



# DCICAI celebrates women leaders at annual Iftar event

**Indian embassy second secretary Bindu N Nair, the chief guest, addressed the evolving societal attitudes towards gender equality, emphasising this year's theme, 'Investing in Women: Accelerate Progress'**

The Doha Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (DCICAI) celebrated International Women's Day (IWD), themed 'Women in Leadership', with an Iftar that brought together over 150 attendees, including members and their spouses, to honour women in various leadership roles. Indian embassy second secretary Bindu N Nair, the chief guest, addressed the evolving societal

attitudes towards gender equality, emphasising this year's theme, 'Investing in Women: Accelerate Progress!'. Laxmi Agarwal, an acid attack survivor and recipient of the International Women of Courage Award by Michelle Obama, delivered a powerful keynote speech. She shared her harrowing experience of surviving an acid attack at the tender age of 15. As Laxmi recounted her story, the entire

audience could empathise with the pain and trauma she endured. However, what stood out the most was Laxmi's unwavering determination to overcome adversity and pursue her dreams despite the challenges she faced. MES Indian School principal Dr Hameeda Kader stressed the importance of unity among women, emphasising a collective journey of progress. She stressed that women must no longer sole-

ly focus on empowerment but rather on the collective journey of progress, walking hand in hand with men. HSBC's Mena region NRI head Neha Ghai shared her personal journey and highlighted the crucial role of working women in society, encouraging women to seek guidance and support when needed. Earlier in his inaugural address, chapter chairperson Kamlesh

Tibrewal acknowledged the significant contributions of women leaders within DCICAI and reiterated the chapter's commitment to fostering diversity and inclusivity. Vice chairperson Kishore Alex proposed a vote of thanks. Members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India residing in Qatar and aspiring to join the Doha Chapter of ICAI can contact Tibrewal (55928942) or Alex (55046010).