

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA IN NAMIBIA

भारतीय राजदूतावास, विंडहोक, नामीबिया



सत्यमेव जयते

MAY 2019

INDIA ANNOUNCES DROUGHT RELIEF ASSISTANCE FOR NAMIBIA

Government of India has announced provision of One Thousand Metric Tonnes (1,000 MT) of foodgrains to Namibia to assist Namibia in coping with the current national emergency caused by the serious drought.

In a media statement released on Friday, May 31, 2019, High Commissioner of India H.E. Prashant Agrawal said that "in keeping with our close and fraternal ties, the people and the Government of India stand with the people of and the Government of Namibia in solidarity in this hour of need and action".

Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Christine //Hoebes applauded India for its contribution towards the drought relief efforts by the government.

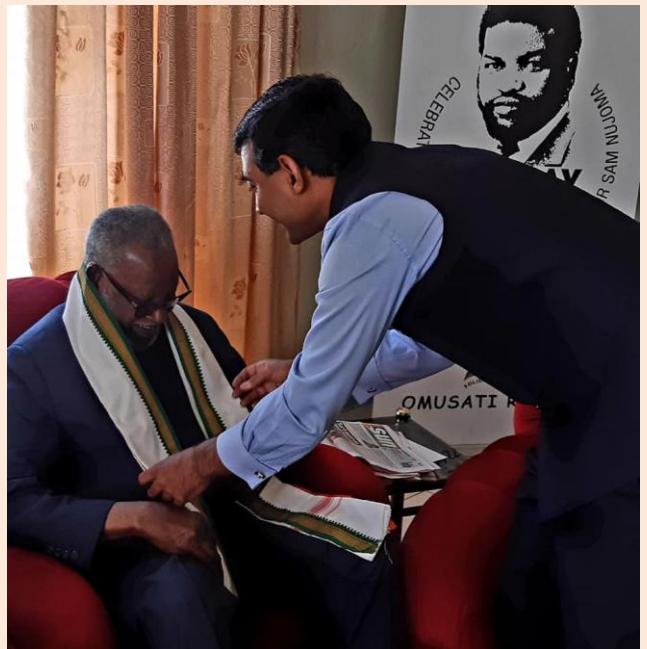


"India has been a friend of Namibia for a long time and this donation is testimony of the excellent bilateral relations between the two countries and their people," she said.

As part of its deep commitment to Africa, India has been among the first responders to natural disasters, swiftly acting to provide relief to affected people and communities, including in the recent cyclone IDAI that affected several southern African countries.

THE FATHER OF NAMIBIAN NATION, TATEKURU NUJOMA, TURNS 90.

High Commissioner Prashant Agrawal paid a courtesy visit to Founding President Hon. Sam Nujoma to convey warm greetings and best wishes from the people and Government of India on this happy occasion.



Tatekuru Nujoma fondly recalled India's support to the Namibian freedom struggle, and his numerous State visits to India, and the respect and support accorded to him as a Freedom Fighter.

With India's support he opened SWAPO's first Embassy in New Delhi in 1986. High Commissioner presented to him the traditional Angavastram in India's national colours, a statue of Gandhiji, and a special souvenir photograph of one of his visits.



They also discussed matters of mutual interest. Shri Vinod Kukreja, an eminent Indian, and Shri Kannan, Att (Pol), were also present.

INDIA AND NAMIBIA TO BOOST TRADE

The latest issue of Invest Namibia Journal features conversation with High Commissioner Prashant Agrawal on how Namibia-India partnership is benefitting people and delivering development.



Speaking to Invest Namibia Journal, H.E. Agrawal said Namibia occupies a very special place in the heart of India and that the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme had produced Namibian alumni who serve in prominent positions in the public and private sectors. Indian firms have also invested in the Namibian energy, agriculture (irrigation) and health sectors.

The High Commissioner said there was immense potential for partnership growth in the agriculture sector, in particular irrigation, mining infrastructure, logistics, railway upgrade, power distribution, as well as in the health sector.

India is a world leader in the provision of affordable health services and pharmaceutical products.



Other notable Economic and Commercial activities between Namibia and India include the establishment of the India- Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (INCCI) in September 2016. This was soon followed by a 15-member Indian delegation from the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) to Namibia. In July 2018, a delegation from the Federation of Indian Granite and Stone Industry (FIGSI) visited Namibia.

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA HOSTED 'HAPPINESS ENGINEERING'

The High Commission of India hosted a participative, activity oriented session - 'Happiness Engineering' program in co ordination with Dr Arun Bharadwaj who is the thought leader on engineering Happiness. The program was held at High Commission of India, Cultural Centre, on May 28, 2019.



Around 120 people attended the event and benefited from his interactive presentation, laughter yoga and meditation.



He also conducted a session on 'Reviving Indian Ancient Wisdom to address the Challenges of the Modern Times'.

INDIA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH AFRICA IS FREE OF CONDITIONALITIES

India asserted that its partnership with Africa is free of conditionalities and totally demand driven. It is based on history of friendship, historical ties, and a sense of deep solidarity, as Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi has underlined; African priorities are India's priorities.



India-Africa trade has multiplied and diversified in the last 15 years. India is ranked as the third largest export destination in Africa. India sources nearly 18% of its crude oil and also its LNG requirement, mostly from the West African region.

India has become the fifth largest investor in Africa with cumulative investments at over USD 54 billion.

Sizeable investments have been made in Oil and Gas, mining, banking, pharma, textiles and other sectors in African countries.



African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA), which is expected to boost intra-African trade by elimination of import duties and non-tariff barriers providing opportunities for expansion of trade ties, will make Africa the largest free trade area in the world.



India is also helping the African countries to bridge the digital divide. During the last 4 years, 6 IT Centres were established in Namibia, South Africa, Egypt, Morocco, Lesotho, Ghana, and Tanzania; a CGARD Technology Centre in Madagascar; 7 Vocational Training Centres in Ethiopia, Rwanda, Burundi, Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Zimbabwe, and Egypt.

During the Third India-Africa Forum Summit, India offered USD 10 billion for development projects over the next five years.

India's cooperation with Africa in the areas of defence and security has only strengthened over the years to reflect new threats and transnational crimes.

UPCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA



Enabling ICT Infrastructure in Africa for Migration to Digital Economy

The fifth in the series – the India Africa ICT Expo 2019 is being organized in Kigali, Rwanda on 5 – 6 August 2019. The event is organized by Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) with support from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Ministry of Communications, Government of India. The event is Co-Hosted by the Ministry of ICT & Innovation and supported by Rwanda Ministry of Trade and Industry Rwanda, Rwanda Development Board (RDB), Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (Rura), Rwanda Information Society Authority (RISA), Rwanda Convention Bureau (RCB), ICT Chamber and the National Industrial Research and Development Agency (NIRDA).



The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is organizing the First Ever "India International Cooperative Trade Fair (IICTF)" during October 11-13, 2019 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. IICTF is expected to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India. The Trade Fair is the first of its kind and is aimed at promoting cooperative to cooperative trade with India and abroad leading to enhanced rural and farm prosperity. The fair will be packed with conferences, exhibitions, B2B meetings, sales promotion, marketing and products display business, networking, policy advocacy among others, providing an immense opportunity to the participants to collaborate and explore business opportunities with the Cooperative Organisations from India and abroad. Apart from having seminars on thematic and sectoral cooperative business issues, the focus sectors of the trade will be, credit and finance services, coop-banking, insurance, cyber-security, technology and capacity building, agri-business and food processing, textiles, packaging, storage, farm machinery, livestock, dairy, fisheries, handlooms, handicrafts, textiles, FMCG, health and hospitality, trade, marketing and brand promotion etc. The Trade Fair offers a huge opportunity for building alliances, business networking, product sourcing and above all, interacting with the primary producers of a wide range of products and service providers. Prospective participants in IICTF pertaining to the agricultural sector, prominent cooperative organizations or institutions in Namibia are encouraged to attend the IICTF.

© Publication from the High Commission of India, Windhoek

