

PM invokes Ram, Krishna to drive home point

NEW DELHI: As Janmashtami coincided with Independence Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi cited Hindu mythological heroes to drive home his point when he spoke from the Red Fort on Tuesday.

As he spotted children dressed up like Lord Krishna, Modi opened his speech saying, “The nation is celebrating the Independence Day along with the festival of Janmashta-

mi today. I can see a number of Bal Kanhaiyas here. We are fortunate to have in our cultural and historical heritage, from a Sudarshan Chakradhari Mohan to Charkhadhari Mohan (Gandhiji, who used the spinning wheel).”

At another point, Modi said, “We are aware of the power of the collective resolve, hard work, sacrifice and devotion of our 125 crore citizens.

Lord Krishna was immensely powerful, but it is only when the milkmen came out with sticks in his support that they could lift the Govardhan parvat.”

“Similarly,” the prime minister said, “When Lord Rama had to go to Lanka, the monkeys of vanar sena came to his help, Ramsetu was built and Lord Rama could reach Lanka.

Then there was Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, who empowered his countrymen to weave the fabric of independence with cotton and spinning wheel.”

Modi also said when Arjuna was posing a lot of queries to Lord Krishna in the battlefield of Kurukshetra, the latter told him, “You achieve goals as per your thinking and beliefs.”

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