

**Remarks by Mr. Kanat Tumysh,
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Kazakhstan
at the reception on the occasion of
the Republic Day of India
(January 26, 2023, Astana)**

**Your Excellency Madam Shubhdarshini Tripathi!
Your Excellencies Ambassadors!
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen!**

Happy Republic Day of India! On behalf of the Government of Kazakhstan and on my own behalf, Madam Ambassador, I express my best wishes to you personally, as well as to the staff of the diplomatic mission and all citizens of India on this significant holiday!

India is a huge country, one of the most important partners of Kazakhstan in Asia.

Last year, on February 22, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between our countries.

During this time, good results have been achieved in many areas of our cooperation based on mutual trust and understanding. I would like to note with great gratitude that our partnership grows from year to year reaching new heights and growing steadily.

**Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Salamatsyz ba, Namaste, good evening!**

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and on my own behalf, allow me to congratulate H.E. Madam Shubhdarshini Tripathi, and Her Excellency's staff as well as all the Indian nationals on the auspicious occasion of the Republic Day of India.

Relations between Kazakhstan and India have deep historical roots. From ancient times there was a flow of trade, goods, as

well as exchange of ideas, science, culture and technology between our nations and regions.

Today, India is the largest trade and economic partner of Kazakhstan in South Asia. We see India as a nation, which has a unique role in accelerating regional and global progress.

Over the years, Kazakhstan and India as the strategic partners. We have established a constructive political dialogue, multifaceted economic and humanitarian ties.

In January 2022, India hosted the 1st «Central Asia – India» Summit (*in online format*). It is symbolic that this Summit was held during the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the countries of Central Asia and India.

We believe that the Summit opened up new opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation, primarily in trade. In particular, the trade turnover between the countries of Central Asia and India in 2021 reached \$3 billion. At the same time, the share of Kazakhstan amounted to 70% (\$2 billion). As of now about 700 legal entities and branches with the participation of Indian capital are registered in Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan and India have established fruitful cooperation not only bilaterally, but also within the multilateral frameworks, including UN, CICA, SCO, etc.

I would like to congratulate and wish success to our Indian friends, who have assumed the SCO Chairmanship and G-20 presidency last year.

Our President H.E. Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev recently participated in “The Voice of Global South Summit”, which was held within the G-20 presidency of India (*on January 12-13 in virtual format*). The Head of State stressed that India’s chairmanship in G-20 is a recognition of global stance as well as economic, scientific, technological achievements and potential of India.

We appreciate India’s support of the Kazakh Chairmanship’s initiatives on transformation of CICA into a full-fledged international organization. We are looking forward to jointly developing its potential as a unique pan-Asian organization.

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Last year we opened a bust of the great Kazakh poet and thinker Abai in New Delhi, and a monument of the outstanding personality, political and public figure Mahatma Gandhi in Astana.

These events symbolized deepening cultural ties and friendly relations between Kazakhstan and India.

The legacy of these icons is extremely important as both leaders promoted humanistic ideas and universal values.

Remarkably, Abai said once: “The source of success is unity, and of well-being - life” and Mahatma Gandhi underscored: “The future depends on what we do in the present”.

I do believe that Kazakhstan and India will continue strengthening bilateral relations with new meaning and substance for the sake of the friendship and prosperity of our two great nations.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank Her Excellency Ambassador Tripathi and our colleagues from Indian Embassy for their valuable contributions to the development of relations between Kazakhstan and India.

I wish everyone here peace, well-being and prosperity.

Thank you for the attention, shukria!

Thank you.