HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA, WINDHOEK CELEBRATED 71st REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA

High Commission of India in Namibia organised and hosted a Reception on January 24, 2020 at Safari Hotel & Conference Center in Windhoek to mark the 71st Republic Day of India.

Hon. Netumbo-Nandi Ndaitwah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations & Cooperation of Namibia was the Chief Guest for the evening.

The occasion was graced by the presence of a large number of Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Executive Directors, senior government and military officials, Ambassadors / High Commissioners and diplomatic corps, media persons and members of the Indian community.

In their addresses, both Chief Guest and High Commissioner underlined the historically close, special bonds between the two countries.

A special High Commission's calendar for 2020, showcasing milestones of the warm and friendly India-Namibia relationship, designed in-house by Head of Chancery Mr. Vipul Bawa, was unveiled by the Chief Guest and High Commissioner.

Indian classical dance Odissi by renowned artist Ms. Nikhita Winkler and fusion Bollywood-Namibian dance performance were hugely applauded by the audience. Guests also enjoyed traditional delicacies. They also got to see a beautiful display of Mahindra ‘Made-in-India’ vehicles at the venue.
High Commissioner H.E. Prashant Agrawal unfurled the Tricolour at High Commission on January 26, to mark Republic Day 2020. He also read out the address of Hon’ble President of India to the nation on the eve of 71st Republic Day.

Indian community members and friends of India joined in large numbers and participated in cultural programmes with patriotic fervour. They were felicitated by High Commissioner and Mrs Rakhee Agrawal.

**RAISINA DIALOGUE (JANUARY 14, 2020)**
The fifth edition of the prestigious Raisina Dialogue, jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the Observer Research Foundation was held on January 14-16, 2020 in New Delhi. Raisina Dialogue is India’s flagship global conference on geopolitics and geo-economics. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the inaugural session.

The three-day conference drew a participation of 12 foreign ministers, including from Russia, Iran, Australia, Maldives, South Africa, Estonia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Latvia, Uzbekistan and the EU, in total brought together over 700 international participants from over a 100 countries represented diverse point of views.

Seven former heads of state or government shared their views on important challenges facing the world.

**VISHWA HINDI DIVAS**
To promote the greatness of the Hindi language, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Official Language under the Ministry of Home Affairs celebrate World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Divas) annually on January 10, first celebrated in 2006. The day 10th January was chosen to mark the anniversary of first World Hindi Conference organized in 1975 which was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi.

The aim of World Hindi Day or Vishwa Hindi Divas is to promote Hindi language across the world. High Commission of India marked Vishwa Hindi Divas on January 9, 2020 with the participation of Indian community in Namibia.
PRAVASI BHARTIYA DIVAS 2020
High Commission of India, Windhoek marked PBD 2020 together with Indian Community in Namibia on January 9th, 2020.

Special address from New Delhi by External Affairs Minister of India, Dr S Jaishankar, to Indian Diaspora abroad was live streamed for the audience.

This was followed by brief remarks on the occasion by High Commissioner Prashant Agrawal, after which community members participated in an interactive session with High Commissioner and High Commission’s officials.

INDIA BUILDS MAHATMA GANDHI CONVENTION CENTRE FOR NIGER
India has built a Mahatma Gandhi International Convention Centre (MGICC) in Niger. The MGICC was jointly inaugurated by External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar and President of Niger, H. E. Mahamadou Issoufou in Niamey, Republic of Niger during the visit of EAM on January 20-21, 2020.

MGICC is the first centre to be established in Africa by India to honour Mahatma Gandhi whose 150th birth anniversary was observed in 2019.

The Convention Centre, has been designed as a spacious, modern and eco-friendly facility, including a 2000 capacity Plenary Hall, to witness high-level and wide-ranging participation from AU Member States and other high level Conventions. The establishment of the Centre is a landmark for India-Niger friendship, as also a symbol of India’s firm commitment towards Africa.

The visit by EAM to Niamey was reiteration of importance India attaches to its relations with Niger and with other countries in the Sahel.

VISIT OF MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TO INDIA (JANUARY 14-18, 2020)
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, Dr Naledi Pandor visited India from January 14-18, 2020.

During the visit, Dr Naledi Pandor co-chaired with External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar, the 10th India-South Africa Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) in New Delhi on January 17, 2020.

During the JMC, both the leaders reviewed along with the Senior Officials of both the countries the entire gamut of bilateral relations and their ongoing cooperation on multilateral fora. Upon conclusion of the Meeting, a Joint Communiqué was signed by both the Ministers expressing, inter alia, satisfaction over the fruitful outcomes of their discussions.

During her visit, Dr. Pandor also called on Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and participated in the Fifth Raisina Dialogue Conference held in New Delhi on January 14-16, 2020 organised on the theme of “21@20: navigating the Alpha Century”.
STRENGTHENING CULTURAL BONDS BETWEEN INDIA & NAMIBIA

"Namibia Multiculture Group" - comprising cultural artists and craftspersons from different Namibian regions are to participating in the 34th Surajkund International Crafts Fair 2020 in India from 1-16 February. The cultural troupe was supported by Govt of India, Govt of Indian state of Haryana, and Ministry of Education, Arts & Culture, Govt of Namibia.

The participants and officials from Namibian Ministry of Education, Arts & Culture visited the High Commission for an interaction with High Commissioner and Mission’s officials. They also presented a beautiful rendition of their cultural music and dance at the Chancery.

DID YOU KNOW?

Election Commission of India is a permanent Constitutional Body, constituted on 25th January 1950. A day before India became a Sovereign and Democratic Republic. This day is also observed as National Voters’ Day since 2011.

UPCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA

The eighth edition of iPHEX will be organized at IEML, Knowledge Park II, Greater Noida during May 06-08, 2020. iPHEX is an International Exhibition of Pharma and Healthcare organized every year by Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) with the support of Department of Commerce since 2013. IPHEX is an initiative of Ministry of Commerce to showcase the entire spectrum of the pharmaceuticals and healthcare sector in India to the world. Over 500 Indian companies from Pharma and healthcare sector would be exhibiting their products and services. The exhibition attracts over 10000 domestic companies/visitors dealing with Bulk drugs, drug intermediates, finished formulations, biotechnology, contract research, herbas, dietary supplements, nutraceuticals and allied products. Pharmexcil with the support of Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India, would be bearing the to and fro economy class airfare (part/ full) and hospitality to select importers/business visitors and top officials from Public Procurement Authorities as mentioned above, subject to selection and approval of selection committee. The mandatory online registration link for prospective/invited/recommended delegates is http://iphex-india.com/hostedbuyer/hosted_buyer_agreement

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