

India-Guinea Bissau Relations

Political Relations:

India and Guinea Bissau, for decades, have maintained warm and friendly relations. Guinea Bissau Government is generally supportive of India. There has been regular co-operation at international fora such as the United Nations and NAM. There is considerable goodwill for India both amongst the Government and the general public of Guinea Bissau. An Honorary Consulate of India in Bissau was inaugurated in May 2010.

Commercial Relations / Bilateral Trade:

Value in Million US\$

Year	India's Exports	India's Imports	Total Trade	Growth in %
2013-2014	19.02	109.68	128.69	-14.82
2014-2015	9.76	158.38	168.14	30.66
2015-2016	14.47	198.17	212.64	26.46
2016-2017	21.66	215.67	237.32	11.61
2017-18 (Apr-May)	2.00	0.10	2.10	

Source: Export Import Database, Department of Commerce, Government of India

Cashew crop accounts for more than 90% of its export earnings. It is important to note that almost the entire cashew crop (around 98%) is exported to India for processing.

ITEC and other training and assistance programmes:

For the academic year 2016-17, 10 slots for training in India under India Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) have been allotted to Guinea Bissau whereas 05 Scholarship slots are provided under ICCR for the year 2017-18.

An expert in the area of rice cultivation visited Guinea Bissau from India in early 2006 to assist the country under India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum's "Poverty Alleviation Funding Facility". An expert Team from India had also visited Guinea- Bissau to assist in a Solar Power project. Guinea Bissau is a founder member of the Team-9 Initiative. Under this framework, GOI has earmarked an LOC of US\$ 25 million for Guinea Bissau i.e. Line of Credit of US\$ 5 million (out of US\$ 25 million) for food processing and agricultural sector and US\$ 20 million for Rural Electrification projects. In February 2009, India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Trust Fund Board, approved around US\$ 830,000 for two projects (combined) for renewable energy and agricultural capacity building in Guinea Bissau. Guinea Bissau does not have a diplomatic mission in India.

India-Africa Forum Summit-III:

Special Envoy of Prime Minister (SEPM) and Minister of State for Mines and Steel, Shri Vishnu deo Sai, visited Guinea-Bissau in September, 2015 to personally invite President Mr. Jose Mari Vaz to participate in India Africa Forum Summit III (IAFS-III). President Vaz accepted the invitation and participated in IAFS-III from 26-29th October 2015 along with his delegation including the Foreign Minister Mr. Artur Antonio da Silva.

3rd International Day of Yoga in Bissau

Embassy of India organized 3rd International Day of Yoga in Bissau on 18th June, 2017, which was inaugurated by Mr. Tomas Gomes Barbosa, Minister of Culture and Sport of Guinea Bissau. Other high dignitaries present included Francisco Malam N'dur Djata, Secretary General, Ministry of Interior; Murtaro Djabo, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Selso Carvalho, Commissar General, Bissau. Over 100 persons including foreign nationals resident in Bissau, sportspersons, schoolchildren and Indian diaspora attended the event. The event received good print and media coverage.

NRI Population

There are about 100 Indians in Guinea Bissau. However, every year during cashew crop season, 40-50 Indians visit Guinea Bissau for a few weeks to negotiate, purchase and ship the consignments of raw cashew to India

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