Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan Hosts Luncheon for Presiding Officers and Leaders of Delegations of BRICS Member and Partner Countries

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The Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan today hosted a luncheon for the Presiding Officers and Leaders of Delegations of BRICS Member and Partner Countries participating in the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum at Parliament of India, New Delhi.

The event was attended by Shri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha; Hon'ble Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Parliaments of BRICS and partner countries; Hon'ble Union Ministers; Shri Harivansh, Hon'ble Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha; Secretaries-General of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, alongside officials from BRICS and partner nations, and other distinguished guests.

Welcoming the Excellencies and dignitaries to the Parliament of India, the Chairman observed that they were assembled at a historic venue that serves as the nerve centre of India's parliamentary democracy, which has evolved through the ages from the grassroots to the apex level. He emphasized that democracy is not a new concept to Bharat, noting

that history reveals democracy existed in places like Vaishali in the North, while Chola rulers adopted the *"kudavolai"* system in the South. It is due to this deep-rooted heritage that Bharat is rightly called the Mother of Democracy.

Highlighting the growing significance of BRICS, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan remarked that the forum has evolved into a vital pillar of global cooperation. He described BRICS as a platform where diverse cultures, rich histories, and dynamic economies converge with a shared commitment to building a balanced, inclusive, and prosperous world order. He added that the deliberations and discussions during the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum reflect the collective determination of member and partner nations to address global challenges through solidarity, dialogue, and mutual trust.

Recalling the vision articulated during the BRICS Summit in September 2026, the Chairman noted that the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shriman Narendra Modi Ji, highlighted how BRICS countries are emerging as important centres for global innovation and solutions. Shri Radhakrishnan expressed firm confidence that the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum would further strengthen these efforts and create new possibilities for innovations taking shape across member and partner countries.

Underlining the cultural significance of the gathering, the Chairman remarked that hosting guests for a luncheon in the Indian tradition is far more than a formal courtesy; it is a genuine expression of warmth and mutual respect. He stated that breaking bread together allows leaders to step beyond policy and governance to nurture the human connection that lies at the very heart of international exchanges.

Expressing his hope for the occasion, Shri Radhakrishnan stated that the lunch would offer all delegates a pleasant opportunity to exchange ideas informally and further deepen personal bonds. He wished that the aroma of Indian food, the warmth of Indian hospitality, and the pleasant afternoon would leave an everlasting impression on all Excellencies.

In conclusion, the Chairman expressed his gratitude to all present for their gracious presence, wishing them fond memories of their time spent in India and of the friendships renewed and forged during the forum, concluding with warm wishes for an enjoyable meal and a toast to long-lasting friendship.





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