



English rendering of PM's address at the launch of development works in Surat, Gujarat

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Bharat Mata ki Jai. Bharat Mata ki Jai. Bharat Mata ki Jai.

Popular Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Bhupendra Bhai Patel, my colleague in the Union Cabinet C. R. Patil, Deputy Chief Minister Bhai Harsh Sanghvi, Gujarat BJP President Jagdish Vishwakarma ji, other ministers present, public representatives, and my dear brothers and sisters of Surat.

How are you all? And Surat is enjoying itself, isn't it? What have you brought, brother? Thank you, friend, you have made a very beautiful picture. SPG people, this brother wants to present it, thank you very much, brother, please give it to my team.

Friends,

Before I begin my words, just a few days ago my close companion, with whom I worked for many years and who remained active until the last moments of his life, Kanubhai Mavani, departed. I respectfully pay tribute to him. The pain of losing a companion is natural, but today as I stand on the soil of Surat, I continue my words with his sacred remembrance.

Friends,

Many times I feel that Surat is not just a city, Surat is a spirit. And when this spirit exists, then on Environment Day, every family joins together, and such 15,000 environment-dedicated posters are created and brought here. I heartily congratulate all those families who did this work. Because when they thought of this, their minds became engaged in protecting the environment. And many of our Kathiawad brothers live here in Surat, and they have farms there. I request them to join the "Save the Farm" campaign as part of environmental work. Chemical-free farming, the natural farming our elders practiced. And I say with full right to all the people of Surat who have farms, wherever they are, that this is the work I ask of you.

Friends,

Everyone here welcomed me, gave me different souvenirs, gifts. But apart from that, Surat has given me an invaluable gift, even more precious. Surat has given me garbage as a gift. One lakh people carried out a cleaning campaign for five days. For me, this is the greatest gift, and I thank one lakh people and the entire Surat from my heart. People may wonder, what kind of Prime Minister is this? He is proud of receiving garbage as a welcome gift. Because for me, cleanliness must become a value. One lakh people joining means one lakh families joining. And this is not just a cleanliness campaign, it is a kind of festival of values for a healthy future. For this, all the companions of Surat deserve great congratulations.

Friends,

After the local body elections, I have come to Gujarat for the first time, to Surat. From Surat, I bow and congratulate the people of Gujarat.

Friends,

It has been more than two and a half decades that you have continuously given your blessings to us, to the BJP. And with time, these blessings have only increased. See, one daughter pulled you all along. Recently, elections were held for district councils, taluka councils, municipalities, and municipal corporations. In these, the people of Gujarat gave so much support to the BJP that all old records were broken. And today I am even happier because you broke my records too. I came into politics very late, perhaps in 1987, and then the first election was of Surat–Ahmedabad Corporation, and in that first election we achieved a massive victory. And since then, this journey of victory has continued. In the democratic societies of the world, such a thing is rarely seen. For any party to receive the blessings of the people for such a long time and the opportunity to serve, this is a very great thing.

Friends,

Many elected representatives of Surat and Navsari are also present here. I extend my best wishes to all of you. We must always remember, the people of Gujarat have supported our spirit of service. This massive victory is to further expand this mission of service. We must all work even harder. Our resolve is a developed Gujarat, a developed India. This resolve must be fulfilled with dedication to service. When I say Surat is not a city, Surat is a spirit, behind it is my conviction. Imagine, in the whole of India, a city that continuously receives awards for cleanliness. Naturally, one might think, enough, we have received so many awards, what more is there to do? But Surat does not think like that. It still prioritizes cleanliness campaigns. That is why I say Surat is not a city, Surat is a spirit.

Friends,

Our resolve of a developed India, a developed Gujarat-this resolve will be fulfilled only when we develop every village, every district, every city of the country. Therefore, the role of all elected BJP representatives is very important.

Friends,

Today is also a pleasant coincidence. Today is June 5, Environment Day. And on this Environment Day, I am in Surat, one of the cleanest cities in the country. And how great a matter of pride this is! This is the same Surat that was once affected by a plague-like epidemic, and today it is recognized for cleanliness. For this, continuous efforts have been made for two and a half decades. All the people of Surat, officers, employees, public representatives-everyone has contributed. I have been told that in recent days, special campaigns for cleanliness have also been carried out here. I congratulate all the residents of Surat, my dear Suratis, very much. To accelerate the development of Surat, many projects have been inaugurated and foundation stones laid here today. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of you for these projects.

Friends,

The world is now very cautious about moving towards a green era, a Green Future, and is trying to take steps gradually. India too is working extensively on green growth. And Gujarat had already taken fast steps in this direction many years ago. Gujarat is the state whose government created a separate department for climate change at the beginning of this century. Gujarat was the first state in the country to create such an arrangement. And as the Chief Minister just mentioned, in Gujarat's own Charanka village in Patan, India's first solar park was also built. And at that time, it became a kind of pilgrimage site. People came to see such a huge solar plant visible far and wide.

Friends,

What you all did in Gujarat at that time inspired the whole country. Today India is developing with the mantra of progress with nature. Economy as well as ecology.

And friends,

This is clearly visible in Surat. Nowadays, Surat's "circular water economy" is much discussed. Here, the city's wastewater is treated and supplied to industry. This manages dirty water and also earns from water. For the past 12 years, a major mass movement of waste to wealth has been going on in the country. This is greatly helping in the cleanliness of our cities and in making them green and clean.

Friends,

Now the effort is to ensure the complete arrangement of drinking water for Surat for many decades to come. For this, the Tapi Barrage Project has been approved. In addition, water management and water drainage are also very big priorities of the government. Many such projects have been inaugurated here today.

Friends,

Surat is not limited only to cleanliness and a circular economy. The expansion of other means of green growth is also happening at unprecedented speed. For example, electric mobility. Surat is working to create a system where all buses running on the roads will be electric. Along with this, the expansion of Surat Metro is also happening. All these steps will further strengthen Surat's identity as a green city. And yes, in the coming time, Hazira Industrial Area will also be known for the production of green steel. That is, green energy will be used in steel production.

Friends,

Today the world is passing through a period of unprecedented challenges. Some time ago I had said that this decade is proving to be a decade of disasters for the world. We have seen one global disaster after another in recent times. First came the huge crisis of Corona, then wars broke out in different places, and now such a massive energy crisis has thrown the entire world into turmoil. Petrol prices are fluctuating continuously across the world, and gas supply chains are collapsing.

But brothers and sisters,

I feel great satisfaction that with the collective efforts of 1.4 billion Indians, the country is strongly facing every such crisis. You are with me in this fight, aren't you? We have to win this fight too, don't we?

And friends,

In this too, Gujarat has a very big role. In recent years, Gujarat has strengthened its capacity in refining, solar, and wind power, which is proving very useful for the country. Today India's renewable capacity is 250 gigawatts. In our country, earlier we never thought beyond megawatts, today we are talking about gigawatts. And Gujarat alone contributes 50 gigawatts. Out of 250 gigawatts, 50 gigawatts is your strength. That means one-fifth of the country's green energy is produced by Gujarat alone. Gujarat has done commendable work in solar energy production. And now, when the country is working in areas like green hydrogen and green ammonia, Gujarat's role will also be very significant.

Friends,

This ongoing global crisis shows how important self-reliance is in the matter of energy. And the capacity the country has built in the past 12 years is of immense importance. On one hand, we ensured the supply of oil and gas from different parts of the world. On the other hand, we made historic investments in renewable energy. Twelve years ago, solar energy production in India was negligible. Today we are among the top five countries in the world. And not just solar energy-we increased ethanol blending capacity, accelerated railway electrification, worked on nuclear energy, modernized and expanded our old electricity transmission network, greatly expanded the gas pipeline network, and increased the capacity of our ports

so that more petroleum products could reach there and be stored where possible. In the coming time, the country's capacity will increase even more. Our government's efforts in this direction are continuously ongoing.

Friends,

Before coming among you here in Surat, I went to Hazira, which Harsh Bhai was just describing. What self-reliant India means is clearly visible in Hazira. Hazira today is not just an industrial area. It has become an ecosystem where there is energy, steel, defense production, ports, and global trade. Hazira is developing as a major maritime-industrial hub of the country, emerging as a major center of self-reliant India.

But friends,

Today there are some pessimistic people in the country who keep mocking the self-reliant India campaign. They constantly belittle this resolve of the nation. These are the people who have always kept India dependent on other countries. They forget that a country dependent on others can never achieve the heights of development it deserves.

Friends,

To accelerate self-reliant India, today the country is focusing greatly on connectivity. Projects like the Vadodara–Mumbai Expressway, Dedicated Freight Corridor, and Bullet Train reflect this priority of India. Today a major section of the Vadodara–Mumbai Expressway has been inaugurated. This will provide better connectivity between two major industrial and trade centers of the country.

Friends,

Our effort is to connect everyone, to give equal opportunities and facilities to all. Remote areas, tribal regions, which never had access to facilities, are today getting modern connectivity. The Dahod–Bodeli–Vapi corridor reflects this resolve. Imagine, four-lane facilities are reaching the tribal areas of Narmada and Tapi districts. This will reduce travel time, reduce fares, and give tribal and rural people excellent facilities for education, healthcare, and livelihood.

Friends,

Through this corridor, the tribal areas of Chhota Udepur, Narmada, Bharuch, and Tapi districts will be connected to the industrial belt. This will also boost tourism in the tribal areas of South Gujarat. Access to the Statue of Unity, Saputara, and nearby tourist destinations will become much easier.

Friends,

Today here in Surat, a modern ESIC hospital has also been inaugurated. This hospital will become a new center of better healthcare services for our worker brothers and sisters and their families. Companions who have come here from other states to live and work will also benefit greatly from this hospital.

Friends,

Our government is working with national development as the top priority. That is why the country's trust is in the BJP, in the BJP's development work. That is why the people of the country are repeatedly giving the BJP a mandate. Recently, elections in Bengal—you may feel energy rise as soon as I mention Bengal—but my experience was that during my recent visit to five countries, Bengal was being discussed everywhere. Everyone talks about Bengal. In the elections of Bengal, Assam, and Puducherry, the BJP, NDA received a huge mandate. Apart from this, in the Panchayat and Corporation elections happening across the country, BJP is also winning.

Friends,

Every such election carries one message: the country does not like chaos, uncertainty, and despair. Congress has been spreading chaos and uncertainty for the past 12 years to find opportunities for itself, but the people of the country are repeatedly giving it a strong reply. You people of Gujarat have pushed Congress to the margins, but even where Congress has governments, the people are fed up with Congress's misrule. Recently, local body elections were held in Himachal, where Congress is in power, and Congress was badly defeated. The people of Himachal rejected Congress's misrule. Before that, Congress lost in Haryana's local body elections, and the people of Punjab also gave Congress a clear message. The message is that Congress's parasitic politics will not work, Congress's politics of finding opportunities in chaos will not work. Even in Karnataka, there is great anger among the people against the Congress government. And that is why Congress is having to change the Chief Minister in Karnataka too.

Friends,

India has moved far beyond negativity. This is a country of unlimited optimism. A country full of extraordinary aspirations. The citizens of India are filled with dreams, filled with resolve. And the people are committed to turning resolve into accomplishment. And when the people of the country are determined, the country can achieve every goal. And this, this is India's strength. Let us all together accelerate the building of a developed India. Let us turn dreams into resolve, and resolve into accomplishment by dedicating ourselves fully. I stand shoulder to shoulder with you. If you walk two steps, I am ready to walk three. Stopping and tiring is not acceptable to us. With this call, once again, many congratulations for the development projects.

Bharat Mata ki Jai.

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Vande Mataram.

Vande Mataram.

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Disclaimer: Some portions of the Prime Minister's speech were in Gujarati, which have been translated here in Hindi essence.

MJPS/SS/ST

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इस विज्ञप्ति को इन भाषाओं में पढ़ें: Urdu , हिन्दी , Gujarati

