

## India-Senegal Relations

### Political Relations:

Diplomatic relations between the two countries were established at Ambassadorial level in 1962, with a resident Indian Mission in Dakar. Both countries enjoy warm and friendly bilateral relations sharing common values of democracy, development and secularism. They are both members of the Non-Aligned Movement and G-15. Senegal has appreciated India's cooperation and support for the development of Africa on a number of occasions in the international fora. Partnership with India in the fields of urban transport, agriculture, fisheries, rural electrification, human resource development, information technology, health etc. is particularly well appreciated. Senegal, being the leading Francophone country in West Africa, played a significant role in the creation of TEAM-9 and is also a prominent beneficiary under the programme.

### Commercial Relations / Bilateral Trade:

SENEGAL	Value in US \$ Million			
	India's Exports	India's Imports	Total Trade	Growth in %
2013-2014	426.48	153.60	580.08	18.23
2014-2015	518.72	208.13	726.85	25.30
2015-2016	545.84	263.95	809.78	11.40
2016-2017	637.75	315.91	953.66	17.71
2017-18 (Apr-May)	100.13	44.36	144.49	

*Source: Export Import Database, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India*

Major items of export from India to Senegal include textiles, food items, automobiles and pharmaceuticals. Major items of import from Senegal are phosphates and iron scrap.

### Events and Visits:

Special Envoy of Prime Minister (SEPM) and Minister of State for Agriculture, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan visited Senegal from 8-11 July 2015 to personally invite President Macky Sall to participate in India Africa Forum Summit III (IAFS-III). President Sall accepted the invitation and participated in IAFS-III from 26-29<sup>th</sup> October 2015 along with his delegation including the Foreign Minister. Senegal organized a Road Show to showcase the investment opportunities in Senegal in the run up to the Summit. President Sall again visited India in May 2017 to participate in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of African Development Bank in Gandhinagar.

Mr. Thiero Alassane Sall, Minister of Energy and Renewable Energy Development participated at the 4th India Africa Hydrocarbon Conference in Delhi from 21-22 January 2016. Mr. Fadel Kane, Advisor in the Senegalese Ministry of Health and Social Action attended the 11th CII Eximbank Conclave on India Africa Project Partnership from 14-15, March 2016. Minister of Health and Social Welfare Mr. Omar Sey accompanied by Mr. Ebrima Bah visited India for India-Africa Health Sciences Meet from September 01-03, 2016. Mayor of Almadies Mr. Amadou Gueye went to India in November 2016 to participate in PDEXIL fair. Mrs. Aissatou Sy, Director of Hospital Dantec, Dakar participated in Advantage Healthcare India 2016 held from October 03- 05, 2016.

On 17th March 2016, Embassy of India in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Dakar (CCIAD) organized business event titled 'Business Opportunities between India and Senegal'. Ambassador of India, Mr. Rajeev Kumar delivered a talk on 'Internationalism and Doing Business in Africa' at Senegal's Business School- L'Institut Africain de Management (IAM) on May 17, 2016. Between October 2016 and July 2017, Embassy of India organized four business events with a focus on food and energy sector, ICT sector, Pharmaceutical sector and general business respectively to promote the commercial and business relations between the two countries. India has donated Euro 50000/- to Senegal in December, 2016 for the Dakar International Forum for Peace and Security in Africa. In March 2017, Embassy of India, Dakar donated Euros 50,000/- to Senegalese Ministry of Health to rehabilitate 200 handicapped persons by fitting prosthetic limbs provided by Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) and funded by the Ministry.

### **Support on India's candidature in International bodies and issues of relevance to India**

During the last one year, Senegal has been consistently supporting India's candidature to International organizations including for ITLOS. Senegal has signed the ISA Framework Agreement and was one of the 24 members which signed the Declaration of Yoga as a "Human Treasure" at the 11th Session of Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage held in Addis Ababa.

### **Bharatsen – The Sun from India**

To recognize the significant contributions made by an individual Indian/Association/Indian company based in Senegal in strengthening India-Senegal bilateral relations by promoting - Health and Education; Indian business opportunities; India's interests and culture in Senegal and welfare of Indians and Senegalese, the Embassy instituted "Bharatsen- The Sun from India", an annual recognition certificate. The first-ever Bharatsen-2016 was presented during the republic day reception on January 26, 2017.

### **Tiranga-The Festival of India and Mahatma Gandhi exhibition in Senegal**

Embassy of India, Dakar organized the first ever Festival of India in Senegal- "Tiranga" in collaboration with Festival of India cell, Ministry of Culture, India from January 27 to February 18, 2017 to showcase Indian music and dance. A total of 05 well known Indian dance troupes visited Dakar as a part of the Festival.

To promote awareness about the principle and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, an exhibition was inaugurated on January 30, 2017 in the famous Renaissance Monument. The exhibition is ongoing and has been attracting large number of children, students, Senegalese people and tourists.

### **3rd International Day of Yoga:**

Embassy of India on 18 June 2017, organized a grand event in Dakar to celebrate 3<sup>rd</sup> IDY. The event was attended by about 1000 people including members of Indian diaspora, dignitaries and local Government officials, celebrities, diplomats and local people.

### **Investments:**

The largest investment from India in Senegal is in Industries Chimique du Senegal (ICS). ICS is the flagship company in Senegal which is in the business of manufacturing phosphoric acid from the rock phosphate available in plenty in Senegal. Many other companies including Tata Group (Tata Motors, Tata Unitech and Tata Africa-Senegal), Ashok Leyland, Kirloskar Bros, Expotech, CSL Ltd, NIIT, Ranbaxy, Ajanta Pharma, Coppice Technologies Ltd., Lucky Group, Inma International, Mohan Energy etc. are active in Senegal and the region. In February 2015, Indian Company Jindal Steel and Power entered into a contract with Senegalese company Senelec for purchase of electricity from 350 MW plant in Kayar. According to World Bank's Doing Business in 2015 report, Senegal was one of the top ten improving countries, which means greater investment opportunities for Indian companies.

### **ITEC and other training and assistance programmes:**

For the academic year 2016-2017, 30 slots have been allotted for Senegal under ITEC programme whereas 10 Scholarship slots have been offered to Senegal under ICCR Scholarship Scheme for the academic year 2017-18. Four Senegalese Scientists have won and availed the CV Raman International Fellowship for African Researches in the Year 2013-14. This Mission celebrated the ITEC Day on November 5, 2016.

The Hub Earth Station of the Pan-African e-Network Project is located in Sebikotane village of Senegal. The project, inaugurated in February 2009 is now operational in 47 countries of Africa. Recently, it has been decided to re-structure the project by making it internet-based. India's Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) scheme is applicable for import of select commodities from Senegal. An Entrepreneurial Training & Development Centre (ETDC) was setup under G-15 Cooperation Programme (inaugurated in 2002). India has extended concessional Lines of Credit (LoC) to Senegal for (i) development of rural SMEs and purchase of agricultural machinery and equipment from India, (ii) supply of buses and spares by Tata International (Tata Motors) and Ashoka Leyland, (iii) irrigation project; (iv) Women Poverty Alleviation Programme and acquisition of 400 vehicles from India, (v) IT Sector, hardware and logistics movement, (vi) rural electrification, (vii) fishing industry development project, (viii) acquiring railway coaches and locomotives from India, (ix) supply of medical equipment etc. to four hospitals in Senegal and (x) establishment of a slaughter house, with modern facilities, a tannery and livestock market. In August 2014, India granted an LOC of US \$ 62.95 million to Senegal for Rice-Sufficiency Programme and in April 2015, US \$ 26 million for acquisition of buses. In January 2015, a unit of cardiology financed by Indian LoC in Dantec Hospital, Dakar was inaugurated. Total lines of credit value exceeds US \$ 300 million. In April 2016, a team from HMT (I) visited Dakar to develop a study on upgradation, modernization and expansion of ETDC. In July 2016, EXIM Bank extended credit of US\$ 200 million under the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) to Senegal for transmission line linking Tambacounda-Kolda-Ziguinchor and extension and rehabilitation of networks in Senegal. In August 2017, Govt. of India approved an LOC of US\$ 24.5 million for up-gradation and rehabilitation of healthcare of Senegal.

### **NRI Population:**

The Indian community numbers around 380 (three hundred and eighty). Most of them are working for Indian companies including those executing development projects under Lines of Credit extended by India. Some of them are running their own businesses.

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