

Røða løgmans til The India Nordic Baltic Business Conclave

New Delhi, november 2023

Your excellency Dr. Jaishankar, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to be present here at The India Nordic Baltic Business Conclave in New Delhi. On behalf of the Faroe Islands, I am grateful for the opportunity to speak to this diverse and distinguished gathering.

I could begin this speech by pointing out the obvious.

India, a vast and densely populated nation, is recognized as a global economic powerhouse.

In contrast, we have the Faroe Islands. A small cluster of weather-beaten and cold North Atlantic islands. Often perceived as a tiny nation by comparison.

However, I'd like to steer our attention away from our size or distance. Instead, I want to show the world how good we are at making size and distance irrelevant.

I want to start out with a story.

Gudmundur Helmsdal and his team are Faroese film makers.

Last year they had an incredible breakthrough.

And it all took place right here in India.

They had a breakthrough with their amazing short film, *Brother Troll*.

Helmsdal and his team won the prize for Best Short Movie at The Mumbai International Film Festival.

Since then, *Brother Troll* has been showcased in an impressive 150 festivals across 40 different countries. Countries like India, Canada, Japan, and Brazil.

The movie has already achieved 120 awards.

It is truly fascinating.

A film rooted in a local story about two brothers in the windy mountains of The Faroe Islands has captured the hearts of the Indian film community.

Yes, it all unfolded here in India. But it all originated in The Faroe Islands.

Helmsdal and his team are currently in the process of creating their next film.

I am confident that the future holds many extraordinary moments like these between our two countries.

And our agenda here at the conclave is crystal clear.

We are here to explore new and innovative ways for cooperation.

We want to build partnerships for the future.

Let me share some key facts about the Faroe Islands.

We are a group of 18 islands in the North Atlantic Sea.

We are few inhabitants. But our economy is strong. We have a higher GDP per capita than many other countries. In fact, we are among the top 15 in the world.

Our economy is strong. Mostly, thanks to growth in fisheries, aquaculture, shipping, and tourism.

As part of the Arctic, The Faroe Islands are in the center of it all. Many opportunities and challenges resemble among arctic societies. Therefore, we have great focus on creating smart arctic societies with basis in our own circumstances.

Our land may be small. But our sea is vast.

We consider ourselves a big Ocean Nation.

For us the sea is essential. Few nations are as connected to the sea as the Faroe Islands.

The waters around us are rich with marine life, shaping our economy and culture.

I believe India and the Faroe Islands can open new possibilities for cooperation. Both of us have deep knowledge and expertise in the fishing industry.

The Faroe Islands have advanced ocean technology and deep-sea fishing expertise.

While India is rich in oceanic resources.

Working together, we can create a powerful partnership by combining India's rich marine resources with our strong technological skills.

We are a perfect match for innovation in the marine industry.

Another perfect match is within the Aquaculture sector.

India is one of the world's biggest aquaculture producers.

This sets demand for the best equipment. Something that we can provide in The Faroe Islands.

We are producing the best salmon in the world.

Faroese farmed fish is renowned around the world. And Faroese Atlantic salmon is exported to all six continents.

We have a strong service sector for the Aquaculture industry. Our companies supply top-quality and long-lasting equipment.

I see great potential for a stronger collaboration between India and the Faroe Islands in this area.

Lastly, The Faroe Islands have a remarkable level of education. This is a cornerstone for our strong economy. This strong foundation paves the way for collaboration between our countries.

India's wealth of skilled professionals and higher education aligns perfectly with our vision, especially in IT.

Despite its small size, The Faroe Islands are very similar to larger nations. Making us an ideal ground for testing full-scale IT projects in real-time.

Working together in this field has incredible potential to boost education and research standards in both our countries.

All in all, we have come here to create new partnerships for the future.

The Faroe Islands are committed to being an active global player, and we look forward to sharing ideas, building new partnerships, and enjoying our time here at The India Nordic Baltic Business Conclave.

Thank you for your time.

I wish you all enjoyable and productive days ahead.

Thank you, everyone

