

Embassy of India

Tokyo

Remarks by Mr Sibi George, Ambassador of India to Japan at the Event on 'India's G20 Presidency: G20 Empower', April 25, 2023

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen.

It is a pleasure for me to address this event, which is focused on the G20 Alliance for the Empowerment and Progression of Women's Economic Representation (G20 EMPOWER), under India's presidency of the G20.

India's G20 Presidency has been guided by the theme of "One Earth One Family One Future," which has resonated across the globe. Our aim is to drive a global consensus under the G20 framework to find solutions to issues of global concern.

Under India's G20 Presidency, we have recently crossed a significant milestone by hosting the 100th G20 related meeting. These meetings have been held in 41 different cities across the country and have witnessed one of the largest global participation ever, with over 12,300 delegates from more than 110 nationalities attending. These meetings have highlighted the diversity, inclusiveness, and cultural richness of India to the participating delegates.

India's G20 Presidency has also launched several new initiatives, such as a new Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction, a new Engagement Group called "Startup 20," and a Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable.

Our Presidency has focused on providing space to the voice and concerns of the Global South and developing countries, exemplified by the Voice of Global South Summit held in January 2023, attended by 125 countries.

Discussions facilitated under India's G20 Presidency have centered on identified priority areas, such as inclusive and resilient growth, progress on SDGs, green development and Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE), technological transformation and public digital infrastructure, reforming multilateral institutions, and international peace and harmony.

One of our key priority areas has been women-led development, which is of great relevance to today's event. With the G20 nations representing over 80% of the world's GDP, 75% of international trade, and 60% of the world's population, the G20 can play a vital role in delivering on women's empowerment and gender equality.

India's G20 Presidency has been committed to advancing women-led development and achieving transformative changes towards women's economic empowerment. In this regard, G20 EMPOWER, a unique alliance of business leaders and governmental representatives from G20 nations aimed at accelerating women's leadership and empowerment in the private sector, plays a crucial role in setting the agenda for achieving this objective.

We are glad to have a message from the Chair of G20 Empower India, Ms. Sangita Reddy, which will be followed by a detailed presentation on the activities of G20 Empower under India's Presidency of the G20.

India's G20 Presidency is taking significant strides to further the agenda of women empowerment, and I am confident that we can make a lasting impact towards achieving gender equality and economic prosperity.

Thank you.
