

Remarks by Amb Sibi George at Indian Community Support Group Event on Aug 28, 2020

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank you for inviting me to this important event. I bring to you greetings from Government of India and from the 1.3 billion people of India.

Let me begin by thanking His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for hosting the large Indian community in Kuwait.

I thank the Government of the State of Kuwait and Kuwaiti friends of India for welcoming us here.

This is one of my first meetings in Kuwait after my arrival early this month. I thank my Kuwaiti friends for the warm welcome that my family and I received here since my arrival.

One of the first things that I heard since my arrival here was on the efforts of the Indian Community Support Group (ICSG) to support the Indian community overcome the several difficulties they faced due to Covid pandemic.

I also heard several stories of how Dr. Mohammed Al Ansari and his Najat Society supported the efforts of ICSG directly and indirectly at that crucial time when several members of the community needed support on the ground. I heard how their passes helped our volunteers to reach at all corners of the country, during lockdown and curfew, to supply food and provide essential medical care. I thank Dr. Mohammed Al Ansari and his team for their support in this crucial time.

The ICSG that my predecessor set up under the leadership of Mr. Rajpal Tyagi has done a great work during a very crucial time of need. I thank Mr. Rajpal Tyagi, Mr. Dhiraj Oberoi, Mr. Kuldeep Lamba, Mr. Ashok Kalra, Mr. S.K Wadhawan, Mr. Jatinder Suri, Mr. Reaven D'Souza, Dr. Amir Ahmed, Dr. Surendra Nayak, Mr. Anand Kapadia, Mr. Ajay Goel and Mr. TR Ramesh for their leadership and support. I hope I covered all the members of the ICSG Committee.

I am fully aware that the ICSG has been able to do what it did because of the wholehearted support, commitment, dedication and hard work of several people from all walks of life, our Doctors and medical professionals, IT experts, financial experts, hundreds of volunteers, office bearers and members of Associations and

Welfare Groups, Leadership of our schools including teachers. I thank each one of them.

Let me again place on record my thanks to the Government and people of the friendly country of Kuwait for the support for community during this period.

We look forward to working together to continue our efforts. Let me reiterate, for the Embassy, those who need help and support are not liabilities, they are not strangers; they are our brothers and sisters, they are not problems, they are our priorities. I look forward to ideas and suggestions from each one of our fellow citizens to strengthen our efforts.

I conclude by thanking His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for hosting the large Indian community in Kuwait.

Thank you.