

Press Statement by Rashtrapatiji at Presidential Palace
Dili, Timor-Leste

Dili, August 10, 2024

I am pleased to be here in Dili, Timor-Leste. This is the first State Visit from India to Timor-Leste. My delegation and I are deeply touched by the warmth of the reception, and the generous hospitality accorded to us by President Horta and the people of Timor-Leste. I bring greetings and good wishes from the people of India to the friendly people of Timor-Leste.

India and Timor-Leste enjoy warm and friendly relations, based on our shared commitment to the values of democracy and pluralism. I am confident that this will further strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries.

I had extensive discussions with President Horta today, on enhancing the bilateral cooperation between India and Timor-Leste in the fields of IT, digital technology, health and pharmaceuticals, agriculture, capacity building, and more. During our meeting, we also discussed the possibility of Timor-Leste joining the International Solar Alliance as well as the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, both international organisations headquartered in India.

During my visit, I will also be meeting Prime Minister Gusmao. To further strengthen the framework of bilateral relations, we will be exchanging three MoUs today - the first on Cultural Exchanges, the second on collaboration between Prasar Bharati and 'Timor-Leste Radio & Television' (RTTL) in the field of radio broadcasting, and the third on exemption from visa requirement for holders of diplomatic, official and service passports.

I am also happy to share that India will soon be opening a Resident Mission in Dili. We also look forward to Timor-Leste opening its Resident Mission in

New Delhi. I want to assure you that the Delhi-Dili connect will only get stronger in the times to come.

Before concluding, I would once again thank the Government and people of Timor-Leste for their warm hospitality, and convey my best wishes for the progress and prosperity of the people of Timor-Leste.

Thank you.
