

Embassy of India
Santiago

Remarks of Ambassador Abhilasha Joshi on the occasion of the
“Viksit Bharat Run- Run to Serve the Nation” on 29th September, 2026

Venue: Estadio Municipal Bernardo O’Higgins, Quinta Normal, Santiago, Chile

Distinguished **Mayor** of Quinta Normal, **Ms. Karina Delfino Mussa**,
Director of Escuela República de la India, **Mr. Eduardo Barriga**,
Representatives of SLEP Los Parques,
Distinguished guests, teachers, dear students,
Members of the Indian community,
My colleagues from the Indian Embassy,

¡Muy buenos días a todos!

It gives me great pleasure to join you today for the **Viksit Bharat Run 2026**, organised by the **Embassy of India, Santiago** in association with **Escuela República de la India**.

I would like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to the **Mayor and Municipality of Quinta Normal**, SLEP Los Parques and the Director, teachers and students of República de la India School for their enthusiastic support in organising today's event.

The Embassy of India shares a **longstanding and special relationship with República de la India School**. Over the years, the school has actively participated in numerous Embassy activities, celebrating Indian culture, traditions and important national occasions with great enthusiasm. We deeply value this friendship and the warmth and affection that the school community has always shown towards India.

Today is particularly special because we have among us the distinguished Mayor of Quinta Normal, Ms. Karina Delfino Mussa, who is **herself a former student of República de la India School**. Madam Mayor, it is a pleasure to have you with us today. **Your journey from the classrooms of this very school to becoming the Mayor of Quinta Normal is an inspiring example for the young students gathered here.** Your presence reminds us that education opens doors to new opportunities and that young people can make a meaningful contribution to their communities.

Dear students,

Today's Viksit Bharat Run carries the inspiring message, **"Run to Serve the Nation"**. Under the leadership of Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi**, India has embarked on the vision of **Viksit Bharat**, or , **by 2047**, when our country will celebrate **100 years of independence**.

Prime Minister Modi has consistently emphasised the important role of young people in shaping India's future. Through initiatives such as the **Fit India Movement**, he has also highlighted the importance of physical fitness, healthy lifestyles and sports in building a stronger and healthier society.

The Viksit Bharat Run encourages us to work towards building a healthy nation with the active participation of our youth in building a better future.

Dear young friends,

Sports teach us some of life's most valuable lessons. They teach us discipline, perseverance, teamwork and respect for others. They remind us that success is not simply about winning, but also about giving our best, overcoming challenges and encouraging one another. Whether you finish first or last today, what matters is your participation, your determination and the spirit of friendship with which you run.

India and **Chile** may be separated by thousands of kilometres, but we **share important values** such as respect for education, the importance of family and community, alongwith the aspiration to build a better future for our younger generations.

So once again, our sincvere thanks to the authorities and the entire República de la India School community for their cooperation and warm friendship.

I wish all the participants a wonderful run together in the spirit of friendship, unity and service.

¡Viva la amistad entre India y Chile!

¡Muchas gracias!

Jai Hind!