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CELEBRATION OF INDIA'S 72nd INDEPENDENCE DAY ON 15 AUGUST 2018



AMBASSADOR S. D. MOORTHY PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO H.E. SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT



AMBASSADOR'S PAGE

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S. D. Moorthy
Ambassador of India to
South Sudan

**FOREWORD**

It is my pleasure to present to you this latest edition of the Indian Embassy's Newsletter, covering the events of the third quarter of 2018.

This has been published at the time when South Sudan had successfully negotiated peace with opposition groups to end hostilities in the country. It is hoped that this would bring a great relief to the affected citizens of the country. The Government of India warmly welcomed the Revitalized Peace Agreement signed in Khartoum by the South Sudan government with Opposition parties.

In the month of June, the Embassy had organised the International Yoga Day in its premises and an unexpected number of Yoga enthusiasts consisting of Hon. Minister of Culture, officials, citizens, diplomatic, Indian and UN community participated in larger numbers. The event was organised in cooperation with the Indian Peace Keeping Contingent of UNMISS and the Yoga Day celebrations got wide local media coverage.

In month of July, the mission organised a live screening of Prime Minister Modi's keynote address at the Ugandan Parliament. In his address, PM highlighted ten important points of India's focus for the African countries in the years to come. The event was attended by South Sudan academics, government officials, Indian community members and print and electronic media.

In this academic year, the Mission was able to send all students as per allotted slots for higher studies in India under ICCR Scholarship programme. The Mission had sent around 50 South Sudan officials to undergo capacity building trainings in India under ITEC out of the 200 slots allotted for the year 2018, in the streams ranging from Computer skill development, digital security, wind energy management, Solar power production, women empowerment and journalism. Prof. John Apuruot Akec, Vice Chancellor of University of Juba had visited India under Academic Visitor's Programme of ICCR. On his return, he shared his experience with local dignitaries, media and Indian community.

The Mission had celebrated 72nd Independence Day in the Chancery. The national event was coordinated by our brave contingent of Indian Peace Keeping Force with UNMISS. This year we had seen a large number of Indians attending the celebrations than in the past years. The officials from UNMISS, UNPOL, local government representatives, Indian community and media had made us proud by their presence in the event. The highlight of the event was the recital of Gandhiji's favourite hymn "Vaishnav Jan to Tene Kahiye" by a group of South Sudan's young students in their colourful costume in front of the audience. After the event, the Blood Donation camp organised by the Indian community was adjudged as the best humanitarian gesture by Indians in Juba.

The Embassy is glad that the IASS had regularly organised sports events which encourage sports enthusiasts to take an active part in the community programmes and get together.

We have tried to cover all the developments and events held during the quarter and I hope you would find it informative. With Best Wishes to all.

(S. D. Moorthy)

Hon. Prime Minister of India H.E. Narendra Modi addressed the Parliament of Uganda on 25 July 2018

Hon. Prime Minister of India H.E. Narendra Modi addressed the Parliament of Uganda on 25 July 2018 during his state visit to Uganda. The Hon. Prime Minister highlighted Government of India's overall African policy for the development of the African continent. Prime Minister highlighted that India's engagement with Africa will continue to be guided by 10 principles, which is as follows:-

One, Africa will be at the top of our priorities. We will continue to intensify and deepen our engagement with Africa. As we have shown, it will be sustained and regular.

Two, our development partnership will be guided by your priorities. It will be on terms that will be comfortable for you, that will liberate your potential and not constrain your future. We will rely on African talent and skills. We will build as much local capacity and create as many local opportunities as possible.

Three, we will keep our markets open and make it easier and more attractive to trade with India. We will support our industry to invest in Africa.

Four, we will harness India's experience with digital revolution to support Africa's development; improve delivery of public services; extend education and health; spread digital literacy; expand financial inclusion; and mainstream the marginalised.

This will not just be our partnership to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals, but also to equip the youth of Africa for their place in the digital age.

Five, Africa has 60 per cent of the world's arable land, but produces just 10 per cent of the global output. We will work with you to improve Africa's agriculture.

Six, our partnership will address the challenges of climate change. We will work with Africa to ensure a just international climate order; to preserve our biodiversity; and, adopt clean and efficient energy sources.

Seven, we will strengthen our cooperation and mutual capabilities in combating terrorism and extremism; keeping our cyberspace safe and secure; and, supporting the UN in advancing and keeping peace;.

Eight, we will work with African nations to keep the oceans open and free for the benefit of all nations. The world needs cooperation and not competition in the eastern shores of Africa and the eastern Indian Ocean. That is why India's vision of Indian Ocean Security is cooperative and inclusive, rooted in security and growth for all in the region.

Nine, and, this is especially important to me: as global engagement in Africa increases, we must all work together to ensure that Africa does not once again turn into a theatre of rival ambitions, but becomes a nursery for the aspirations of Africa's youth.

Ten, Just as India and Africa fought colonial rule together, we will work together for a just, representative and democratic global order that has a voice and a role for one-third of humanity that lives in Africa and India. India's own quest for reforms in the global institutions is incomplete without an equal place for Africa. That will be a key purpose of our foreign policy.

4TH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA CELEBRATED IN JUBA

The 4th International Day of Yoga (IDY 2018) was celebrated in Juba on Sunday (24 June 2018) at the Embassy premises. More than 250 Yoga enthusiasts including South Sudanese nationals, local Indian Community, senior government dignitaries, Diplomats, expatriates working in UN agencies/NGOs participated in the early morning event, from 0830 hrs.

The Minister for Culture, Youth and Sports, H.E. Dr. NADIA AROP DUDI was accompanied by the Director General, Ambassador (Ms.) SITONA ABDALLA OSMAN of the newly constituted 'Asia and Oceania Desk' Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Affairs and Mr. Lomayat, Liaison Officer in President's Office, were the guests of honour at the Yoga event.

A team of the Indian Military Contingent of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) presented and demonstrated the various Yoga postures and Yogasanas before the enthusiastic participants. The yoga session was accompanied by detailed explanation of the yogasanas and was very well received by the participants. The IDY celebrations concluded with Shanti Mantras (Sanskrit Shlokas) with explanation in English language.

Minister Dudi, in her address to the gathering, noted the potential of yoga in contributing towards bringing peace, harmony and stability in South Sudan and urged that Yoga practice should be spread around the country and its message taken to those who were unable to attend the event that day.



4TH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA CELEBRATED IN JUBA



CELEBRATION OF INDIA'S 72ND INDEPENDENCE DAY ON 15 AUGUST 2018

The 72nd Independence Day of India was celebrated on August 15, 2018 with great enthusiasm and fervor in Juba, South Sudan. The Mission held the Flag hoisting ceremony at the 'Chancery cum residences' premises. Ambassador S.D. Moorthy hoisted the National Flag, after which the President's address to the nation was read out - both in Hindi and English. Besides Embassy officials, the ceremony was attended by more than 300 Indian nationals living in Juba. They included Indian businessmen, entrepreneurs, workers, officers and 'jawans' of the Indian Military Peacekeeping contingent and the Indian Police contingent attached to the United Nations Mission for South Sudan (UNMISS) as also the Indian civilians working in UN agencies and NGOs.

A team of uniformed soldiers of the Indian military contingent on deputation to UNMISS, presented guard of honour and saluted the National Flag, followed by the community singing of the National Anthem.

In his welcome remarks to the gathering, Ambassador expressed appreciation for the vital contribution of the Indian community in furthering 'people to people' relations and in enhancing India's image and bilateral relations with South Sudan.

He also highlighted the exemplary role played by the personnel of the Indian Military contingent in UNMISS (as peacekeepers) and the Indian police officers of UNPOL in South Sudan.

Medal Presentation: Two Indian Police Officer of UNPOL officers were decorated with 'UN Medal' awarded to them by UN, for their meritorious service with the UNMISS, South Sudan. The medals were presented by Ambassador during the ceremony.

DMI kids performed a 'bhajan' singing: A small group of young South Sudanese students from the Daughters of Mary Immaculate Conception in Juba, recited the favourite 'bhajan' of Mahatma Gandhi - Vaishnav Jana to tene.., drawing great appreciation from the gathering.



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2ND BLOOD DONATION CAMP IN JUBA – 2018

To mark the 72nd Independence Day of India, 'Blood Donation Camp' was organized by the Embassy in association with the Indian Association of South Sudan (IASS) on 15, 18 and 19 August 2018. Ambassador, accompanied by officers and other India based officials as well as the office bearers of the IASS and other prominent members of the Indian community donated blood at the blood bank administered by the South Sudanese National Blood Transfusion Service under the Ministry of Health, Government of the Republic of South Sudan.

More than 100 Indian nationals have donated blood. Local dignitaries commended this life saving gesture of the Embassy and expatriates. India is second only to Uganda in donating blood in South Sudan. The Embassy of India congratulates the Indian Association and the Indian community for their exceptional work in this noble endeavor.



VICE CHANCELLOR OF JUBA UNIVERSITY VISITED INDIA FROM 17-25 AUGUST

Prof. John Apuruot Akec, Vice Chancellor of Juba University visited India from 17-25 August, under the Academic Visitor Programme of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations(ICCR).

Prof. Akec visited a number of places and having fruitful exchanges during interactions with government agencies, quangos, universities, research institutions and think-tanks. He also explored the impressive architecture of the historic monuments like Qutub Minar, Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Fatehpur Sikri and Gateway of India.

On his return from India, Prof. Akec briefed a small group of invited Indian community members and the media. The Head of Asia and Oceania desk in Foreign Office, Director Amb. Ruben M. Benjamin was also present.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Akec asserted that he was fully convinced that India could be a 'role model' for South Sudan. He expressed confidence that teachers/instructors from India could really build capacity in the young country that would work to promote 'unity' among all people. He pointedly highlighted need for institutes for democratic studies, responsive leadership.

Prof. Akec said that, in fact, he was convinced that India can play a great role in building a strong 'capacity base' for South Sudan.



INDIAN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Indian Association in South Sudan (IASS) organized Cricket (Juba Premier League), Volleyball and Badminton (Doubles) tournaments in Juba, South Sudan. Among the Indian community groups, a total of nine teams participated in Cricket league while in Badminton tournament, which was held on 23 September 2018, twenty four teams participated.

Ambassador Subramanian Dakshina Moorthy handed over the trophies to the respective sport winners on 01 September 2018. The certificates for blood donation were also distributed to each person who donated blood on 15, 18 and 19 August 2018. Ambassador Moorthy commended the efforts of IASS for organizing such sports activities.



ACTIVITIES OF INDIAN PEACEKEEPING BATTALION IN SOUTH SUDAN

A senior level delegation from Ministry of Defence Led by Maj. Gen Tejbir Singh, AVSM, SM, ADG SD and consisting of Mr. Anugraha Narayan Das, Addl. FA and Joint Secretary and Lt. Col. Rakesh Verma, GSO-I, SD-3A (UN) visited South Sudan to inspect the Indian Peacekeeping Contingent deployed in UNMISS from 10-12 September 2018.

After the inspection of the troops stationed at Malakal, Wau and Bor states, they called on the Ambassador on 12 September 2018 in the Chancery along with the National Senior Col. G Praveen.

The Indian contingent is providing excellent community services to the locals by means of organising medical camps, veterinary camps and capacity building training to the locals.

Indian peacekeeping contingent in South Sudan has earned a good reputation and image among the Government and general public of South Sudan. The veterinary camps organised by our peacekeepers was widely appreciated by the Ministers and Government officials.



ACTIVITIES OF INDIAN PEACEKEEPING BATTALION IN SOUTH SUDAN

Indian peacekeeping troops based in Juba organised a peace run in the city as a prelude to Independence Day celebrations on 15 August 2018. Many foreign nationals and diplomatic community took part in the event.



Indian Battalion located in Malakal (South Sudan) in coordination with Civil Affairs Division (UNMISS) conducted the skill development training on 'Vegetable Farming' for women and youth of POC site and Malakal town on 17 Aug 2018. The ultimate goal of this project for livelihood was creating leverage to empower women and enhance their ability to play active role to build socially cohesive society and play active role in peacebuilding.

The reference booklets on "Vegetable Farming" and "Composting/Vermicomposting" prepared by team of Indian peacekeepers were distributed to the agriculture ministry as ready reckoner. Indian peacekeepers also donated fabricated ox-plough to the ministry for their use.



ISRO LAUNCHES 2 FOREIGN SATELLITES

The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C42) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) today (16 Sept 2018, Sunday) successfully launched two satellites -- NovaSAR and S1-4 -- from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota.

The PSLV-C42 lifted off from the First Launch Pad of SHAR at 10.08 pm (IST). Both satellites were injected into the Sun Synchronous Orbit, about 17 minutes later, at an altitude of 583 km.

The satellites belong to UK-based Surrey Satellite Technology Limited (SSTL), which has a contract with Antrix Corporation Ltd, the commercial arm of ISRO.

This was the 44th flight of PSLV and the 12th flight of the Core Alone version of the vehicle. Core Alone is its lightest version without the six strap-on motors. It is used for launching smaller payloads.

ISRO Chairman Dr K Sivan congratulated the team soon after the successful mission. Thousands of skilled personnel from ISRO and industries, including many youngsters, played a crucial role in this mission. The Project Director of PSLV is R Hutton, who was also the Mission Director.

"The PSLV-C42 marks the latest technology and commercial collaboration between India and the UK with the launch of the combination of high resolution optical and radar (SAR) satellites from us," says Sir Martin Sweeting, Group Executive Chairman, SSTL.

As on date, ISRO has launched 239 foreign satellites of 28 countries.



INDIAN ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND CORPORATE NEWS



Snapshot of Indian Economy	
GDP Growthrate	World Bank has projected economic growth to accelerate to 7.3% in 2018-19 and 7.5% in 2019-20
Gross Value Added (GVA) Composition by Sector(2016-17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services: 53.7 percent • Industry: 31.2 percent • Agriculture: 15.2 percent
Forex Reserves	Forex reserves US\$ 401,790 as on Sep 21, 2018
Value of Exports	India's global export stood at US\$USD 27.84 billion in August 2018
Major Export Partners	US, Germany, UAE, China, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia and European Union. India is also tapping newer markets in Africa and Latin America.
Cumulative FDI Equity Inflows:	FDI investments in India April-June 2018 stood at US\$ 12.75 billion
Top Investing Countries FDI Inflows	Singapore (US\$ 6.52 billion), followed by Mauritius (US\$ 1.49 billion), Japan (US\$ 0.87 billion), Netherlands (US\$ 0.84 billion), and United Kingdom (US\$ 0.65 billion).



15TH PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS 2019

The 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 Convention will be held in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), India from 21-23 January 2019.

This time participants are being offered option to take part in Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj on 24 January and witnessing the Republic Day Parade at New Delhi on 26 January. Varanasi as a place has some attraction points e.g. "Ganga Aarti" on the banks of River Ganges, Kashi Vishwanath Temple and Visit to Sarnath.

Registration for participation in PBD 2019 Convention is mandatory for all participants, including official delegates, invited guests, government officials, artists and performers and journalists. Registration will be only through an online process. The last date for registration is 15 November 2018. For more information please see <https://www.pbdindia.gov.in/en/information#>

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
 Ministry of External Affairs
 Government of India

VELANKANNI CHURCH, NAGAPATTINAM, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

