

**Embassy of India  
Tokyo**

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Her Excellency, Dr. HILDA C. HEINE, Hon'ble President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands

His Excellency KALANI R. KANEKO, Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of the Marshall Islands

My friend, H.E. Alexander Carter BING, Ambassador of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to Japan

Her Excellency Ms. Isabela Silk, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Ms. Emma Kabua-Tibon, Chief of Staff for Hon'ble President,

Mr. Winder Loeak, Assistant Secretary

Friends and colleagues from RMI,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Distinguished Guests,

It is with great honor and immense pleasure that we gather here today to welcome Her Excellency, Dr. HILDA C. HEINE, Hon'ble President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, as well as His Excellency KALANI R. KANEKO, Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Marshall Islands to the Indian Embassy.

This occasion marks a significant milestone in the relationship between our two nations, as we come together to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on community development projects, specifically a community sports center in Ailuk Atoll, airport terminal on Mejit Atoll, and community centers at the Arno and Wotje Atolls.

Your Excellency, your presence here today is a testament to the strong and enduring bond between India and the Marshall Islands. Our shared values, mutual respect, and commitment to sustainable development have paved the way for this important collaboration. This MoU is a symbol of our joint dedication to improving the lives of our people, fostering community growth, and enhancing the well-being of our societies.

India and the Marshall Islands have already been working together on various fronts, including blue economy, health, education, climate change and environment, renewable energy, disaster management, capacity building and sanitation.

India also stood by the Marshall Islands as a development partner for the successful conduct of the 10<sup>th</sup> Micronesian Games last month, and the upcoming 15th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women to be hosted by Majuro this month.

Our collaborative efforts across sectors, focusing on sustainable practices, are designed to enhance connectivity, support economic growth, and improve the quality of life in our communities.

Furthermore, I would like to highlight the successful participation of the Republic of the Marshall Islands in the 3rd Forum of India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) summit as well as the Voice of Global Summit & Voice of Global South Summit 2.0 held last year. These were landmark events, reinforcing our shared commitment to regional cooperation and sustainable development. Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during the FIPIC summit, emphasized that *"India respects your priorities. It feels proud to be your development partner. Whether it's humanitarian assistance or your development, you can count on India as a reliable partner. Our perspective is based on human values"* .

I am confident that this collaboration will lead to tangible and positive outcomes. It will strengthen our friendship, deepen our cooperation, and create a lasting impact on the lives of our citizens. Together, we will embark on a journey of progress and prosperity, guided by the spirit of solidarity and mutual respect.

Your Excellencies, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your presence at the embassy today. I look forward to signing of the MOU on Annual Grant-in-Aid for Implementation of Community Development Projects in the Republic of the Marshall Islands later today.

Thank you.

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