

Press Release

FIA celebrates Gujarat, Maharashtra Day

The event on May 1, scaled down significantly due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, was held online this time; on the occasion, the association pledged full support to India in its battle against the virus

The Federation of Indian Associations (FIA) and the Gujarat Associations of North America (GANA) celebrated the Gujarat and Maharashtra Foundation Day on May 1. The event, scaled down significantly and held online in view of the ongoing pandemic, was dedicated to Covid heroes and frontline warriors who have been making relentless efforts to provide relief to others in such tough times. The speakers included FIA Chairman Ankur Vaidya, President Anil Bansal, Vice President Saurin Parikh and member of board of trustees Srujal Parikh. Consul General of India in New York Randhir Jaiswal also addressed the online gathering on the occasion. Chairman Vaidya reiterated FIA's commitment to help fellow Indians back home in their times of need. He pointed out that the organization has been involved directly or indirectly in facilitation of about 400 shipments. President Bansal added, "We along with our sister organizations like Bihar and Jharkhand Associations of North America (BAJANA), Share and Care and others have been working tirelessly to provide much needed medical advice, instruments, oxygen and, most importantly, logistics to send them to proper places in India." Consul General Randhir Jaiswal thanked the US government, the Indian community and organizations for their help to India. He shared that three aircraft with relief material had already reached India. Amish Parikh of the PN Group announced donation of \$125,000 towards the PM Relief Fund. On the occasion, 14-year-old Riya Pawar sang 'Jai Jai Maharashtra Maaza'. Versatile singer Forum Shah presented 'Vaishnav Jan to tene re kahiye'. Joint secretary of FIA, Smita Miki Patel, gave the vote of thanks.