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## Statement by External Affairs Minister on Formal Unveiling of India's BRICS Logo and Launch of BRICS Website in New Delhi (March 22, 2016)

March 22, 2016

Excellencies,

Representatives from the BRICS Countries,

Friends from Media,

Representatives from Chambers of Businesses and Commerce and

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

A wish you all a very good morning and best wishes for Happy Holi in advance.

As you know, India assumed BRICS Chairmanship from the Russian Federation for the year 2016.

I congratulate the Russian Federation for steering the BRICS process commendably, that culminated with the 7th BRICS Summit in the beautiful city of Ufa in July 2015.

I am happy to share that the 8th BRICS Summit will be hosted in Goa on 15-16 October 2016.

It gives me tremendous happiness to unveil India's BRICS Logo, and to launch our BRICS Website for the duration of India's Chairmanship.

I also wish to congratulate artiste Shri Sudeep Gandhi who designed and won the BRICS Logo contest. He has travelled all the way from Mumbai to be with us today.

Painted in BRICS country's colors and symbolizing India's national flower, this BRICS Lotus, designed by Shri Sudeep Gandhi, encompasses the BRICS spirit and will grace all our events through the year.

During our BRICS Chairmanship, well over fifty sectoral meetings will be organized at the Ministerial, official, technical, and track II levels.

Our core-theme for the BRICS Chairmanship is - Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solutions (BRICS).

We will adopt a five-pronged approach during our Chairmanship. It will comprise of Institution Building, Implementation, Integration, Innovation, and Continuity with Consolidation (IIIC or I4C).

Our emphasis would be on institution building, implementation of previous commitments flowing from the past Summits, and

exploring synergies among the existing mechanisms.

Enhancing greater people-to-people participation in BRICS events will also be our priority.

Keeping this in mind, we have planned a series of events including – the BRICS Under-17 Football Tournament, BRICS Film Festival, BRICS Wellness Forum, BRICS Youth Forum, Young Diplomat's Forum, BRICS Trade Fair, BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave besides the Think-Tank and Academic Forums.

It will be our effort to organize various BRICS events across the country in different States. This will give people a greater opportunity to enrich the BRICS process. It would also be an occasion for our BRICS partners to visit different cities and states of India.

India will continue to work closely with our BRICS partners in taking the BRICS agenda forward.

I look forward to receiving the cooperation and support from fellow BRICS countries during India's BRICS Chairmanship.

I welcome you all for participating in today's event.

**Thank You.**

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