India on track to become \$10 trn economy: WEF prez

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India is on track to become a \$10 trillion economy in coming years and grab the thirdlargest slot soon. World Economic Forum (WEF) President Borge Brende said on Thursday as he described the country as a place with optimism not seen elsewhere in a very fragmented and polarised world.

In an exclusive video interview with *PTI*, Brende also said that the WEF hopes to come back to the country with the WEF India Summit in collaboration with Government of India when the time is ripe.

"The Indian economy is the fastest growing among all large economies of the world. We saw in Davos this year that there was a huge interest in India and I think this will only continue," Brende said.

Geneva-based WEF, which describes itself as an international organisation for public-private cooperation, holds its annual meeting in the Swiss ski resort town Davos every year in January.

Brende said Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is "always very, very welcome to Davos". "When you come to India, you feel some optimism which is not the case all over the world. We are facing a geo-

political recession, a very fragmented and polarised world, but still there are areas where we can collaborate and it is important to find those areas," he said.

Brende said it is necessary to underline that the economic growth is not so bad, especially in the case of India where "we are seeing 7 per cent economic growth and the world's largest economy, the US, which is also doing very well.



WEF president Borge Brende said there is a certain optimism for India