NAMIBIAN MINISTER OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NATIONAL PLANNING ATTENDED 14TH CII EXIM BANK INDIA-AFRICA PROJECT PARTNERSHIP CONCLAVE HELD IN NEW DELHI

Hon. Obeth Kandjoze, Minister of Economic Planning and Director General of National Planning represented Namibia at the 14th CII Exim Bank India-Africa Project Partnership Conclave held in New Delhi on March 17-19, 2019.

The Conclave was organized by Ministry of Commerce & Industry in association with Confederation of Indian Industry and EXIM Bank of India. The event marked the deepening of India-Africa economic and business ties and pave the way for a whole range of cross-border project partnerships. The Conclave also marked the pre-eminence of India-Africa partnership in the area of ‘South-South Cooperation’. Over 500 delegates from Africa participated in the conclave.

INDIA PROVIDED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF (HADR) SUPPORT TO MOZAMBIQUE

In response to a request from the Republic of Mozambique that was hit by a tropical cyclone ‘IDAI’ of Category 4, causing loss of lives and severe damage to properties in Central and Northern part of Mozambique, Government of India decided to divert three Indian Naval Ships (INS Sujatha, INS Shardul & INS Sarathi) to the port city of Beira to provide immediate Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to the affected people.

Indian Naval Ships provided relief material in the form of food, clothes and medicine to the affected people. In addition, the ships had 3 medical practitioners and 5 nurses to provide immediate medical help.
As part of its relief operations in cyclone-hit Mozambique, the Indian Navy rescued more than 192 people and provided assistance to 1,381 people in medical camps set up by it, a statement said.

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA ORGANIZED ITEC DAY 2018-19
High Commission of India in Windhoek organized ITEC Day 2018-19 on March 8, 2019 at Stratos Ballroom, Avani Hotel, Windhoek and saw enthusiastic participation from more than 150 ITEC Alumni from Namibia who came together to recollect their training experiences in India. Hon. Itah Kandjii- Murangii, Minister of Higher Education, Training and Innovation and Hon. Christine Hoebes, Deputy Minister for International Relations and Cooperation, were the Guests of Honour.

High Commissioner Prashant Agrawal noted that Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme (ITEC) is India’s flagship programme for development partnership and ITEC programme is a valuable component of the close and special relationship between Namibia and India.

The Hon. Ministers handed over the acceptance letters and travel documents to six of the trainees present that day who were to travel to India shortly.

Guests enjoyed lively performances by famous singer Ms. Lize Ehlers and Yoga demo by students of Dr. Nikhila Hiremath, Yoga teacher at High Commission.

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA PARTICIPATED IN THE COMMONWEALTH DAY
High Commission of India participated in the Commonwealth Day commemorations at the National Assembly.

A number of school children were present at the event, who, along with other guests, also enjoyed Indian cuisine served to them by High Commission’s officials.
NDF MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN INDIA-AFRICA FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE.
A 10-member Namibian Defence Force (NDF) contingent departed for India to participate in the joint, multi-national, peacekeeping India-Africa Field Training Exercise (IAFTX) involving that country and several African countries.

The joint military training programme took place at Aundh Military Station and College of Military Engineering, Pune during March 18-27, 2019. The initial planning conference for the exercise was held in December 2018.

Indian High Commissioner to Namibia, Prashant Agrawal presented air-tickets & Visas to NDF recipients of the peace-keeping training programme. African countries that attended are Namibia, Zambia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda with observers from Madagascar, Congo and Rwanda.

INDIA WORKS ON A STRATEGY TO SPUR INDO-AFRICAN BILATERAL TRADE
The Government of India is working on a comprehensive strategy to boost India-Africa bilateral trade, which stood at US$63 billion in FY18 as opposed to US$52 billion in FY17.

This was revealed by Commerce Secretary Anup Wadhawan on the sidelines of the 14th CII-Exim Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership in New Delhi recently.

The Minister also proposed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India and Africa or a preferential trade agreement which could be another way of increasing African trade in global market share.

VISIT OF CABINET SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF KENYA TO INDIA (MARCH 04-06, 2019)
Amb. Monica Juma, the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Kenya visited India to attend The Second Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) between the Republic of India and the Republic of Kenya which was held on March 6, 2019 in New Delhi.

The Indian delegation was led by Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister of India and the Kenyan delegation was led by Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Kenya, Amb. Monica Juma.
VISIT OF MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF GAMBIA TO INDIA (MARCH 07-12, 2019)
Dr. Mamadou Tangara, Gambian Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad visited India during March 7-12, 2019.

During the visit, Minister Dr. Tangara had a meeting with External Affairs Minister, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj.

Dr. Tangara also delivered a talk on 'Multilateralism and its Role in Building and Sustaining Peace in Africa and Asia' organised at the Indian Council of World Affairs.

A MoU between the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad, Republic of The Gambia was signed during the visit.

UPCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA

The Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) is organizing the 2nd edition of AgroWorld 2019 and FoodWorld 2019 from Nov 5 – 8, 2019 in New Delhi. The combined event is poised to be the largest agro-food event in the world with the participation of over 1,000 exhibitors and over 20,000 investors, corporate CEOs, industrialists, officials and other key stakeholders. The four day globally pulsating event aims to unleash the trade and business potential and promote investments, business and technical cooperation opportunities among the stakeholders of Agriculture and Food Sectors. The event will comprise of 20 expo pavilions, 24 international conferences, Global Agriculture Leadership Summit, Global Food Business Summit, Swaminathan Global Dialogue on Food Security and presentation of the 2nd World Agriculture Prize besides many country focused and sector focused side events and presentation of excellence awards in many categories. The event conceptualized meticulously with sectoral focus on 24 sub domains of food and agriculture that will include an International Conference on each sector, CEOs Round Table, dedicated business to business interactions. For more information about the event, visit the event website http://icfa.org.in/agro-world/.

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