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**Press Information Bureau
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Prime Minister's Office**

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PM inaugurates Pashupatinath Dharmashala in Kathmandu

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today jointly inaugurated the Pashupatinath Dharmashala in Kathmandu, with the Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri K.P. Oli.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that he feels the love and affection of the people of Kathmandu, each time he comes here. He said this sense of belongingness is evident for India, in Nepal. He recalled his earlier visits to Pashupatinath, and other temples in Nepal.

He said the spiritual ties between India and Nepal have transcended both time and distance. In that context, he added, he feels delighted to be inaugurating this Dharmashala.

The Prime Minister said that the temples of Pashupatinath, Muktinath and Jankidham showcase Nepal's unity in diversity, besides strengthening its bonds with India. He spoke of the rich traditions of Hinduism and Buddhism, that resonate in the city of Kathmandu. He also mentioned how Buddhism is an important link between India and Nepal. He said both countries are proud of their glorious heritage.

The Prime Minister stressed on the need for development, especially the need for progress of the weaker and marginalized sections of society. He said India is scaling new heights in economic development, and added that the vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" also includes the people of Nepal. He said India is happy to see political stability in Nepal. He said Nepal can always count on India's goodwill and cooperation.

AKT/SH