Mr. President,

At the outset, allow me to extend our sincere felicitations to you on your election as Chair of the 2016 United Nations Pledging Conference. We wish you all success and hope that under your stewardship the Pledging Conference would achieve even greater results.

Mr. President

India has been a regular contributor to the United Nations since its founding. India believes that the United Nations should have the necessary resources to finance, in an appropriate and balanced manner, the activities and programmes of its three main pillars; PEACE AND SECURITY, DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

The International community has adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. It is an ambitious project with the noble aim of inclusive growth. The emphasis is to ensure that no one is left behind. Availability of predictable and sufficient resources is the key here. The last QCPR resolution on operational activities for development as well as the new QCPR under discussion aim to optimize efficiency in the UN system. This is timely and most welcome. But, since the requirements are huge, additional resources would also be required.

Mr. President,

As a developing country, while India has its own plate full of developmental challenges to be addressed, even then, India had always contributed to increase the availability of core resources for the development activities of the United Nations system.

In keeping with this long-standing tradition, I now have the honour to announce India’s pledges of contributions for development activities for the year 2017.

1. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - USD 4.5 million
2. World Food Programme (WFP) - USD 1.92 million (Biennium 2017-18)

3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Near East (UNRWA) - USD 1.25 million

4. UN Women: USD 1 million

5. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) - USD .837 million (8,37,000.54)

6. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) - USD 500,000

7. The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) - USD 500,000

8. United Nations Commission on Human Settlements Programme (HABITAT) - USD 150,000

9. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) - USD 100,000

10. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) - USD 100,000

11. Voluntary Fund for Technical Co-operation - USD 100,000

Mr. President,

This list is not exhaustive. We are processing contribution for: 1, Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery; 2, Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Torture; 3, UN Volunteers; and 4, UNCPCJF - and shall be announcing the commitments soon.

I thank you, Mr. President.