

Embassy of India Newsletter

Quarterly publication of the Embassy of India, Juba, South Sudan



सत्यमेव जयते



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March, 2016

India celebrates Republic Day 2016



Illuminated Rashtrapati Bhawan and Raisina Hill at Rajpath in New Delhi at the "Beating the Retreat" ceremony on 29 January - signaling the culmination of the 2016 Republic Day celebrations.



4th
INDIA AFRICA
HYDROCARBONS CONFERENCE
TOGETHER TOWARDS TOMORROW



ITEC

IIEC

The Indian
Technical and
Economic
Cooperation

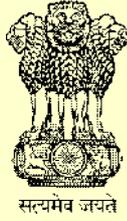
Cooperation



Pravasi
Bharatiya Diwas

Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas

Ambassador's page



**Ambassador of India
to the Republic of South Sudan,
Juba**

**FOREWORD**

This is the second edition of the Embassy of India Newsletter from the city of Juba. The first inaugural edition, launched in December 2015, was very well received. Based on the very encouraging, constructive and positive feedback, we have attempted to incorporate some new features in this latest edition.

For all Indians in South Sudan, January 26 this year was a day to remember and celebrate our Republic Day with pride. A Flag hoisting event was held in the Embassy premises in the morning, where Indian Community members and the Indian Military and Police contingent participated in big numbers. This was followed by an equally impressive ceremony at the UN compound where the UNMISS Indian Battalion honored the national flag. Later in the evening, India's National Senior in UNMISS hosted a reception which was graced by guest of honour - Ms. Ellen Loj, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General (SRSG) and several senior dignitaries, officers and personnel from UNMISS. The Embassy also brought out a Special Republic Day newspaper supplement.

We organised the ITEC Day event in December- aiming to reach out to our South Sudanese friends who have availed Indian Government grants and scholarship opportunities to undergo training in various institutions in India. The valuable exposure and experience gained in India has helped these young individuals to upgrade their professional skills and expertise and put them into practice in their work environment at home here.

As part of Embassy's efforts to forge a closer working partnership with the Indian Community, we organized an Open House in the Embassy on 30 December. This proved to be quite a productive interaction and a good template to work together for the future. With the Indian Community's support, we also organized, for the first time here, the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on 9 January - which was an opportunity to recognize the contributions and achievements of Indian community members in their country of adoption.

This edition of the quarterly newsletter contains highlights of the recently concluded India-Africa Hydrocarbon Conference (IAHC) held in New Delhi from 21-22 January 2016, which was attended by a delegation from South Sudan led by Minister of Petroleum – H.E Mr. Stephen Dhieu Dau. Latest news of developments in India's economic sector and other events like India's Republic Day celebrations in New Delhi and Juba and a special feature on the activities of the Indian Contingent of the UNMISS are also covered.

Hope you would enjoy reading this!

With best wishes,

Sd/-
(Srikumar Menon)

THE BLUE BERETS & HELMETS
INDIAN PEACEKEEPERS IN UNMISS - SOUTH SUDAN
Glimpses from INDBAT activities : Past and Present

Way back in 1950, as a young Republic, India contributed troops to the UN. Over the years, Indian participation in peacekeeping efforts has grown manifold. Today, India is the third largest contributor of the Military and Police component in Peace keeping operations. It has had a proud history and an impeccable track record and continues to be fully committed to assist the UN in maintenance of international peace and security.

The Indian Contingent is among the largest in the Mission in South Sudan. Current UNMISS IndBat officers and their predecessors, deployed in various trouble spots, have served the Mission with distinction. Even during worst of the crisis in 2013, under extremely difficult conditions, our Officers and Jawans carried out their professional obligations & duties with great courage and fortitude - bravely facing upto every challenge that came up. We are proud of them and commend them for their spirit & resilience. They have acted in the best traditions of the Indian Armed Forces.

Our brave service personnel as well as the diligent & committed Indian civilian members of UNMISS would continue to be a significant part of the UN Peacekeeping effort here in South Sudan, as they endeavor to fulfill the onerous responsibility to contribute to the development of this young nation. We salute them for their zeal and enthusiasm and wish them all success in their efforts.



Dec 2013: South Sudan Foreign Minister Dr. Barnaba lays flowers on coffins of Indian peacekeepers killed in action.



Dec 2013: UNMISS troops from India patrol the UNMISS compound in Juba



Dec 2014: IndBat Commander donates textbooks/ sports material to Vice-Chancellor of Dr. John Garang University



July 2013: IndBat personnel hold free medical clinic in Pibor, Jonglei State



July 2013: Medical Camp in Juba organised by IndBat (Malakal Indian Field Hospital), Indian Association & Indian Embassy



July 2013: Medical Camp in Juba - Malakal Indian Field Hospital, Indian Association & Indian Embassy



Jan 2016: IndBat personnel at UN Compound Republic Day celebration



Jan 2016: National Senior Brig Gen. Bimal Rattanpal speaking during Flag hoisting event at UN Compound on Republic Day



Jan 2016: Ambassador interacting with India's National Senior and IndBat personnel at UN Compound on Republic Day

67TH REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS IN NEW DELHI ON JANUARY 26, 2016

Flag hoisting Ceremony by Hon'ble President of India- Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, followed by Republic Day Parade

Flag hoisting ceremonies and Parades by Armed Forces and School Children were held in different parts of India to celebrate the 67th Republic Day.

The grandest and most prestigious of these parades was held at **Rajpath** in New Delhi - showcasing a multi-hued image of the country's military prowess and rich cultural heritage. Parade was presided over by the President of India. Before that tributes were paid to Martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the country, with PM Modi laying a wreath at the Amar Jawan Jyoti at India Gate.

Parade started with a 21-gun salute, unfurling of the National Flag and singing of the National Anthem. Gallantry awards - *Paramvir Chakra*, *Ashok Chakra* & *Vir Chakra* were presented to winners. French President Francois Hollande was the Chief Guest at the Parade.

Marching columns of Service personnel saluted the President, followed by mechanized columns of military arsenal like Tanks, Missiles and Aircrafts. School children sang patriotic songs, as they smartly marched past the President. Decorated Tableaux were displayed while cultural troupes performed folk dances. The parade ended with a Fly-past of Indian Air Force fighter aircrafts.



PM Modi at Amar Jawan Jyoti



PM Modi accompanies President Mukherjee and Chief Guest President Hollande of France



PM Modi greets President Hollande of France



Air Force marching contingent



The Corps of Signals marching contingent



The RPF marching contingents



Grand finale – the Fly Past



Daredevil stunts of Motorbike riders



Tableaux pass through Rajpath

"Beating the Retreat" Ceremony at Vijay Chowk New Delhi on January 29, 2016



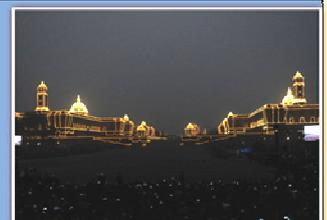
Ceremonial arrival of President Pranab Mukherjee



President being received by Prime Minister



Services Band performing



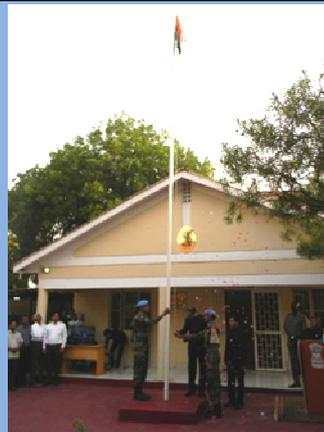
Illuminated Rashtrapati Bhavan, South & North Block

INDIA'S REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATED IN JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

A Flag hoisting event was held in the Embassy on the morning of January 26, 2016 with enthusiastic participation of Indian Community members and personnel from UNMISS Indian Military and Police contingent.

Ambassador unfurled the National Flag, followed by group singing of the National Anthem. Hon'ble President's address to the Nation was read out by Ambassador in English and Hindi.

Later, the UNMISS Indian Battalion organized a Flag hoisting ceremony at UN Compound in Juba. India's National Senior Brigadier Bimalkant Rattanpal hosted a reception in the evening, which was attended by SRSG Ellen Loj; Indian Ambassador; Force Commander of UNMISS - Lt-Gen Tesfamariam (of Ethiopia) and other Senior UNMISS personnel.



Reception hosted by India's National Senior in UNMISS on January 26, 2016



IAHC : 4th India-Africa Hydrocarbon Conference (21-22 January 2016)

The 4th India Africa Hydrocarbon Conference (IAHC) was held in New Delhi from 21-22 January 2016, seeking greater cooperation between India and African continent in the field of Hydrocarbons. Given that India imports close to 75 percent of its crude oil requirements, there are opportunities at various levels for several African countries, rich in hydrocarbons and other natural resources, to be *"partners in growth"* with India.

South Sudanese delegation led by Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Mining H.E Mr. Stephen Dhieu Dau, attended the IAHC. The delegation included Mr. Machar Achiek Ader Nyang, Managing Director of NILEPET; Eng. Awow Daniel Chuang, Director General for Petroleum and Mr. Akoy Machok, Manager, Minister's Office. He had a bilateral meeting with Hon'ble Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas - Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan on sidelines of the Conference. Minister Stephen Dhieu also attended a business interaction between the South Sudanese Delegation and India's ONGC/OVL team on 22nd January 2016, where both sides discussed current status of OVL's operations in South Sudan and explored scope for future business collaborations.



Inauguration: Lighting the lamp



Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Mrs. Sushma Swaraj



Hon'ble MOS for Petroleum & Natural Gas Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan



Opening session 21 Jan 2016



Hon'ble EAM & MOS



Closing session 22 Jan 2016



Hon. Minister Stephen Dhieu with delegation at the IAHC



Hon. Minister Stephen Dhieu addressing the conference



Presentation on South Sudan Oil sector by Hon. Minister Stephen Dhieu



The IAHC event in New Delhi provided a good opportunity for the delegations from South Sudan and Sudan (led by Minister Stephen Dhieu and Minister Mohd Zayed Awad) as well ONGC/OVL teams to interact & discuss bilateral petroleum related issues.



Minister Pradhan with Indian Ambassadors from Sudan, South Sudan and Angola



South Sudan delegate Eng Awow Daniel Chuang being felicitated



Cultural evening at IAHC - Fusion of Folk Dances showcasing India's diversity and multi-cultural & ethnic heritage.



RECENT ENGAGEMENTS OF PRESIDENT PRANAB MUKHERJEE



President at the opening of Mughal Garden at Rashtrapati Bhavan- February 11



At Conference of Governors on February 10



Guard of Honour: International Fleet Review-2016 at Visakhapatnam on February 6



With Chief Guest Francois Hollande, French President, at Republic Day Parade Jan 26.



Addressing the Nation Radio & TV on eve of Republic Day on January 25, 2016.



Taking Salute from President's Body Guard before 'Beating Retreat' ceremony on Jan 29

RECENT OFFICIAL VISITS ABROAD OF PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI

AFGHANISTAN VISIT



PM received by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani in Kabul on 24 Dec. PM inaugurated the new Afghan Parliament built by India in Kabul.

PAKISTAN VISIT



PM Modi made a surprise stopover in Lahore Pakistan on 25 December to meet his counterpart, Nawaz Sharif.

RUSSIA VISIT



PM visited Russia from 23-24 December 2015. His talks with President Putin focused on defence and nuclear energy co-operation

MALAYSIA VISIT



PM visited KL from 20-22 Nov 2015. Besides talks with PM Najib Raz he also attended ASEAN-India and East Asia Summit.

SINGAPORE VISIT



PM visited Singapore on November 23, 2015 and held bilateral discussions with his counterpart Lee Hsien Loong.

UNITED KINGDOM VISIT



PM met Queen Elizabeth during his visit to UK in Nov 2015 and had talks with PM Cameron. He also addressed the British Parliament.

INDIA-EAST ASIA SUMMIT IN KUALA LUMPUR



PM met Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on 21 Nov during a bilateral meeting on sidelines of the Summit

INDIAN ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND CORPORATE NEWS



Snapshot of the Indian Economy	
GDP Composition by Sector	Services: 65% ; Industry: 18% Agriculture: 17%
Forex Reserves	US\$ 352,474 million
Value of Exports	Exports US \$ 22054.72 million
Export Partners	US, Germany, UAE, China, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia and European Union. India is also tapping newer markets <u>in Africa</u> and Latin America
Exchange Rates	1 USD = 67 INR
Cumulative FDI inflows	US\$ 41,223 million
Major Sectors Attracting Highest FDI Equity Inflows:	Services, Construction, Telecom, Computer Software & Hardware, Drugs & Pharma, Automobile



India : Fastest-growing Economy: India is set to emerge as the world's fastest-growing major economy ahead of China, as per the recent report by The World Bank. India's GDP is expected to grow at 7.5 per cent in FY 2015-16. The improvement in India's economic fundamentals has accelerated in the year 2015 with the combined impact of strong government reforms, RBI's inflation focus, supported by benign global commodity prices.

- **India ranks seventh globally** according to IMF World Economic Outlook April 2015, in terms of GDP at current prices and is expected to grow at 7.5 per cent in 2016.
- **India's economy has witnessed a significant economic growth** in the recent past, growing by 7.3 per cent in FY2015 as against 6.9 per cent in FY2014. The size of the Indian economy is estimated to be at US\$ 2.01 trillion for the year 2014 compared to US\$ 1.84 trillion in 2013.
- **India's foreign exchange reserves were US\$ 352.5 billion** in the week up to December 11, 2015.
- **Numerous foreign companies setting up facilities in India** on account of various government initiatives like **Make in India** and **Digital India**. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 'Make in India' initiative to boost the manufacturing sector by increasing purchasing power of an average Indian consumer, which would further boost demand and hence spur development. Government has also come up with 'Digital India' initiative, which focuses on three core components: creation of digital infrastructure, delivering services digitally and enhancing digital literacy. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley is looking at a number of reforms to attract investments.
- **Smart Cities Initiative:** Government of India has launched an initiative to create **100 smart cities** as well as Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) for 500 cities with an outlay of US\$ 7.47 billion and US\$ 7.78 billion respectively. Smart cities are satellite towns of larger cities which will consist of modern infrastructure and will be digitally connected. The program was formally launched on June 25, 2015. Initiatives like Make in India and Digital India will play a vital role in the driving the Indian economy.

Proposed Global Investments in India

- **British telecom giant Vodafone**, India's second largest telecom operator, plans to invest US\$ 1.96 billion in India, to upgrade and expand its network and also for its payments bank operations.
- **Chinese smartphone handset maker Vivo**, sets up assembly unit in India at Greater Noida - to initially manufacture 150,000 smartphone units a month and to produce three smartphone models (Y11, Y21 & Y15).
- **Taiwan's Foxconn Technology group**, planning to manufacture Apple iPhones in India.
- **US-based First Solar Inc and China's Trina Solar** plan to set up manufacturing facilities in India.
- **General Motors** to invest US\$1 billion in India by 2020 to increase capacity at Talegaon plant by 2025.
- **Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) & Hindustan Shipyard Ltd** have joined hands to build warships in India.
- **Samsung Heavy Industries and Kochi Shipyard** will be making Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) tankers.
- **JSW Group** plans to expand its cement production capacity by setting up grinding units closer to its steel plants.

INDIAN ECONOMY, BUSINESS AND CORPORATE NEWS**Oracle - "Make in India" for the World**

US's Oracle Corporation plans to expand campuses outside the US and will open one in Bengaluru as part of the 'Make in India' campaign. Oracle has announced further expansion of its India operations. 40,000 of Oracle's global employee base of 130,000 people are currently stationed in India in nine regional development centers. Oracle sees India as a great source of intellectual capital for the company, with a strong developer skill set. The company's entire product lines are done out of India as its front office for servicing the world.

Petroleum Minister releases Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for North-East India

Minister of State (IC) for Petroleum and Natural Gas Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan released the **Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for north-east India**, outlining steps to leverage the hydrocarbon sector for development of the region in Guwahati. MoPNG has consciously and constantly focused efforts towards making hydrocarbons a tool to enable social and economic development. Objectives of the plan are to leverage the NE region's hydrocarbon potential, enhance access to clean fuels, improve availability of petroleum products, facilitate economic development and to link common people to the economic activities in this sector. The states covered include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

India to invest US\$ 1 trillion in power sector by 2030

Power, Coal and Renewable Energy Minister Piyush Goyal offered a \$1-trillion investment proposal for Australian companies to come and make in India. India's power sector is at an inflection point where the government is focusing on structural reforms with an integrated outlook for the energy sector.

PM : India's oil import dependence should be reduced

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for India's oil imports to be reduced by 10% by 2022 (when India celebrates 75 years of Independence). He said the Petroleum Ministry and oil companies should take this challenge to make India self sufficient in energy. India spent \$112.7 billion on import of 189.4 million tonnes of crude oil in 2014-15. Oil imports account for over a quarter of India's total import bill.

Boeing company to invest billions of dollars in Aerospace in India

US aircraft manufacturer Boeing's investment in India will go beyond money, as it is also looking to invest in capabilities, infrastructure, and partnerships to enable Aerospace to be an economic growth engine. **Boeing** see's Prime Minister Modi's emphasis on 'easing of doing business' and other initiatives like Make in India, Start-ups in India, Skills Development etc. as enablers for long-term investments and make India a great place to do business.



INDIA'S SPACE PROGRAMME MARS ORBITER MISSION (MOM)



Launch and Post Launch Orbit Maneuvers

India's first interplanetary spacecraft "Mars Orbiter" was successfully launched on November 05, 2013 by India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C25 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre. The crucial Tran-Mars Injection Maneuver was precisely executed on 1 December 2013 and Spacecraft was placed on course to the Red Planet along a helio-centric path of 680 million km.

Mars Orbit Insertion on 24 Sep 2014 : After a 300 days' journey in deep space, India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft successfully entered into an elliptical orbit around planet Mars on 24 September 2014, by firing its 440 Newton Liquid Apogee Motor along with eight smaller liquid engines.

ISRO became the 4th space agency to successfully send a spacecraft to Mars orbit and India became the first country in the world to do so in its first attempt.

India's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) completed one year around Mars on 24 September 2015 and accomplished its planned mission objectives. MOM and all its scientific payloads are in good health and it continues to provide valuable data of Mars surface and its atmosphere. The increased duration of observation of Mars by five scientific payloads will enhance planetary science data & would also enable coverage of Mars in different seasons.

Images of Mars captured by the Mars Colour Camera (MCC) has so far produced 513 images which have been found to be of very good quality. Joint morphological studies using MCC and high resolution mineralogical data with the NASA CRISM data was carried out, which enables the identification of different compounds like sulphates and ferrous based compounds.

Significant achievements & Recognitions

- ★ First interplanetary mission realized by India & first Indian spacecraft to incorporate full scale on-board autonomy to overcome long distances and non-visibility communication gaps.
- ★ First Mars mission in the world to achieve Mars Orbit Insertion in first attempt.
- ★ First Indian spacecraft to successfully survive Van Allen belt crossing 39 times. First Indian spacecraft to escape the Sphere Of Influence of Earth and orbit Sun.
- ★ Most economical interplanetary mission paving way for cost-effective access to deep space.
- ★ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) - Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) team won the US based National Space Society's "2015 Space Pioneer Award" for science & engineering category.
- ★ Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development awarded to ISRO in recognition of its path-breaking achievement, culminating in Mars Orbiter Mission, its significant contribution.

Launch Vehicle



MOM was launched aboard PSLV C-25, which was an XL variant of the PSLV, one of the world's most reliable launch vehicles. The XL variant was earlier used to launch Chandrayaan (2008), GSAT-12 (2011) and RISAT-1 (2012)



Tracking



The Orbiter is being tracked by the Indian Deep Space Network (IDSN), located outside Bangalore. IDSN's 32 m and 18 m diameter antennas are being complemented by NASA - JPL's Deep Space Network.

Spacecraft



Based on the I-1-K satellite bus of ISRO that has proved its reliability over the years in Chandrayaan-1 & IRS and INSAT series of satellites. MOM spacecraft carries 850 kg of fuel and 5 science payloads.



Mission profile



The Mars Mission was envisaged as a rendezvous problem, wherein the Mars orbiter is maneuvered into a departure hyperbolic trajectory, escapes the SOI of Earth and thereafter enters the SOI of Mars.

INFORMATION / ADVISORY ON CONSULAR/VISA ISSUES**REGISTRATION OF INDIAN NATIONALS IN SOUTH SUDAN**

If you are an Indian Passport holder or Person of Indian Origin, resident in South Sudan, we request you to kindly register your details with the Embassy of India. This information will help us provide you with the requisite assistance. Information collected will be used only for your benefit. Registration with the Embassy of India is voluntary. Kindly forward the following details on email- admn.juba@mea.gov.in or hoc.juba@mea.gov.in

Indian nationals can also follow for news & updates on social media on the following links:



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/IndiainSouthSudan>



Twitter

<https://twitter.com/eojuba>

USEFUL CONSULAR RELATED WEBLINKS

MEA, CONSULAR, PASSPORT AND VISA (CPV) DIVISION:

<http://www.mea.gov.in/cpv.html>

CONSULAR GRIEVANCES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (MADAD PORTAL) :

<https://org1.passportindia.gov.in/AppConsularProject/welcomeLink>

APPLY ONLINE FOR INDIAN PASSPORT

All Individual Indian Passport applicants are requested to apply for the Indian Passport through online application link or can apply by typing the following URL in the address bar of web browser; <http://passport.gov.in/nri/>

A print out of application form completed in all respect and successfully submitted online, is to be submitted at the Embassy of India, Juba, in person on the scheduled date along with the required documents as mentioned under

- Copy of first page, last page of Passport
- Copy of Valid visa or resident permit in South Sudan
- A letter from the company or organization where applicant is working in South Sudan.
- Two Coloured Photographs (2"×2', clear, light or white colour background)
- Birth Certificate/Birth Registration certificate, in case of Minor
- In Case of loss or theft of passport – Attach copy of Police complaint

The Online passport processing system does not accept application with errors (substantial or spelling). Kindly re-check and ensure that there are no mistakes in the online application form - before approaching to the Embassy.

Please furnish information exactly in the manner asked for in the forms, especially names, address & date of birth. All entries must be as per passport. Applicants are required to verify application details before submitting online.

Any change in address, inclusion of spouse name etc. in the passport at the time of reissue, requires suitable documentary proof such as marriage certificate (in case of spouse name inclusion); residential certificate or aadhar card or any other valid documents (for address change). For clarifications or further information, please call or e-mail to us at : admn.juba@mea.gov.in and tel +211 922458007

APPLY ONLINE FOR INDIAN VISAS

Online visa application Link : <http://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/>

Guidelines to fill visa application form

The online application form has six pages: there are four pages of questions, a summary, and the final registration, where the form can be printed. Once you reach the final registration, your application is finished and only needs to be printed. If you are not sure whether your application has been registered or not, you can enter your temporary application ID in 'Complete Partially Filled Form' (see below). If your application is finished, the programme will show the SSDJ..... code generated for your application. With this code and your passport data you can print the finished application. You must paste a photograph and attach one (according to the requirements) on the form and sign in twice. Before starting with the application, make sure that your device has the software required for reading PDF files (eg. Adobe Reader). You will need it to save and print the finished form. You can print the registered application or complete a partially filled form.

INDIAN COMMUNITY AND DIASPORA IN SOUTH SUDAN

Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas PBD celebrated in New Delhi



The 14th edition of Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD) was held in New Delhi on 9 January 2016. Event, which was web-cast globally, was inaugurated by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj. UK's Minister of State for Employment Priti Patel attended the event including participation by several non-resident Indians (NRIs). This was the first limited edition of the PBD after government decided to limit it as a biannual event. The PBD provides the diaspora a platform to put forth their issues and grievances before the government, while government sees it as an opportunity to leverage their resources in nation building activities. In her address Minister Sushma Swaraj called upon the diaspora to be part of the India growth story, saying – *"It is time for you to come back to India...Your achievements in the countries of your adoption are a matter of pride... It is our responsibility to protect you and take care of you. Indeed, we are you and you are us"*.

PBD celebrated in Juba, South Sudan on 9 January 2016



In Juba, the PBD day was commemorated with a gathering of Indian Community members in Juba on the evening of Saturday - 9 January 2016. Event was jointly organised by Embassy with support of Indian Association (IASS). Indian Community members welcomed the initiative for holding the event for the first time in South Sudan. Ambassador, in his opening remarks, recalled how Indian businesses & entrepreneurship came to South Sudan immediately after signing of the CPA in 2005, eventually leading to the establishment of the Indian Consulate in Juba in 2007 and subsequently the Indian Embassy in 2012. Indians were among the first to open hotels, borehole companies, printing presses and a departmental store in Juba as early as in 2006. Noting the active role played by the Indian Association in Juba and its steadily increasing membership, Ambassador recounted how the early pioneers who chose to make South Sudan their home, endured great hardship and difficult times to set-up their business base in Juba and other parts of the country. He recalled the gracious words of appreciation expressed by South Sudanese Ministers and dignitaries for the Indians who braved the difficult and critical times to help build the new nation in its early formative years.

Embassy marked the occasion to specially recognize the exceptional contributions of NRIs who put in years of hard work to carve a niche for themselves in their respective professions in South Sudan and helped to enhance "People to People" contacts. **Nine senior members of the Indian Community** were felicitated during the event and Mementos were presented to them. These were : **Mr. Vilesh Doshi; Mr. Champak Tank; Mr. Ravi Prakash; Mr. Kuber; Mr. V.K. Goyal; Mr. Bose Reddy; Mr. Sanjay Patel; Mr. Manohar Reddy; and Mr. D.A.K.Naidu.** Community members also recounted their personal experiences in the early years of their stay in South Sudan. Senior members spoke of encouraging and motivating the new generation of Community members and urged them to carry forward their legacy.



INDIAN COMMUNITY AND DIASPORA IN SOUTH SUDAN

"Open House" in Embassy

An "Open House" was held in the Chancery premises on 30 December, 2015, as part of Embassy's constant endeavor to reach out to Indian nationals living and working in Juba and other parts of South Sudan. The Embassy's objective has been to provide quick, efficient, time-bound and transparent consular services. The "Open House" was an informal platform for fellow Indians to interact with Embassy officials without any prior appointments. It was an opportunity for Indian nationals (who sometimes do not get the desired attention during normal specified office hours), to get easier access for seeking resolution of their common as well as individual concerns relating to Passports, Labour Employment and Community Welfare issues. The Open House attracted good interest with several participants sharing their concerns and providing useful and constructive suggestions for improving Consular services.



Sports : T-20 Cricket tournament organized by Indian Association

The Indian Association (IASS) organized a T-20 Cricket tournament in Juba in Nov/Dec with enthusiastic participation from young local talent. Participating teams included Juba Indians; UNMISS Tigers, Panorama Super Kings and Southern Challengers. Matches were played on Sundays at the open ground adjacent to the Crown Hotel. The final was played between Panorama Super Kings and Juba Indians on 13 Dec 2015. Panorama Super Kings were the eventual winners - lifting the trophy - much to the delight of the team supporters. **In a noble and commendable gesture, winners donated their prize money to organisers and for charity.**



Indian Technical Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day Celebrated in Juba, South Sudan

Embassy hosted a reception on December 18, 2015 to celebrate the Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day. Senior Government dignitaries and a cross section of ITEC scholars and alumni attended the event. Invitees included Ms. Mary Hillary, Undersecretary in Ministry of Labour & HR, Mr. Mark Mayool Malek, Undersecretary in Ministry of Telecom and Ambassador John Samuel Bwogo, representing Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Menon highlighted the role of ITEC programmes in promoting India-South Sudan relations through Indian Government's capacity building initiatives for technical cooperation. He stressed India's endeavor to share its developmental experience with partner countries and urged the South Sudanese to take maximum benefit from training courses available under the programme.

Ambassador Bwogo spoke of the many cultural similarities between India and South Sudan – in terms of multiple tribes & ethnic groups, urging his fellow citizens to learn to live with Unity in Diversity. Ms. Mary Hillary called on ITEC scholars to use the skills acquired by them in India and apply them to their work for common benefit of the South Sudanese people.

Mr. Mark Mayool Malek thanked the Indian Government for training facilities and opportunities provided to South Sudanese IT professionals through e-distance learning. He said about 200 South Sudanese were waiting to avail training facilities in Industrial electronics and other training courses in India.



OTHER LOCAL EVENTS IN JUBA

INDIAN GOVERNMENT FUNDED PROJECT IN YEI, SOUTH SUDAN

Construction of the Barefoot Regional Vocational Training Center (BRVTC) is underway in Yei, South Sudan for training South Sudanese Women in Solar Engineering. The Center (BRVTC) is based within the campus of the EPC in Yei Municipality in South Sudan. Six women (who could not read or write) were trained as "bare-foot" Solar Engineers in Rajasthan, India. They will apply their acquired expertise in the project which aims to electrify 400 homes in Kenyi Payam of Lainya County as a Pilot project for South Sudan.



Ambassador with Rev. Bishop Elias Taban, (National Leader EPC-South Sudan & Coordinator of the BVTC Indian project in Yei, South Sudan), Rev. Asha Taban and Pilot Mike Elkins

Rev. Bishop Elias Taban, National Leader EPC-South Sudan is Coordinator of the Indian BRVTC project. Mr. Bunker Roy is Founder & Director of Barefoot College, Tilonia-Ajmer, Rajasthan (India). They met each other at a Clinton Foundation event in New York, where they were awarded Global Citizenship Awards for 2013.

INDIAN MISSIONARY SISTERS ENGAGED IN COMMUNITY SERVICES IN SOUTH SUDAN

A dedicated and selfless group of Indian Sisters serving the Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI) Mission are actively supporting needy Women and Children in the South Sudanese village town of "Rock city". The group led by Mission Director Sister Viji and Sister Amala recently provided 17 local Women with micro credit support for entrepreneurship development training. The Mission also assists young children in its "Bridge School Program".



INDIAN EMBASSY DONATES SCHOLASTIC MATERIAL TO HOMELESS CHILDREN

Indian Embassy, in association with Indian Sisters of DMI Mission in South Sudan, has donated scholastic material, blankets, uniforms and school fees to homeless children from Munuki, Northern Bari Payam and children living in UN camps for internally displaced people (IDP) in Manga teen area of Juba. The materials were handed over to the school children, including orphans, at a ceremony organised at DMI premises on 20 February 2016. This initiative aims to help children coming from poor families and economically backward background and those who dropped out of school or lost their parents during the conflict. DMI's volunteer Sisters, through their commendable efforts, impart life skills training to Children as part of the Mission's Education programme.



DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION HOSTED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY

Foreign Minister Dr. Barnaba Marial Benjamin hosted a year-end Reception for the diplomatic corps in Juba on 23 December 2015. Seen here is Indian Ambassador interacting with FM Barnaba, MFA Undersecretary Abdon Terkoc, SRSG Ellen Loj & Sudanese Ambassador Gamal Ahmed.



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