Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Kenya from 7th to 11th July, 2016.

On 7th July, in Mozambique, the Prime Minister had bilateral discussions with President Nyusi to strengthen bilateral ties and enhance development cooperation. Three agreements were signed during the visit: (i) MoU between India and Mozambique on drug demand reduction and prevention of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals and related matters (ii) MoU between Government of India and Government of Mozambique in the field of Youth Affairs and Sports (iii) Long-term agreement for purchase of pulses from Mozambique.

Prime Minister Modi paid an official visit to the Republic of South Africa from 7 to 9 July 2016. President of South Africa H.E. Mr. Jacob Zuma warmly received Prime Minister Modi on 8 July 2016 at the Union Buildings of South Africa. Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, Deputy President of South Africa also paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Modi. During the visit, the following Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding were signed by the two sides: (i) Memorandum of Understanding on ICT (ii) Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of Grassroots Innovation in the area of Science and Technology (iii) Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism; and (iv) Programme of Cultural Cooperation.

President Zuma and Prime Minister Modi also discussed intensified collaboration in the sectors of defence, energy, agro-processing, human resource development, infrastructure development as well as science, technology and innovation.

The leaders underlined the importance of strengthening cooperation between business entities of South Africa and India. They identified focus areas for deeper cooperation including manufacturing, mines and minerals, IT, renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, tourism, S&T and financial services. President Zuma furthermore noted and welcomed the relaxation of foreign direct investment rules through the lifting of the caps on foreign direct investment in nine sectors of the Indian economy including the defence, food retail, local airlines, private security firms and pharmaceutical sectors, indicating that the announcement will have a major impact of attracting foreign investment in these areas, including from South Africa. President Zuma and Prime Minister Modi also addressed the enlarged South Africa-India
The preferential trade agreement being pursued by the South African Customs Union and India were acknowledged with both leaders noting the contribution such an agreement will make to intensifying trade relations between Southern Africa and India.

Both leaders acknowledged the launch of International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a common platform for cooperation among solar resource rich countries. Prime Minister Modi invited South Africa to the deliberations leading up to the formalisation of the Alliance.

Prime Minister Modi thanked President Zuma for South Africa’s support for India’s membership of the NSG.

Prime Minister Modi paid a State Visit to the United Republic of Tanzania from 9th to 10th July 2016. During the visit, Prime Minister Modi held official talks with President Magufuli. The two leaders agreed that it was imperative to broaden cooperation to include potential areas such as manufacturing, development of small scale industries for rural developmental needs, power production and distribution, gas exploration and usage, infrastructure development, agriculture especially in crops like pulses, mining and information technology. Greater cooperation in the area of scientific cooperation between the two countries was also encouraged.

The following agreements /MoUs were signed during the visit: (i) MoU on Cooperation in the field of water resource management and development between the two countries; (ii) MoU on Visa waiver agreement for Diplomatic/Official passport holders between the two countries (iii) Agreement on Joint Action Plan (JAP) between National Small Industries Corporation of India (NSIC) and Small Industries Development Organization Tanzania (SIDO) (iv) MoU between the Government of Tanzania and the Government of India for Establishment of Vocational Training Centre at Zanzibar (v) LOC of US $92 million for rehabilitation and improvement of water supply system in Zanzibar

The two Leaders commended the recent completion of Upper Ruvu potable water supply project that was executed with support from India through concessional credit, which will more than double the supply of clean water to the city of Dar es Salaam and its surroundings. They noted the excellent progress of other water supply projects to include that of distributing and utilizing waters of Lake Victoria in the towns of Tabora, Nzega and Igunga as well as the water project in Chalinze region. They welcomed the extension of Indian concessional credit facility for the water supply project in Zanzibar. They commended the establishment of IT Resource Centre at Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science & Technology, Arusha achieved with grant from the Government of India. They also appreciated the cooperation in hydrography in terms of developing navigational charts and capacity building.

Prime Minister Modi announced the donation of a radiation therapy machine, ‘Bhabhatron II’ to Bugando Medical Centre, Mwanza by India that was being installed currently and committed to further gifting of essential medicines, ambulances, and medical equipment to Tanzania.

Prime Minister Modi paid a State Visit to Kenya on 10th to 11th July 2016. This was the first at the level of Prime Minister in 35 years. The following bilateral instruments were concluded during the visit:

i. MoU on Defence Cooperation.

ii. MoU on Cooperation in the field of National Housing Policy Development and Management

iii. Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income

iv. MoU between Bureau of Indian Standards and Kenya Bureau of Standards

v. Agreement on Exemption of Visa for holders of Diplomatic Passports

vi. Line of Credit Agreement for US$ 15 million to IDB
Capital Limited, for development of small and medium enterprises [SMEs]

vii. Line of Credit Agreement for US$ 29.95 million to the Government of Kenya for upgrade of Rift Valley Textiles Factory [RIVATEX]

Prime Minister Modi handed over 30 field ambulances to the Kenya Defence Forces. President Uhuru Kenyatta thanked his counterpart for the kind gift and appreciated India’s support for Kenya’s defence and security sector. The Kenyan side noted India’s offer of an LoC for acquisition of defence equipment. Both sides agreed to continue cooperating in this sector and to share information and expertise in counter terrorism, cyber security, combating drugs and human trafficking. The two leaders condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and agreed to work together in building a new global resolve and strategy for combating terrorism, including expediting the finalization of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the United Nations,

On Development Assistance, India proposed to extend Lines of Credit (LoC) for Geothermal Projects and for agricultural mechanisation. President Uhuru Kenyatta welcomed India’s offer and observed that the proposed LoCs would boost investment in these sectors. The President lauded the signing of US$ 29.95 million LOC to upgrade of Rift Valley Textiles Factory (RIVATEX) and the US$ 15 million LOC to IDB Capital Limited, for development of small and medium enterprises [SMEs]. He also appreciated the power transmission line projects being executed by Indian companies under a Line of Credit of US$ 61.6 million.

The two leaders agreed on the importance of bolstering cooperation in the Health and Pharmaceutical sector. To this end, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the gifting of a telecobalt cancer therapy machine – the Bhabhatron II; a donation of essential/ARV medicines and medical equipment and capacity building/training programmes in the health sector. The Indian side assured that positive consideration will be given to extend a LoC for the establishment of 100 bed Cancer Hospital in Kenya. President Uhuru Kenyatta appreciated the kind gesture which will bring cancer treatment and management closer home for many Kenyans.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA IN NAMIBIA

The High Commission of India in Namibia held a series of events to commemorate the 2nd International Day of Yoga 2016, over a course of two months starting from May 2016. For building up momentum and public awareness about the main event on 25 June 2016, several Curtain Raiser Events were held. The main celebrations were organised on a grand level on 25 June 2016 at Parliament Gardens, Windhoek, the bustling city centre housing the major landmarks of the city. The Mayor of Windhoek, His Worship M. Kazapua personally led the Yoga Day event and practiced Yoga at the Parliament gardens along with hundreds of enthusiastic participants from his city.

Curtain Raiser Events included a special Yoga Camp organised at the National University of Science & technology campus on 13 May 2016, where the focus was on Stress Management and efficient focussing and concentration techniques in Yoga. The approach was found to be extremely useful by the students who enthusiastically practiced the Asanas demonstrated by the Yoga Teacher from the High Commission of India, Windhoek. Addressing the students, the High Commissioner of India to Namibia H.E Kumar Tuhin emphasised the importance of Yoga for students mentioning its contribution to holistic health of individuals.
The second Curtain Raiser Event was held at Dorado Park School, Windhoek on 21 June 2016 for apprising young students with Yoga and its beneficial effects on health. The entire school assembled to take part in the Yoga Camp organised for students and the enthusiastic student population along with their teachers learnt Yogic Asanas.

Both these Curtain raiser Events as well as the main Event on 25 June 2016 were covered in the leading newspapers of Namibia.

INAUGURATION OF CHANCERY ANNEXE BUILDING

A newly refurbished and renovated Annexe Complex within the Chancery premises of the High Commission of India, Windhoek was recently inaugurated by the Secretary(ER) in the Ministry of External Affairs of India Shri Amar Sinha on 16 June 2016. Secretary(ER) also visited the recently refurbished Culture Centre in the Chancery. The Culture Centre is being utilised for daily Yoga Classes offered free of cost for Yoga Enthusiasts, and Yogic Lessons are delivered by the Yoga Teacher deputed by ICCR with the High Commission of India, Windhoek. Every morning and evening four batches of Yoga Learners benefit from this facility. The Culture Centre is also utilised to host official, community and cultural events.
BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA

Health Tech India will be a comprehensive showcase event on the Healthcare Industry covering the entire gamut of Medical Equipment & Devices, Hospital Infrastructure, Surgical, Diagnostic, Disposable Materials & Allied Services. Health Tech India would be an ideal platform for the medical equipment manufacturers to offer affordable, accessible, and quality equipment and showcase technology trends in healthcare, which are necessary to meet the growing demands of India. More details of the Health Tech India can be found at event’s website: www.heathtechindia.co.in. For further information and space booking, please contact Mr. Vikas Chopra at email: vikas.chopra@ci.i.in, +91 9999 192571 or Ms Priyanka Singh at email: priyanka.singh@ci.i.in, +91 7838 275803.

INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The High Commission of India cordially invites all the members of Indian community in Namibia with their families to join the Flag Hoisting Ceremony to celebrate the “70th Independence Day of India” on Monday, August 15, 2016 at 08:30 a.m. at the Indian High Commission 97 Nelson Mandela Avenue, Windhoek. Please confirm your participation through mail (india.windhoek@gmail.com) or telephone (061-226037). You are advised to reach the High Commission by 0800 A.M.

India Medical Device 2017 which is being jointly organized by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry from 9th-11th February, 2017 at Bangalore International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Bengaluru. The Indian Medical Electronics industry is currently valued at around US$ 1 billion and has been growing at an average rate of 17% for the past couple of years. It is believed that growth will continue to be strong, resulting in the Indian Medical Electronics market reaching close to USD 6.5 billion by the year 2020. For registration and event details please visit www.indiamediexpo.in