exception. You have blended into the local landscape contributing to its development, even as you have retained your uniqueness that binds us together and importantly, binds you to your motherland. This is an enormous strength of India's and we count on this continuing support and camaraderie as together we move forward to build a new India.

Importantly, you and not just I are all Ambassadors of India in South Africa. I count on this strength as I start my new innings here and shall greatly look forward to engaging with you and your families. There are numerous activities that we can undertake jointly together and various schemes of the Government where we would encourage an enhanced collaboration and friendship.

May I add how good it is to know that your hearts still beat for India. My renewed warm wishes and greetings to everyone. Happy Onam!