VISIT OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO INDIA (DECEMBER 23, 2017)

The Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Rogozin, paid a state visit to India on December 23, 2017 to participate in the Co-Chairs meeting of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC).

During the visit, DPM called on Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi and inter-alia held discussions for steady expansion and diversification of collaboration in the energy sector and the common pursuit of high-technology cooperation.

During the Co-Chairs meeting, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj led the delegation on the Indian side, while Deputy PM Rogozin was accompanied by senior Russian Government officials and representatives of trade and industry.

The meeting enabled the two sides to review the progress achieved by various Working groups and Sub-groups under the IRIGC-TEC. The two sides also discussed new areas of cooperation that could strengthen bilateral trade and investment.

Some of the concrete outcomes of the Co-Chairs meeting included:

- Raising the level of the Joint Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation to that of Deputy Minister / Commerce Secretary Level and creating a mechanism to discuss and remove barriers to trade, if any.
- Creation of a Working Group on Agriculture.
- Creation of a Working Group on Pharmaceuticals.
- Agreement to actively promote inter-regional cooperation which has significant untapped potential for cooperation.
- Decision to expedite implementation of the Green Corridor for exchange of pre-arrival data between Customs Administrations of the two countries.
CELEBRATION OF REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA 2018

The 69th Republic Day of India will be celebrated on January 26, 2018 in New Delhi. During his visit to Manila, Philippines for the 15th ASEAN-India Summit and the 12th East Asia Summit on November 14, 2017, Prime Minister Modi invited the leaders of all 10 ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations, having following members- Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) countries to take part in the 2018 Republic Day celebrations as chief guests.

In so doing, PM Modi said that he looks forward to a befitting culmination of the commemorative year and receiving ASEAN leaders at the India-ASEAN special commemorative summit on January 25, 2018, in New Delhi.

He added that the 1.25 billion people of India were keen to welcome the ASEAN leaders as chief guests at India's 69th Republic Day celebrations. Republic Day 2018 will be the first time ever that so many leaders will together be chief guests at the parade which showcases India's military might.

ICCR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDYING IN INDIA

Offer of ICCR Scholarships under the Africa Scholarship Scheme for the academic year 2018-19 are now open. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi offers about 22 scholarship slots per annum to Namibian students for studying in India in various degree programmes and disciplines. The Scholarship covers course from undergraduate to Ph.D. levels in all streams except Medicine. Courses in the field of Indian Classical Music, Dance, Ayurveda and Yoga are also covered in the scheme.

ICCR SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME 2018-19

Priority may be given to candidates applying for higher studies (Post Graduate, M.Phil and PhD courses). All these scholarships are fully sponsored by the Government of India, which includes return economy class air tickets, gratis visa, course fee, boarding and lodging etc. as per ICCR's guidelines.

As per the application guidelines on ICCR website, applications should be completed in all aspects with all the required information and all necessary supporting documents such as recent passport size photograph, copies of all academic qualifications, certificates and marksheets. A certificate of physical fitness, a Recommendations/character certificates from existing school as well a certified copies of relevant pages of candidate's valid passport should be attached to the application.

Applications from meritorious Namibian nationals are therefore invited for the ICCR scholarships. Due to the paucity of time, it is requested that applications be made online latest by January 31, 2018 on ICCR portal: http://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in/. Comprehensive guidelines for students are available on the portal.

HIGH COMMISSIONER DELIVERS KEYNOTE SPEECH AT A GRADUATION CEREMONY
The High Commissioner of India to Namibia H.E. Kumar Tuhin delivered keynote speech at the graduation ceremony at ST. Charles Lwanga Major Seminary on November 24, 2017. The keynote speech touched on the topic of education and motivation.

The High Commissioner of India was the Guest of Honour in the event.

**CELEBRATION OF 69th REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA BY HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA IN NAMIBIA**

The High Commission of India in Namibia will celebrate the 69th Republic Day of India on January 26, 2018.

The event will begin with a flag hoisting ceremony to be held at the premises of the High Commission of India at 97, Nelson Mandela Avenue, Windhoek.

The Indian diaspora in Namibia is therefore cordially invited to Republic Day celebrations at the High Commission of India, Windhoek (Chancery Premises) at 08:00 AM on 26 January 2018.

**FREE YOGA CLASSES AT THE PREMISES OF THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA**

High Commission of India is organizing free Yoga classes at its premises in four batches daily (0800 hrs, 0915 hrs, 1700 hrs and 1800 hrs) from Tuesday to Saturday, each class spanning about one hour.

Those Interested to participate in yoga classes may contact the Mission on email address sandeepyoga6065@gmail.com / india.windhoek@gmail.com or Telephone No. +264-61-228433 / 226037. The admission will be confirmed on first come first serve basis.

The Mission also organises special classes to learn India culture (including Vedas & Sanskrit), basic Hindi spoken and Certificate course in Yoga. The interested persons may contact the High Commission at the above mentioned contacts to participate in the special classes.
The main objective of the event is to provide opportunities to Indian telecom exporters to meet qualified overseas buyers. This event provides one to one meeting opportunities between buyers from different countries and Indian exporters who can enlighten them about their products and technology solutions. There will be Conference, EXPO where leading Telecom manufacturers & IT service providers will exhibit their capabilities, B2B meeting and Bi-lateral meetings on 23rd February 2018. The overseas buyers will have an opportunity to visit C-DoT R&D facilities and other pre-assigned visits to other manufacturing facilities in NCR on 22nd February 2018 A/N or on 24th Feb. 2018 F/N. TEPC is working in support of Hon’ble Prime Minister’s Digital India, Design in India and Make in India initiatives. Indian ICT exporters have Indian designs, IPRs and provide solutions to suit the requirements of developing world. Event Web Site https://bsm.telecomepc.in allows online Registration and B2B preference inputs. For further queries and more information about the expo, Mr. Rakesh Kumar Bhatnagar, Director General, Telecom Equipment & Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) may be contacted at Phone: +91-9868133450, +91-9350836103, Email: dg@telecomepc.in, tepc@telecomepc.in