

**Embassy of India
Djibouti**

Press Release



The Embassy of India in Djibouti in partnership with Indian Diaspora Association 'Bhartiya Sanskritik Samagam (BSS)' and with support from States Division of Ministry of External Affairs of India and Tourism Department of State of Gujarat, organized India Day on State of Gujarat as part of State Facilitation Abroad initiative of Government of India on 18 December 2025, Thursday at the Embassy premises.

Advisor to the Minister of Culture, Ms Madina Saleh Ali was the Guest of Honour at the event. The event was well attended by around 200 people comprising, Advisor to Agriculture Minister of Djibouti, local dignitaries, members of the diplomatic community, diaspora members and friends of India in Djibouti.

The event comprised inaugural speech by Shri Mihir Kumar Thakur, Charge d' Affaires a.i., followed by a PPT presentation by Captain JPS Virk, Defence Attache on One District One Product (ODOP) of the State of Gujarat. The event overall showcased rich cultural & cuisine heritage of Gujarat and highlighted trade & tourism opportunities in Gujarat. Members of Gujarati community performed an enthralling Dandiya dance and also taught basic steps of Dandiya which remained the main attraction for the attendees. A Tourism Information desk and Stalls of Gujarati Handicraft and Cuisines were also set up at the event.

In his remarks, while hailing bilateral relations, Cd'A Mihir Kumar Thakur highlighted the rich culture, tourism & business opportunities of Gujarat and invited friends of India in Djibouti to visit Gujarat during their next visit to India. He also drew commonalities between Gujarat and Djibouti and emphasized the economic growth and smart cities plan of Gujarat of which the cities of the Republic of Djibouti can take leverage of under twinning of cities.

The event was aimed at promoting investment, trade and tourism related opportunities in Gujarat through distribution of ODOP brochures & promotional tourism booklets among the local people and friends of India in Djibouti. The event brought together an extensive range of Indian cuisines, mainly comprising Gujarati dishes like Dhokla, Khandvi, Gathiya, Thepla, etc. in addition to North Indian specialties like Biryani, Chaat, Tandoori chickens etc. as well as South Indian dishes such as Idli, Dosa, Dahi/Dal Vadas that were prepared by members of the Diaspora and Indian Restaurants established in Djibouti. The event also showcased the vibrant colors and flavors of Gujarat through traditional attire, music and Dandia dance performances.

The event was well received by the Indian Diaspora, representatives of Diplomatic corps and local community, with many attendees expressing their appreciation for the rich cultural and cuisine heritage of Gujarat. The event was a successful endeavour in promoting culture, cuisine, trade & tourism opportunities of State of Gujarat.

The large participation of Gujarati communities, who have been living in Djibouti for over 2 generations and engaged in key sectors like port and shipping, free trade zones, acted as a catalyst in success of the event and strengthening cultural and people to people ties between the two countries.


