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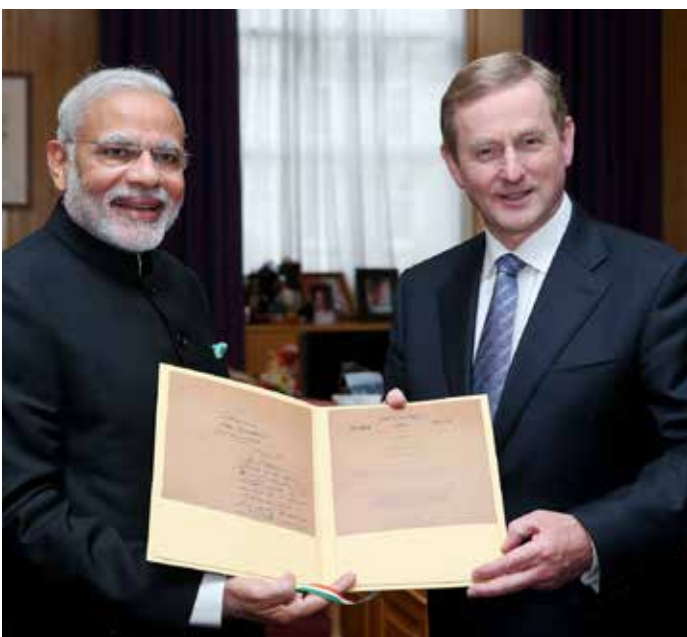
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The Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi visited Ireland on 23rd September 2015 by a Special Aircraft en route to New York. On arrival, the Prime Minister was received at the Dublin Airport by the Irish Minister for Health, Mr. Leo Varadkar, the Ambassador of India, Mrs. Radhika Lal Lokesh and her spouse, Ambassador of Ireland to India, Mr. Feilim McLaughlin and Irish Chief of Protocol, Ms. Sile McGuire.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being received by the Taoiseach Enda Kenny. Also present on the occasion were Minister for Foreign Affairs, Charlie Flanagan, Minister for Education, Jan O'Sullivan and Minister for Health, Leo Varadkar.



Prime Minister held a one-to-one meeting with Taoiseach Enda Kenny in which bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern were discussed. After the meeting, while the Taoiseach handed over to PM a specially designed Ireland Cricket Team Jersey with PM Modi's name

on the back, the PM presented to Taoiseach a selection of manuscripts and papers from the National Archives of India recognising the contribution of Irish Officials Thomas Oldham and Sir George Abraham Grierson.



This was followed by delegation level talks and working luncheon in the Sycamore Room. The Prime Minister mentioned that the bilateral trade and investments between India and Ireland are growing, despite global and regional uncertainties. He said that India's economic partnership with Ireland can have a strong technology focus on information technology, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, agricultural and clean energy.

Apart from highlighting the bilateral issues such as Joint Working Group on Information Technology, Social Security Agreement, Co-operation in Science and Technology and Education, the Prime Minister also exchanged views on a broad range of international challenges, including terrorism, radicalization and the situation in Europe and Asia. The Prime Minister mentioned that India and Ireland are consistent advocates of international peace and stability and discussed the role of United Nations and its Security Council in meeting these challenges in the 21st Century. The Prime Minister also sought the support of Ireland for India's permanent membership of the reformed

Security Council and for India's membership of the NSG and other international export control regimes. *"India can be Ireland's anchor in Asia & Ireland can be India's vital gateway to Europe & bridge across the Atlantic. India & Ireland can form productive partnerships in trade, economy, technology & other areas."* Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Taoiseach Enda Kenny welcomed Prime Minister Modi to Ireland and said, *"It is our privilege, real privilege to welcome you here."* He also added, *"There will be real opportunities for Irish skills, Irish IT, Irish innovation to work with India."*

Prime Minister Modi invited Taoiseach Enda Kenny to visit India. A Press Statement was also read out by the two Prime Ministers. A full text of the Prime Minister's statement is available on the website www.mea.gov.in/Speeches-Statements.htm?dtk.2583/Statement_by_Prime_Minister_at_the_Joint_Press_Briefing_with_Prime_Minister_of_Ireland



The Prime Minister met the Indian Community in Ireland at a Community Event hosted by the Embassy. The students from the John Scottus School, Dublin welcomed the Prime Minister with recitation of Sanskrit Shlokas.

“Simply mesmerising! Great to see these children recite in Sanskrit. Recital of Shlokas in Sanskrit by children was very touching.”

Prime Minister tweeted (<https://twitter.com/narendramodi>) on 23 September 2015.

After addressing an enthusiastic audience of about 1500 guests, the Prime Minister mingled with cross section of community members present. Prior to the arrival of the Prime Minister, a brief cultural

programme was presented by the Indian Community settled in Ireland.

“Overwhelmed by the community programme in Dublin. India is young, for the young and with the power of growth we can achieve our due place.”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr.Charlie Flanagan described the visit of the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, as ‘an honour for Ireland’. The visit, he said, was significant in the context of strengthening and the development of the relationship between our two countries.

