10 ASEAN LEADERS ATTENDED REPUBLIC DAY AS CHIEF GUESTS

The 69th Republic Day of India was celebrated on January 26, 2018 in New Delhi.

The Republic Day celebration followed the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit (AICS) held on January 25, 2018 which celebrated 25 years of India-ASEAN partnership.

All the ten Heads of State / Government from ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations, having following members- Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) countries attended the 2018 Republic Day celebrations as chief guests.

VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL TO INDIA (JANUARY 14-19, 2018)

Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu visited India from January 14-19, 2018. It was the first visit of Prime Minister Netanyahu to India which came on the occasion of commemoration of 25 years of establishing diplomatic relations. The programme of PM Netanyahu included visit to Delhi, Agra, Ahmedabad and Mumbai. During the visit, Prime Minister Netanyahu held bilateral discussions with PM Narendra Modi on January 15, 2018.
He also called on Rashtrapati. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj called on Prime Minister Netanyahu as well. Both Prime Ministers attended the 2nd India-Israel CEO Forum Meeting which was held on January 15, 2018. The first CEO Forum was held during the PM’s visit to Israel from July 4-6, 2017.

PM Netanyahu also addressed a separate business event organized on the same day. He also participated in the Raisina Dialogue on January 16, 2018 and visited the Centre of Excellence in Agriculture at Vadrad and iCreate in Gujarat.

Both sides concluded with signings of nine (9) MoUs/Agreements in the area of cyber, space, film production and energy.

VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER TO DAVOS, SWITZERLAND (JANUARY 22-23, 2018)
Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Davos-Klosters, Switzerland for the World Economic Forum (WEF) from January 22-23, 2018. This was the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the WEF since the earlier one by Mr. Deve Gowda in 1997. The theme for this year’s WEF was "Creating a Shared Future in a Fractured World."

In his keynote speech at the WEF, PM Modi highlighted inter-alia, three major challenges facing the world today. The first threat is of Climate Change. The second major challenge is terrorism. The third challenge which he sees is that of many societies and countries that are now becoming more and more self-centered.

He also held bilateral meetings with various world leaders including Mr. Alain Berset, President of the Swiss Confederation.

STATE VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA TO INDIA (JANUARY 24-27, 2018)
Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia paid a State Visit to India from January 24-27, 2018. The PM of Cambodia was accompanied by a high level delegation which included Ministers and senior officials and also a business delegation.

During the visit, the PM of Cambodia visited Raj Ghat and paid floral tribute at the Memorial of Mahatma Gandhi. He called on Ram Nath Kovind, President of India and Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj called on the PM of Cambodia as well.

He held delegation level talks with Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi, who hosted a banquet in his honour. After the delegation-level talks, the two Prime Ministers witnessed the exchange of four (4) agreements /MOU/Treaties.
CELEBRATION OF 69th REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA BY HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA IN NAMIBIA

The High Commission of India in Windhoek organised a grand reception at Safari Court Conference Centre on January 26, 2018 to celebrate the 69th Republic Day of India. Hon. Dr. Samuel Ankama, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Government of the Republic of Namibia was the Chief Guest of the event.

A large number of Namibian dignitaries including Minister of Poverty Eradication & Social Welfare, Minister of Health & Social Services, Spl. Advisor to Governor of Khomas Region, Mayor of Windhoek, Members of Parliament, Archbishop of Windhoek, senior Government functionaries, members of Diplomatic Corps, Press and members of Indian community attended the event.

The event started with the singing of Indian and Namibian National Anthems and lighting of traditional Indian Lamp and speeches by H.E. Mr. Kumar Tuhin, the High Commissioner of India and the Chief Guest. In his address, the High Commissioner inter-alia highlighted the continued friendly and strong relations between India and Namibia, marked by trust and mutual understanding. The High Commissioner mentioned that exchanges and interactions in various sectors between India and Namibia are expected to further intensify this year.

Deputy Minister Hon. Dr. Samuel Ankama, inter-alia conveyed the appreciation of the Government of Namibia for India’s donation of 1000 tons of rice as drought relief assistance, donation of cash grant to the Indira Gandhi Maternity Clinic in Okahao and the capacity building programmes in various fields. A dance performance by dancers from the College of Arts, Windhoek on Bollywood songs was a major attraction during the event.

Earlier in the day, a flag hoisting ceremony was organised at the premises of the High Commission of India at 97, Nelson Mandela Avenue, Klein Windhoek. A large number of Indian community members attended the event.

After the flag hoisting, the High Commissioner read out the address by the President of India to Nation on the eve of 26 January 2018, which was followed by the screening of a documentary ‘A Day in the life of India’.

NAMIBIAN COMPANIES PARTICIPATED IN EVENTS IN INDIA

Six companies from Namibia participated in the India Soft / India Electronics Expo from January 24-25, 2018 in Bangaluru, India.
UPCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA

13th CII EXIM Bank Conclave on India Africa Project Partnership
25-27 March 2018; Taj Palace, New Delhi

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is organizing the 13th edition of CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India - Africa Project Partnership with support of Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, from March 25-27, 2018 at Taj Palace, New Delhi. With the multi-faceted involvement of Heads of State, Ministers, Business Leaders, Financial institutions and Investment agencies, the conclave has proven to be a one stop shop that caters to the interests of both business and political stakeholders, alike. Being India’s largest Africa-focused business events, the conclave has set the stage for identifying several opportunities for India to join hands with Africa, to meet its development needs. The 13th Conclave will especially focus on the ‘High 5’ priority areas set by the African Development Bank in 2017. These areas broadly include Power and Energy, Infrastructure, Manufacturing, Education & Skill Development and Agriculture. More than 400 projects opportunities that cut across sectors are expected to be discussed at the conclave. In addition to this, special attention will be given to B2B, B2G meetings and an exhibition. There will also be several country and sector focused sessions that will allow delegates to gain in-depth insight into their areas of concentration. Registrations for the conclave will open in January, 2018 and can be done directly on CII website: www.ciafricaconclave.com

The Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council (Pharmexcil) is organizing the 6th exhibition of IPHEX (Indian Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare Expo) during May 8-10, 2018 at Pragati Maidan & Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. IPHEX- an initiative of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, is a Flagship event to position India as Pharmacy of the World and showcase the entire spectrum of the pharmaceuticals and healthcare sector to the world. The exhibition has now become an integral part of annual business plan of exhibitors and business visitors. Pharmexcil expects 400 Indian companies to exhibit in the show. The potential group of participant in the event include; Importers / Business Visitors (Selection based on company profile); Top Drug Regulatory officials; Government officers / international NGOs engaged in procurement; and Media / Associations. For more information of the event and for online registration, please see the link at http://iphex-india.com. For further communication, the organizers can be contacted at iphex2018@iphex-india.com, rodelhi@pharmexcil.com or at +91-11-45062550, +91-11-41536658.