

**Address by H.E. Ms. Neeta Bhushan High Commissioner of India  
on the celebration to mark the 11 Years of Good Governance  
(31<sup>st</sup> July, 2025)**

Rt Hon Sir Anand Satyanand, Former Governor General of New Zealand;  
Dr Pushpa Wood and Members of GOPIO Wellington Chapter;  
Mrs Vijashni Ratan, Principal, Wellington Hindi School and Members of the  
Hindu Council of NZ;  
Dignitaries, members of the Indian and Kiwi communities; and  
Friends,  
Namaste and Good Evening,

It is a great honor and privilege to welcome you all here today to celebrate a truly significant milestone 11 years of good governance, leadership, and nation-building under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

2. while I have a prepared speech I would like to speak from my personal experience. One of the aspects of PM's leadership has been the emphasis on women empowerment. Every aspect of the government's initiative is centered on women. Whether it is selfie with daughter, or gas cylinders so that women don't have to use firewood for cooking and inhale unhealthy and dangerous gases, or giving property in the name of women or

In 2014, when Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi took office. From the day one, the Government has focused on development that touches every individual and includes the last person in the queue and that builds not just roads and buildings but aspirations and futures. Governance has become people-centric. The idea of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas" is not just a slogan it is the philosophy that has guided policymaking and implementation at every level. Eleven years later, we can proudly say that this promise is being fulfilled not just in numbers or policies but also in the lives of people across India.

3. I am pleased to share that our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji has now become the most internationally honoured Indian Prime

Minister having received 25 prestigious global awards. True to his commitment to the nation, he humbly refers to himself as the "Pradhan Sevak" of the aspirations and ambitions of 1.4 billion Indians, all united in our journey towards a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

4. This journey has been about Vikas (Development) that reaches the last mile, empowers the poorest, and uplifts every section of society. From ensuring basic needs like electricity, water, and health care, to creating opportunities through Digital India, Startup India, and Skill India the government has brought real change to real people.

5. Under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, India has grown to become the world's fourth-largest economy and is on track to soon become the third. Over these 11 years, we've seen transformations that were once thought impossible. Over 25 crore people have been lifted out of poverty. Over 81 crore citizens receive free food grains under the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana. Nearly 4 crore homes have been built under the PM Awas Yojana.

6. The government's efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in delivering vaccines swiftly and equitably showed the strength of decisive leadership and people-first policies. Let us not forget the revolutionary changes brought by the JAM Trinity which is Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, and Mobile which made governance direct, transparent, and accountable. Infrastructure has expanded at an unprecedented pace as you may see the highways, digital connectivity, railways, green energy, and Vande Bharat trains. India today is building at both speed and scale. We are no longer a country of delays and missed opportunities. We are a country of delivery and determination. From our youth driving a vibrant startup revolution, to our women leading in politics and society this is a new India. Confident. Capable and Caring.

7. In these 11 years, India has not only risen economically but also grown as a moral and cultural force on the global stage. From the declaration of International Yoga Day by the United Nations to the successful space missions like Chandrayaan, India's global presence has

been shaped by values and vision. India is now seen as a leader, and a partner for good.

8. This is the story of New India. One where the farmer, the worker, the student, and the entrepreneur all have a place, a voice, and a future. We have witnessed a surge in youth-led innovation with the startup ecosystem growing from just 30,000 in 2014 to over 1 lakh today supported by government schemes, digital infrastructure, and a culture of entrepreneurship.

**Friends,**

9. India's foreign policy today is marked by strategic clarity, global responsibility, and humanitarian leadership. The recent success of Operation SINDOOR, bringing home Indian nationals from conflict zones, is a reminder of India's strength, speed, and sovereignty on the global stage.

10. As we look ahead toward Viksit Bharat: a developed India by 2047. At the heart of all this progress are the four pillars of empowerment that Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi has often emphasized which is **Yuva Shakti** (youth power), **Nari Shakti** (women power), **Krishak Shakti** (farmers), and **Garib Kalyan** (welfare of the poor).

11. From Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao to 33% reservation for women in Parliament, from Khelo India to Target Olympic Podium Scheme, from PM Kisan to PM SVANidhi for street vendors, the Government's efforts are focused on Make in India not just strong, but just; not just growing, but growing together. This is not just the story of a Government. It is the story of a billion people moving with confidence, resilience, and unity. It is the story of a New India.

12. On behalf of the High Commission of India, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to every citizen of India for being part of this remarkable journey. Let us take inspiration from this journey and work together with purpose, passion, and with pride.

Thank you once again for being here. Jai Hind !

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