Vice President Hamid Ansari visited Uganda on three-day tour

The Vice President of India Mr. M. Hamid Ansari, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Salma Ansari, visited Uganda from 21-23 February 2017. He was accompanied by Shri Vijay Sampla, Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment and four members of Parliament, senior officials and a media delegation.

Bilateral relations between India and Uganda are characterised by historical cultural linkages, extensive economic and trade interests, and a convergence on major bilateral and international issues. H.E. Yoweri Museveni, the President of Uganda, had attended the 3rd India Africa Forum Summit held in October 2015.

During this visit, Vice President Ansari met the President of Uganda and the Vice President of Uganda. The Vice President also interacted with the Indian community in Kampala.

Foreign Secretary addressed Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) meeting

Pursuant to the announcement made by Prime Minister at the Nuclear Security Summit held in 2016, Ministry of External Affairs in coordination with the Department of Atomic Energy hosted the Implementation and Assessment Group Meeting of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism on 8-10 February, 2017 at the Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi. Approximately 150 delegates from various GICNT partner countries and international organisations participated in this event.

Foreign Secretary Dr. S. Jaishankar, emphasised in his inaugural address- ‘Events that have unfolded around us, more so in the past couple of decades, have highlighted that terrorism remains the most pervasive and serious challenge to international security. If access to nuclear technology changes State behaviour, it is only to be expected that it would also impact on non-state calculations. Nuclear security, therefore, will be a continuing concern, especially as terrorist groups and non-state actors strike deeper roots and explore different avenues to spread terror.’

GICNT comprises four working groups viz. Implementation and Assessment Group, Nuclear Detection Working Group, Nuclear Forensics Working
Group and Response and Mitigation Working Group. India has been an active participant at the GICNT events.

This event highlighted India’s commitment to global nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the continued priority India attaches to nuclear security, efforts to further strengthen the institutional frameworks, capacity building and enhance international cooperation.

**ISRO creates a world record-104 satellites on PSLV C37 rocket**

In its thirty ninth flight, ISRO’s Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C37) successfully launched the 714 kg Cartosat-2 Series Satellite along with 103 co-passenger satellites on February 15, 2017 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota. The total weight of all the 104 satellites carried on-board PSLV-C37 was 1378 kg.

PSLV-C37 lifted off at 0928 hrs (9:28 am) IST, as planned, from the First Launch Pad. After a flight of 16 minutes 48 seconds, the satellites achieved a polar Sun Synchronous Orbit of 506 km inclined at an angle of 97.46 degree to the equator (very close to the intended orbit) and in the succeeding 12 minutes, all the 104 satellites successfully separated from the PSLV fourth stage in a predetermined sequence beginning with Cartosat-2 series satellite, followed by INS-1 and INS-2. The total number of Indian satellites launched by PSLV now stands at 46.

Of the 103 co-passenger satellites carried by PSLV-C37, two - ISRO Nano Satellite-1 (INS-1) weighing 8.4 kg and INS-2 weighing 9.7 kg – are technology demonstration satellites from India.

The remaining 101 co-passenger satellites carried were international customer satellites from USA (96), The Netherlands (1), Switzerland (1), Israel (1), Kazakhstan (1) and UAE (1).
With this successful launch, the total number of customer satellites from abroad launched by India’s workhorse launch vehicle PSLV has reached 180.

To watch all the action during lift-off and the on-board camera footage showing the exciting visuals of various payloads being separated from the SLV and put into orbit, click on the link below:


Visit of a delegation from BLK Super Specialty Hospital, New Delhi:

A 2-member delegation from BLK Super Specialty Hospital, New Delhi, visited Namibia on 8-10 February 2017 with a view to explore cooperation in health and medical sectors, including possible tie-ups across specialties and local capacity building through partnership. The delegation had meetings in the Namibian Ministry of Health and Social Services as well as with hospital supervisors, specialists and various department heads, and visited a few government and private hospitals in Windhoek and Katutura.

Visit of a delegation from Election Commission of Namibia to India:

A delegation from the Election Commission of Namibia led by Chairperson, Adv. Notemba Tjipueja visited India from 12-17 February 2017. The visit took place under the Election Visitor Programme (EVP) of the Election Commission of India to witness ongoing Assembly elections in India.

The delegates visited the Election Commission of India (ECI) on 13 February for comprehensive briefing on different facets of Election Management in India, main features of poll preparedness in the ongoing Assembly Elections. Other agenda during the briefing session included international cooperation under South-South Cooperation.

The delegates were given demonstration of the use of technology in these elections, particularly the use of Electronic Voting Machine and the use of the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT), as well as extensive briefings by senior officials of the ECI on the entire process of election management for the Assembly Elections.

Further, they were briefed about Election Planning, Use of IT, Electoral Laws, Expenditure Monitoring, EVM/VVPAT, & SVEEP. The Namibian delegation also visited EVM factory. The delegates left for Dehradun on 14 February to witness the poll preparations, visit Dispatch Centres and polling on 15th February 2017.

The Election Visitors Programme (EVP) for the international delegates was organised by the ECI in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India. ECI and UNDP have been collaborating in the field of electoral management for the last several years, an important feature of which is to jointly promote exchange of visits and sharing of experiences and skills in the field of Electoral Management with developing countries under ECI’s South-South Cooperation initiative.

High Commissioner’s Visit to Kavango East:

H.E. Mr. Kumar Tuhin, High Commissioner visited Kavango East Region from 22-24 February 2017. During his visit he met with Hon. Amb. Dr. Samuel K. Mbambo, Governor, Hon. Mr. John Thighuru, Chairperson Kavango East Regional Council and discussed the possibilities of cooperation. High Commissioner also met with a number of Councillors.
of the region as well as with the Councillors of Rundu Town Council.

During the visit, High Commissioner also visited St. Boniface College in Rundu and met with faculty and students.

Visit of Agricultural Experts from NEEW:

Two Indian experts from Native Establishment of Empowered Women (NEEW), an NGO based in Rajasthan, were deputed to Namibia for a period of one month in accordance with an Agreement on Vermicompost Training signed earlier between the Namibian Ministry of Urban & Rural Development and NEEW. The experts conducted a week-long workshop from 20-24 February 2017 imparting training to the Trainers of Trainees in the development, processing and use of organic compost to enhance crop production and realise food self-sufficiency.

Native Establishment of Empowered Women (NEEW) is a non profit, rural development organization based in Rajasthan, India striving to ensure holistic development by providing for sustained livelihoods for resource poor women. NEEW has so far already assisted more than 2000 women in Thanagazi & Bansoor blocks of Alwar district of Rajasthan.

These women have been facilitated on adopting Low Cost Organic Agriculture (LCOA) practices for integrated organic farming which include use of vermi compost made from household organic waste and cow dung, use of broad spectrum herbal pesticides made from household herbs as preventive measures, use of bio control agents as curative measures for plant pest and diseases, mulching, crop rotation and traps for controlling the pests mechanically. The marketing of surplus vermicompost produce is facilitated by NEEW.

Experts from NEEW are presently advocating LowCost organic Agriculture (LCOA) practices in Windhoek, Namibia by training farmers and people from the different Regional Councils & staff of the Ministry of Urban & Rural Development. The training programme was launched by Hon. Minister of Rural and Urban
Development Sophia Shaningwa and the High Commissioner of India on Feb 20, 2017 and UNAM’s Neudamm Campus. The inauguration event was also attended by Deputy Minister of Rural and Urban Development Hon. Silvia Makgone, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of urban and Rural Development Mr. Nghidinua Daniel. Speaking at the Occassion, High Commissioner of India said that the Govt. of India was committed to capacity building of Namibian officials in diverse area, including agriculture.

The trainings focusses on focus on optimum utilisation of naturally occurring plant nutrients of the soil by the plant with the help of microorganisms and earthworms. LCOA practices facilitate creating of microenvironment in the topsoil and make it conducive for smooth functioning of microorganisms and earthworms.

The experts will visit various parts of Namibia to prepare a report on the compatibility of LCOA practices with local needs.

BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA

India Travel Mart 2017

The theme of the ITM for 2017-2018 is "UNLIMITED DESTINATIONS & UNEXPLORED DESTINATIONS". The Three-day Travel & Tourism Exhibition from 17-19 March at Goa, promises to provide detailed information to choose from Perfect Holidays, Travel & Tour Packages, Rail Tourism Packages, Online Rail Reservation, Airlines, Cruise and where to stay from the favourite & unexplored Destinations, Hotels, Resorts, Palaces etc. around the Country and Abroad.

To register, log on to: http://tradeshows.tradeindia.com/itmtravelmart/

Industrial & Engineering Expo


To register, log on to http://tradeshows.tradeindia.com/indexpo/

Automechanika New Delhi

To register logon to http://tradeshows.tradeindia.com/acma-automechanika-newdelhi/