



High Commissioner’s Message

Dear Friends,
Through this newsletter, I am reaching out to you to give details of this High Commission’s activities and the news from India that may be of interest to you all. The newsletter also has a corner where India’s development stories will be included. The letter will also have details of India’s initiatives in development partnership with Malawi. There is also a part where you will find the business inquiries from India on supply of various products and services.
During this difficult time of pandemic, it is all the more important for us to take necessary precautions and work together for developing the economy.
With my very best wishes to you all.
Anurag Bhushan

High Commissioner Calls On His Excellency the President and Right Honourable Vice President of Malawi

High Commissioner met HE the President of Malawi on 23 July 2020 and Rt. Honourable Vice President of Malawi on 24 July 2020. During these meetings High Commissioner briefed the Malawi leaders about the cordial bilateral relations between two countries and Indian initiatives in the development partnership with Malawi.



NEWS FROM MALAWI

Gifting Of Secondary School Text Books, India-made Ambulances, and Medicines

During the visit of the Hon’ble Vice President of India to Malawi in November 2018, it was announced to gift 10 India-made ambulances, 100,000 secondary school text books, and essential medicines worth US\$ 2 mn to Government of Malawi. In separate ceremonies, High Commissioner, H.E. Anurag Bhushan presented 10 India-made Ambulances to Honourable Minister of Health and Population on 12 February 2020. The books were received by the Honourable Minister of Education on 7 February 2020.

The medicines worth US\$ 2 mn were handed over by High Commissioner to Honourable Minister of Health on 23 July 2020.
The Government of India is actively engaged in supporting Government of Malawi in achieving its developmental goals through development schemes, gifts and grants. Gifting Ambulances, books and essential medicines are prominent milestones in furthering the warm and friendly relations between India and Malawi.



High Commission of India in Malawi has arranged two special charter flights with support of diaspora on 11 June and 4 August 2020 for stranded Indian citizens to return to India.

Cooperation In Power Sector

On 5th May, 2020, Indian Public Sector company - NTPC Ltd. and EGENCO have signed an MoU for Cooperation in the field of Power Generation.



NEWS FROM INDIA

National Education Policy 2020

- Cabinet Approves National Education Policy 2020, paving way for transformational reforms in school and higher education systems in the country.
- New Policy aims for Universalization of Education from pre-school to secondary level with 100 % GER in school education by 2030; GER in higher education to be raised to 50 % by 2035.
- NEP 2020 will bring back 2 Crores out of school children into the main stream and add 3.5 crore seats in higher education.
- New 5+3+3+4 school curriculum with 12 years of schooling and 3 years of Anganwadi/ pre-schooling.
- Emphasis on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, no hard separation between academic streams, extracurricular, vocational streams in school; Vocational. Education to start from Class 6 with Internships
- Assessment reforms with 360 degree Holistic Progress Card, tracking Student Progress for achieving Learning Outcomes.
- Higher Education curriculum to have Flexibility of Subjects, Multiple Entry / Exit, and transfer of credit through an Academic Bank of Credits.
- Affiliation System to be phased out in 15 years with graded autonomy to colleges.
- Light but Tight Regulation of Higher education, single regulator with four separate verticals for different functions.
- National Research Foundation to be established to foster a strong research culture.
- NEP 2020 advocates increased use of technology with equity; National Educational Technology Forum to be created.
- New Policy promotes Multilingualism in both schools and HEs; Teaching upto at least Grade 5 to be in mother tongue/ regional language; National Institute for Pali, Persian and Prakrit, Indian Institute of Translation and Interpretation to be set up.
- NEP 2020 emphasizes setting up of Gender Inclusion Fund, Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups.

Passport Sewa Divas 2020

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) celebrated Passport Seva Divas (PSD) on 24 June, 2020, to commemorate the enactment of the Passports Act on 24 June, 1967. A Special Event was organized by MEA to mark this occasion at which Hon’ble External Affairs Minister (EAM) Dr. S. Jaishankar and Hon’ble Minister of State (MOS) for External Affairs Shri V.Muraleedharan addressed the Passport Officers through video conferencing. In his keynote Address, EAM noted that there had been a complete transformation in the passport delivery system during the last six years of the present Government. More than 1.22 crore passports were issued during 2019 by the Passport Issuing Authorities (PIA) in India and abroad. The total number of Passport Kendras functioning in the country is 517, comprising of 93 Passport Seva Kendras (PSK) and 424 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK). He mentioned that the focus of MEA would be to further strengthen the outreach efforts to take passport services closer to the people by opening more POPSKs in the country. As a part of the global outreach exercise, MEA has integrated the passport issuance systems in 70 Missions and Posts abroad issuing more than 95 per cent of the passports abroad. He reiterated that efforts must continue to further simplify the rules and processes of making passports. Further, steps must be taken to leverage the use of modern technology. Initiatives such as mPassport Police and mPassport Seva Apps had led to improvements in systems and customer satisfaction. The production of e-Passports would be another important step in this regard.

Aatmnirbhar Bharat

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (or Self-reliant India Mission) and economic package— worth Rs 20 lakh crore or 10% of India’s GDP in 2019-20 — aimed towards achieving this mission.

- PM reiterated that a self-reliant India will stand on five pillars viz.
- 1) Economy, which brings in quantum jump and not incremental change
 - 2) Infrastructure, which should become the identity of India
 - 3) System, based on 21st-century technology-driven arrangements
 - 4) Vibrant Demography, which is our source of energy for a self-reliant India and
 - 5) Demand, whereby the strength of our demand and supply chain should be utilized to full capacity

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Launches Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan

The programme was launched on 20th June 2020 to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak. Abhiyaan focuses on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages : Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour being done to help them work closer home. Rs 50,000 Crore worth project to be implemented in a mission mode campaign in 125 days in 116 Districts of 6 States

Cabinet Approves Central Sector Scheme of Financing Facility Under ‘Agriculture Infrastructure Fund’

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to a new pan India Central Sector Scheme-Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. The scheme shall provide a medium – long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support. Under the scheme, Rs. One Lakh-

Crore will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Marketing Cooperative Societies, Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Group (SHG), Farmers, Joint Liability Groups (JLG), Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Agri-entrepreneurs, Startups, Aggregation Infrastructure Providers and Central/State agency or Local Body sponsored Public Private Partnership Project

India During COVID and Beyond

Government of India took early action to combat coronavirus. Starting with travel restrictions in late January, airport screening in early February and travel ban in mid March, India moved into a nationwide lockdown in late March. The high value attached to human life shaped our approach. India continue to remain in touch with friends and partners across the world about the dealing with the pandemic. Prime Minister of India has been in constant touch with Chief Ministers and other stake holders in the country to control the spread of this pandemic. Prime Minister has regularly been interacting with the world leaders to discuss the ways to fight this pandemic. The Indian Government has promptly responded to requests for deployment of Rapid Response Teams comprising doctors, nurses and paramedics. Indian RRTs have been

deployed in Maldives and Kuwait at the request of their governments. India has taken a number of medical and supply missions across the world. The issue of Indians stranded abroad, a matter of great concern, has been promptly addressed by the Government. Close to 1 Million stranded Indians have already returned to India under “Vande Bharat Mission” flights. A large number of such flights continue to operate and bring stranded Indians to India every day. On 11th June 2020 in a similar such initiative, High Commission with assistance from diaspora, facilitated 122 stranded Indians including 8 women and 1 infant to return to India from Malawi. The second such flight was organized on 4th August 2020 taking 147 people including 36 women and 20 children.

India Takes Measures to Revive Economy

The world economies have been affected very badly with long lock downs. The socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 will last much longer than the pandemic itself. The closures, lock-downs, travel restrictions, social distancing have resulted in slowing down our economic machinery and loss of jobs and livelihoods. Now is the time to re-start the economic activities under these abnormal circumstances. In India a process of comprehensive reforms has been initiated in almost all spheres. A number of major policy announcements have been made. Prime Minister called for “Atmanirbhar Bharat” and introduced a stimulus package worth nearly Rs. 21 trillion (US\$ 277 billion) equivalent to around 10% of India’s GDP, to aid the people worst hit by the pandemic and open up new avenues of trade, investment, and employment in the economy post pandemic. Covid-19 has emerged as the biggest challenge to humanity in recent times. The pandemic has infected millions and killed hundreds of

thousand. In the changed times and in the event of disruption in our supply chains, countries around the world will be looking for maximum diversification of their production and supply chains in the medium to long term avoiding dependence on any one particular country or region. India is today a critical source of trusted talent and competitive skills for the global economy. The idea behind self-reliance or Aatmanirbhar-ta is to ensure that India can emerge as the global nerve center of the complex modern multinational supply chains. As External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar noted: “Foreign policy begins at home. A strong economy allows us to be heard in the world. A self-reliant India will have more to offer to the world”. It is in our interest to support the collective global efforts to mitigate disruption in global supply chains by increasing supplies of products where India has capacity and potential.

The Natural Doctrine



India is one the few countries where multiple recognised systems of traditional medicine are practiced. These alternative systems are strongly connected with nature based remedies and thanks to government support, these ancient philosophies are thriving. Dr Sanjeev Rastogi explains how alternative and natural systems may be a viable solution for a healthier lifestyle. The ongoing global pandemic has exposed the world for all its strengths and weaknesses in a single stroke and has brought into focus the importance of enhancing the body’s natural defence system. With the support of the government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, traditional practices of medicine, especially Ayurveda, are seeing a new growth in popularity and relevance. The government has announced innovative clinical drug trials to evaluate the safe and effective use of selected Ayurvedic medicines in the

treatment of COVID-19, making this one of the first examples when modern and traditional medical experts are working simultaneously to find a solution. The Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) has also released a series of advisories for the general public on the use of several well-known Ayurvedic formulations to improve the immune system in the fight against COVID-19. Thus, stressing on the tried and tested ‘prevention is better than cure’ paradigm, which happens to hold relevance even centuries after it was first incorporated. In contagious diseases, prevention becomes of crucial importance. The measures we are currently following in the context of the ongoing pandemic have their inspirations from traditional Ayurvedic concepts of contagious disease prevention mentioned in ancient Indian texts like Sushruta

Samhita. Siddha sensibilities

- Practiced largely across Southern India, the Siddha system is one of the earliest traditional medicine systems in the world.
- According to the doctrines that have been preserved and passed down through the generations, practitioners (called siddhars) stress on holistic treatment of both the spiritu-

al and physical self.

- Siddha medicine is claimed to revitalise and rejuvenate dysfunctional organs that cause a disease. Kayakarpam (a special combination of medicine and lifestyle), varmam therapy (based on activating pressure points, vaasi (Pranayama) and muppu, a special salt (made from three regional rock salts and minerals) are the specialities of this system of medicine.

The Ayurvedic Assist

Another ancient science, Ayurveda, explores the concept of disease prevention by promoting a novel concept of ‘prakriti vighat’. This refers to averting the environment and lending it unfavorable to the growth of microbes, in reference to microbial infections and infestations. Due to the ubiquitous presence of microbes all around us, there is a continuous search by the microbes for suitable hosts that may allow the pathogens access and to flourish by providing them entry and substrates to feed upon. Ayurvedic herbal recommendations of mulethi (licorice), giloy (Tinospora Cordifolia; often referred to as the eternal source of life due to its immense medicinal and immunity-boosting properties), and ashwagandha (Indian ginseng or winter cherry) set an apt example in the case. These herbs act optimally

at multiple levels; preventing the entry of the virus by blocking the receptors and also by halting its proliferation by inhibiting the enzymes needed for it. In an advisory released early in 2020, the ministry of AYUSH recommended some Ayurvedic medicines as “prophylactic measures/ immunomodulatory drugs as per the Ayurvedic practices” to treat COVID-19 patients. While the ministry proposed consultations with Ayurveda practitioners, the medicines, AYUSH said, can help to “strengthen the immune system”. Gujarat and Kerala have administered alternative medicines to infected patients as immunity and strength boosters. Kerala has also set up Ayur Raksha clinics at district levels to provide preventive medicines, improve immunity and provide other health support.



“The ancient science of Siddha medicine is preserved through palm leaflets over the centuries. Siddha practitioner Dr Gueta Monan Achari making an inventory of the medicinal leaves and herbs”

Mental strength

The COVID-19 pandemic has not just affected us physically but has also led to high levels of psychological distress leading to depression, stress, and severe anxiety. It is a well-known fact that increased anxiety leads to decreased immunity in our body, making it susceptible to various disease, including an increased risk of viral respiratory tract infection, which is a symptom of COVID-19 as well. Yoga, especially the deep-breathing exercises, are said to

increase lung capacity and thus keep respiratory ailments at bay. Speaking during the sixth International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2020, PM Modi, said that as the coronavirus specifically attacks the respiratory system, pranayama or breathing exercise, can help in strengthening the respiratory system, Ayurveda, yoga and naturopathy are said to alleviate stress and calm the mind as well.

Trade inquiries

Company	Product	Email
AMTZ, India.	Ventilators	chanbanik@gmail.com
72 Networks P LTD	N95 & 3 Ply Mask, Sanitizer, Isolation Gown, PPE	gagan@72networks.com
Jindal Poly Firms Ltd	Medical	photomedical@Jindalgroup.com
Indeuro Ceramic LLP	Ceramic and Porcelain	export1@indeuro.in
Thukral Exim	Safety Wear (Reflectors) and Accessories	sandeep@thukralexim.com
SSP Private Limited	Food Processing	abhijit.b@ssp.co.in
Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited Generators	Electricals	s.rajesh@bhel.in
DHRUV Overseas	GYP SUM Wet DYES & Intermediates Copper Hydroxide	sanket.desai00002@gmail.com

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