

**High Commission of India
Windhoek**

Press Release

Celebration of ITEC Day 2023 and Skill Development & Capacity Building Partnership between India and Namibia

The 59th ITEC Day and India-Namibia Partnership in Skill Development and Capacity Building was celebrated in Namibia on 25 October 2023 at the High Commission of India.

The day brought together the Namibian nationals who participated in the capacity building and skill development programs in India with the financial support from the Government of India.

Hon'ble Dr. Itah Kandjii Murangi, Minister of Higher Education, Technology & Innovation, Hon'ble Utoni Nujoma, Minister of Labor, Industrial Relations & Employment Creation, Hon'ble Jenelly Matundu, Dy Minister of International Relations & Cooperation, Hon'ble Nathalia Goagos, Dy Minister of Higher Education, Technology & Innovation and Hon'ble Emma Theofelys, Dy Minister of Information & Communication graced the occasion as the Guests of Honor.

Senior government authorities and representatives of universities and think-tanks, Alumni of ITEC and ICCR and other guests attended the celebrations.

Welcoming the dignitaries, guests and ITEC alumni, High Commissioner of India Mr. Mandarapu Subbarayudu noted that the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) of Government of India is based on solidarity and mutual respect, voluntary cooperation free from any conditionalities, and national ownership aligned with priorities of partner countries, including Namibia.

He pointed out that ITEC is demand-driven and response-oriented and is about sharing of India's experience, expertise and knowledge in its process of nation building. Over the years, ITEC has created a large network of alumni spread across 161 countries. Its delivery mechanisms have expanded to include e-ITEC, ITEC-Onsite and ITEC-Executive. India's capacity building assistance also includes deputation of Indian experts, establishment of centres of excellence and vocational training centres.

Over 1,700 Namibian professionals and scholars, including more than 1,400 ITEC trainees benefited from the capacity building assistance from India, so far. This figure does not include all those who received training in Namibia from the Indian experts on deputation.

The courses attended by Namibian nationals cover a broad spectrum of areas, including Information and Communication Technology, teacher training & languages, Labour & Skill Development, Entrepreneurship Development, rural development & women empowerment, finance, accounting audit & accounts, solar electrification, diplomacy, forensics and many more.

Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Ministers of the Government of Republic of Namibia have appreciated the Government of the Republic of India's continued support and cooperation in skill development and capacity building. They also recalled the unwavering support Namibia received from India during and after the liberation struggle.

Authorities and the Alumni of ITEC appreciated the capacity building support being extended by the Government of India to the Namibian nationals. Several Namibian professionals who availed of training and capacity building support from India narrated their experience, impressions and knowledge gained. The event ended with cultural performances by the Alumni members and a dinner reception.
