

# 印度 India



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香港民政事務局局长、中國文化部部长、各位部长、各位嘉宾：

早安。首先，我謹代表印度旅遊文化部部长馬赫什·沙瑪先生，向各位參與第九屆亞洲文化合作論壇的朋友親切問好。沙瑪部長因須在新德里出席國會會議，以致未能來港一行，但已叮囑我代為轉達他的心意，他祝願是次論壇圓滿成功。香港特別行政區(特區)政府舉辦亞洲文化合作論壇，至今已屆第9屆，此論壇對促進區內的文化交流十分奏效。我謹此衷心感謝香港民政事務局局长及其團隊，為我們舉辦這項活動。

今天的論壇最引人入勝之處，就是把數千年前各地文化交流這個傳統傳承下去。就以我們的共通信仰－佛教為例，佛教是我們彼此在思想、哲理和思維交流上的中心脈絡。玄奘等高僧曾遠道

Good morning, honorable Secretary for Home Affairs, honorable Minister of Culture of the People's Republic of China, Excellencies, honorable Ministers, distinguished guests,

At the outset, I would like to convey our warm greetings on behalf of honorable Mr Mahesh SHARMA, India's Minister for Culture and Tourism to all our friends of the 9th Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum. Honorable Minister Sharma is not able to travel to Hong Kong in view of our ongoing Parliament Session in New Delhi, but conveys his best wishes for successful organisation of the Forum. The Forum, which is now into its ninth edition, is a very useful initiative of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to promote cultural dialogues in the region. And may I convey our sincere appreciation to our honorable Secretary and his entire team for organising the event.

It is fascinating that in our discussion today, we are carrying forward the traditions of civilisational dialogue that has been taken place for thousands of years. For example, our

前來敝國，在本國著名的那爛陀寺蒐集和翻譯佛教經文，並把經文帶返中國。如今，在與會各國通力合作下，那爛陀寺現正復修為一所新的大學。其他著名的朝聖者和學者如法顯、鳩摩羅什和菩提達摩，對推動中印文化交流亦功不可沒，並使兩地文化發展得更為沃饒蓬勃。說到東南亞，《羅摩衍那》的偉大故事在不少國家早已家喻戶曉。這齣史詩式故事結集了各式各樣的傳奇故事，譜寫出我們共同的歷史，並引領我們邁向同一個未來。

在印度，我們早已深深明白到，人與人之間需要建立更緊密的連繫，並且有需要讓人們尤其是年輕一代，認識到這個珍貴的傳統，使大家更懂得互讓互諒。去年我們舉辦的「中印友好交流年」，正正是朝這個方向跨出一步，當中的「印度掠影」系列文化活動更曾在中國11個城市和香港特區舉行。「印度掠影」在香港舉行連串活動，包括香港首個以佛教交流為主題，名為「在佛陀腳步之上」的展覽，另外尚有印度電影節和多場文化表演，均獲得眾口稱譽。這些活動得以順利完成，全賴香港的康樂及文化事務署(康文署)和民政事務總署鼎力襄助。我們在其他國家，例如泰國、新加坡、印尼和南韓等，亦有舉辦類似的活動。為推動旅遊發展，今年我們在中國舉辦「印度旅遊年」，並會於2016年在印度舉辦「中國旅遊年」。此外，為方便旅客往來，

shared heritage of Buddhism has been one of the central strands of this exchange of thoughts, philosophies and ideas among our cultures. Celebrated monks such as Xuan Zang travelled to our lands, collecting, transporting and translating scriptures from the great monastery of Nalanda, a name that is being resurrected today as a new university through an international endeavour, to which countries present here are partners. Several other great pilgrims scholars like Fa Xian, Kumarajiva and Bodhi Dharma played an important role in cultural cross-fertilisation between India and China. When it comes to South East Asia, the great story of Ramayana has found a special place in many societies. Different legends of this epic are a celebration of our shared history, which also leads us towards a common future.

In India, we have been conscious of the need to build greater people-to-people contacts, to create awareness of this invaluable heritage, especially among our younger generations to improve our mutual understanding. A step towards that direction was the “Year of Friendly Exchanges between India and China” observed last year, as part of which ‘Glimpses of India’ Festival was organised across 11 cities in China and in Hong Kong SAR. The Festival brought to Hong Kong events such as the first-ever exhibition on our Buddhist connections called “In the footsteps of Buddha”, a festival of Indian films and several cultural performances, all held to critical acclaim, thanks to the support of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Home Affairs Department. Similar activities have been also organised in other countries such as Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and the Republic of Korea. To promote tourism flows, the current year is being observed as the “Visit India Year in China” and 2016 would be observed as the “Visit China Year in India”. To further facilitate tourist exchanges we have launched the easy E-Tourist Visa (ETV) facility

我們又為中國(包括香港和澳門特區)及其他與會各國的旅客推出簡便的電子旅遊簽證(ETV)服務。至於來往印度與中國、香港特區及其他主要城市的飛行航線亦見有所增加。

是次論壇以「社會支持無界，文化發展無限」為主題，實在非常貼切。文化發展基本上是以人為本位，單靠政府之力難以成事，民間的支持才最為重要。社會大眾共同參與其事，既可讓不同文化融和並存，同時又能展現出豐富多彩的文化特色。根據我們的經驗，公眾的參與有利於加快文化發展的步伐，並有助文化發展歷久不衰。香港的康文署定期舉辦的「亞裔藝采」正是一個好例子。說到這裏，我想跟大家分享一件事，首屆聯合國國際瑜伽日於今年六月二十一日在香港舉行，當日大批市民同為追求身心健康而相聚一起，這不僅對自己有益，更可惠及家人、朋友、鄰里以至整個社區。

我深信，通過今天的論壇，我們必可覓得更多良方妙法，促使更多人支持我們的工作，從而促進彼此對文化的認識，並使我們的文化傳統得以承傳下去。多謝各位。

for tourists from China, including Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR, as well as all other countries represented here. The number of flight connections between India and cities in China, Hong Kong SAR and other major cities has been on an upswing.

The theme of the Forum focusing on “Community-wide Support: the Foundation for Vibrant and Sustainable Cultural Growth” is a most relevant one. Cultural development, which is essentially a people-centric phenomenon, cannot be undertaken by the governments alone without the valuable support of the communities. The participatory approach brings in the elements of inclusiveness, plurality and diversity, which in our experience enriches the process of cultural development and makes it sustainable. The Asian Ethnic Cultural Performances that are organised by the LCSD here regularly are a good example of such an approach. It would be relevant for me to share the experience of the first UN International Day of Yoga in Hong Kong. Earlier this year, on 21st June, which brought together a large number of people and created a community with a shared desire of achieving well-being of body, mind and soul, not only for oneself, but for the families, friends, neighbours and communities at large.

I’m sure that the deliberations of the forum today would provide many valuable ways and means to foster such broad-based support, for our cultural awareness and traditions. I thank you all.