



सत्यमेव जयते

प्रधान मंत्री

Prime Minister

## MESSAGE

I convey my felicitations to all fellow citizens of SAARC Member States on the occasion of the 33<sup>rd</sup> SAARC Charter Day.

Ever since its inception in 1985, SAARC's pursuit has been to build a better connected and integrated South Asia and to bring together our people through free flow of ideas, people, capital and trade. SAARC has made considerable progress in these areas. However, much remains to be done.

India has taken steps to realise the inclusive vision that I had outlined during the 18<sup>th</sup> SAARC Summit in Kathmandu. Our recent initiatives include the launch of the South Asia Satellite in May 2017, setting up of an Interim Unit of the SAARC Disaster Management Centre, and the continued support to the South Asian University in making it a centre of excellence.

Peace and security are essential prerequisites for realising the true potential of regional cooperation and development. It is necessary for our region's survival and progress that the scourge of terrorism in all its forms and the ecosystem of its support is eliminated. Only then the true potential of our region and the aspirations of our people can be realised.

Let us all work together towards this objective to ensure peace and prosperity for our peoples.

(Narendra Modi)

New Delhi  
December 4, 2017