



Modi says 'historic' Nepal visit added new vigour to ties

Kathmandu, May 12: Describing his two-day Nepal visit as "historic", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the talks with Nepalese counterpart K.P. Sharma Oli were "productive" and his trip has added new vigour to India-Nepal ties.

"My Nepal visit was historic. It gave me a great opportunity to connect with the wonderful people of Nepal," Modi tweeted at the end of his third trip to Nepal since assuming office in 2014.

Stating that his talks with Prime Minister Oli were "productive", Mr Modi said his trip has added new vigour to India-Nepal relations. "...I reiterated India's strong support to Nepal as they pursue their development agenda..." Mr Modi said.

A joint statement issued today said the two Prime Ministers agreed to maintain the momentum generated by the visit by taking effective measures for the implementation of all the agreements and understandings reached in the past.

They also agreed that effective implementation of the bilateral initiatives in agriculture, railway linkages and inland waterways development, as agreed upon by the two sides during the recent visit of Prime Minister Oli to India, would have transformational impact in these areas, it said.

The two leaders reiterated their resolve to work together to take bilateral relations to newer heights by strengthening ongoing cooperation in



Narendra Modi

diverse spheres as well as expanding partnership for socio-economic development on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual trust, respect and mutual benefit, the statement said.

They emphasised the need for regular convening of bilateral mechanisms, including Nepal-India joint commission at foreign/external affairs ministers level, to review the overall state of bilateral relations, and for the expeditious implementation of the economic and development cooperation projects.

They welcomed the outcome of the recently held inter-governmental committee meeting on trade, transit and cooperation to control unauthorised trade to jointly initiate a comprehensive review of the bilateral treaty of trade, and to consider amendments to the treaty of transit and related Agreements with a view to further facilitating Nepal's access to the Indian market, enhancing overall bilateral trade, and facilitating Nepal's transit trade, the statement said. —PTI