



Embassy of India
Manila

Press Release

India Hands Over Livelihood Training Center in Northern Samar Under Quick Impact Projects Initiative

Ambassador Shri Harsh Kumar Jain on 05 May 2026 handed over a new Livelihood Training Center in Barangay Salvacion, Municipality of Bobon, Northern Samar to Mayor Reny A. Celespara.

The project, implemented under the India-Philippines Quick Impact Projects (QIP) framework, is part of India's grant assistance to support community-level socio-economic development initiatives across the Philippines. The Center, built at a cost of PHP 2.8 million, is among the first six projects under the initiative, with agreements signed in July 2024 between the Embassy of India and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

The facility is expected to benefit over 23,000 residents of the Municipality of Bobon by serving as a hub for skills training and capacity building, enabling participants to acquire new competencies and access improved economic and livelihood opportunities.

Speaking at the ceremony, Ambassador Jain commended the DILG and the Municipality of Bobon for the timely and efficient completion of the project. He underscored that the Center represented an investment in people by empowering individuals with skills and opportunities for a better future.

He noted, "India and the Philippines share a strong and growing partnership, rooted in democratic values, mutual respect, and a shared vision for a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific. In recent years, our cooperation has expanded across diverse sectors, including development partnership. The Quick Impact Projects initiative is a key pillar of this

partnership, translating our shared vision into tangible benefits at the grassroots level.”

The event was attended by Mr. Francisco Cruz, Assistant Secretary, DILG and Bobon Vice Mayor Ms. Ligaya Tagros-Uy, among other distinguished guests representing DILG, Provincial Government and local community leaders.

In their remarks, the Governor of Northern Samar Mr. Harris Christopher Ongchuan (message read out by his representative), Assistant Secretary Mr. Cruz, Mayor Celespara, and Vice Mayor Tagros-Uy, expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government of India for its valuable contribution to the local development in the Northern Samar.

The initiative aligns with the Plan of Action for the India-Philippines Strategic Partnership for 2025-2029, signed during the visit of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to India in August 2025. It underscores the shared commitment of India and the Philippines to promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development at the community level.

Manila, 06 May 2026