



सत्यमेव जयते

**High Commission of India
Accra**

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High Commissioner**

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MAY, 2021

This month also witnessed extensive activities undertaken by the High Commission of India encompassing subjects ranging from political to capacity building, commerce, media, culture, etc. High Commissioner visited Northern Region and met Ghanaian Government authorities to discuss ways and means to augment India-Ghana relations. High Commission of India also organized various events in a run up to celebrations of India@75 activities.

During the month High Commissioner also called on Ministerial leadership in the Government of Ghana to further enhance our bilateral relations.

Political



High Commissioner called on Rt Hon Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin, Speaker of Parliament of Ghana, and discussed strengthening multifaceted ties between India & Ghana especially the two Parliaments.

Hon. George Boakye, Regional Minister of Ahafo, called on High Commissioner and discussed possible cooperation between India & the Region.

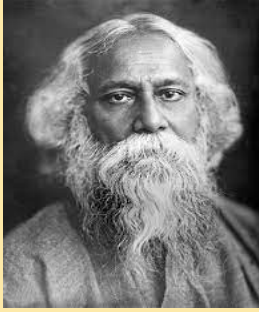


High Commissioner called on HE Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, Foreign Minister of Ghana, and discussed important issues of strengthening further the India-Ghana ties.

Hosting Hon. Osei Kyei Mensah Bonsu, Majority Leader in Parliament & Parliamentary Affairs Minister, at India House, High Commissioner discussed preparing India-Ghana ties for post-pandemic recovery.



Quote of the month



The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence.

Rabindra Nath Tagore

PLI SCHEME FOR TELECOM SECTOR

Earlier, as part of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Package, the Government of India has already approved PLI schemes for 3 sectors – mobile manufacturing, and specified electronics components, Active Pharmaceuticals Ingredients (APIs) and Manufacturing of Medical Devices. Later Government decided to extend the PLI Scheme to 10 more champion sectors to boost the competitiveness of domestic manufacturing.

These sectors include- Textile Products, Food Products, Telecom & Networking Products, Pharmaceuticals, Drugs, Automobiles; Auto Components, Electronic/Technology Products, Advance Cell Chemistry Battery, High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, White Goods and Specialty Steel.



High Commissioner hosted Mohamed Ibn Chambas, SRSG & Head of UN Office for West Africa & Sahel (UNOWAS), at India House and discussed issues of cooperation with India.

Hosting Ashanti Regional Minister Hon. Simon Osei-Mensah at India House, High Commissioner followed up on several issues of cooperation with India discussed during his recent visit to the Region.



Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral Issah Yakubu called on High Commissioner at India House and conveyed deep appreciation of India's capacity building assistance to Ghana Navy.

During his visit to Northern Region High Commissioner called on Hon. Shani Alhassan Shaibu, Regional Minister to discuss priorities of cooperation between India and the Region.



High Commissioner visited Northern Development & Democratic Institute, a premier think tank in Tamale, and discussed issues of cooperation with its Executive Chair Mr. Mustapha Sanah.

E-Learning Platforms

The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, started sharing free e-learning platforms. These included: (i) Diksha portal which has e-learning content aligned to the curriculum, (ii) e-Pathshala, an app by the National Council of Educational Research and Training for Classes 1 to 12 in multiple languages, (iii) SWAYAM hosts 1,900 complete courses including teaching videos, computer weekly assignments, examinations and credit transfers, aimed both at school (Classes 1 to 12) and higher education. (iv) SWAYAM Prabha is a group of 32 direct to home channels devoted to the telecasting of educational programmes.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), was launched by the Govt. of India to provide connectivity to unconnected Habitations as part of a poverty reduction strategy. Govt. of India is endeavoring to set high and uniform technical and management standards and facilitating policy development and planning at State level in order to ensure sustainable management of the rural roads network. .



During his visit to Northern Region High Commissioner met with Hon. Haruna Iddrisu, Minority Leader in Parliament of Ghana & MP from Tamale, and discussed issues of cooperation with India.

Development Partnership

During visit to Northern Region High Commissioner called on Naa Fuseini Bawa, Tamale Dakpema (Traditional Chief) and discussed assistance from India for the community especially in agriculture & education.



During his visit to Northern Region High Commissioner visited along with representatives of WAPCOS & GWCL and monitored status of Yendi Water Project being executed by India with US\$ 30mn EXIM Bank Line of Credit.

During his visit to Tamale High Commissioner interacted with traditional authorities including Mr. Gulkpenaa Alhassan Abdulai on requests of developmental assistance from India.



Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)

The PMJJBY is available to people in the age group of 18 to 50 years having a bank account who give their consent to join / enable auto-debit. The life cover of Rs. 2 lakhs shall be for the one year period stretching from 1st June to 31st May and will be renewable. Risk coverage under this scheme is for Rs. 2 Lakh in case of death of the insured, due to any reason. The premium is Rs. 330 per annum which is to be auto-debited in one installment from the subscriber's bank account as per the option given by the subscriber on or before 31st May of each annual coverage period under the scheme. The scheme is being offered by Life Insurance Corporation and all other life insurers who are willing to offer the product on similar terms with necessary approvals and tie up with banks for this purpose.



High Commissioner urged the Indian scholarships alumni from Northern Region of Ghana to help in actively promoting India in the Region.



During his visit to Northern Region High Commissioner interacted with elders & leaders of Yendi on developmental assistance from India especially in agriculture & education.

During his visit to Yendi High Commissioner discussed with Hon. Farouk Aliu Mahama, Member of Parliament, assistance efforts by India in the area including the water project.



High Commissioner interacted with authorities of Northern Development Authority in Tamale on assistance by India in its efforts to develop the North of Ghana.

Commerce



Samagra Shiksha

The Samagra Shiksha is an overarching programme of the Government of India for the school education sector, extending from pre-school to Class XII.

It aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. From 2018-19, Samagra Shiksha was launched for universalization of quality education throughout the country in coordination and consultation with the State and Union Territories.

High Commissioner called on Trade & Industry Minister of Ghana Hon. Alan Kyerematen and discussed efforts needed to strengthen economic ties between the two countries.



High Commissioner inaugurated a session of India Business Forum on 'India@75: Intensifying Business Bilaterally' in Accra and urged businesses for their assessment of road to post-pandemic recovery

High Commissioner hosted Hon. Michael Okyere Baafi, Deputy Trade & Industry Minister (dsg) of Ghana, at India House to discuss ways to enhance India-Ghana business ties for post-pandemic recovery.



High Commissioner hosted 'India Round Table' in Tamale for authorities of Northern Region of Ghana from diverse fields of political, business, social, educational, cultural, media etc.



Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)

PMUY was launched in 2016 to safeguard the health of women & their households from the consumption of unhealthy fuels by providing clean cooking fuel in the form of LPG. It began with an objective of providing 8 crore deposit-free LPG connections to poor households. The target was achieved in September 2019 – months before the set deadline of March 2020. While 8.01 crore LPG connections were distributed to poor households, 3 crore LPG connections were released to SC/STs as on 31st March 2020.

High Commissioner addressed India-Ghana business event by Association of Ghana Industries in Tamale and highlighted enormous synergies between India & Northern Region especially in agriculture & agro-processing.



High Commissioner visited Indian businesses in Northern Region of Ghana including IndoFarm (farm equipment assembling) & Avnash (Ghana's biggest rice mill) and discussed their issues

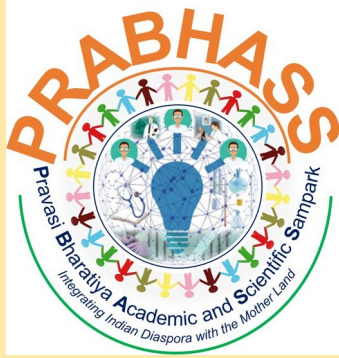
Education



High Commissioner called on Education Minister Hon Dr Yaw Osei Adutwum and discussed strengthening cooperation between India & Ghana in the area of education.

High Commissioner along with Vice Chancellor Prof. Gabriel A. Teye established 'India Corner' at the University of Development Studies, premier higher educational institution of Northern Region of Ghana, in Tamale.





Under the directives of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) initiated the efforts to develop a database and a virtual platform to bring on board the Global Indian S&T Community to address the Indian societal challenges / problems. The virtual platform, a portal, is named PRABHASS which means a ray of light, and is an acronym for "Pravasi Bharatiya Academic and Scientific Sampark - Integrating Indian Diaspora with the Mother Land". PRABHASS is being developed with collaborative effort of all major scientific ministries / departments and the Ministry of External Affairs of India with the following Vision and Objectives:

VISION Serve as National Digital Platform to effectively collaborate with Global Indian S&T Community for collectively promoting inclusive growth in India, strengthening Indian innovation ecosystem and contributing towards nation building.

Media & Community



High Commissioner interacted in Tamale with media persons from Northern Region of Ghana briefing them on current developments in India and India-Ghana relations.

On his visit to Northern Region of Ghana High Commissioner interacted with friends of India in the Region who enthusiastically welcomed him on arrival in Tamale.



Culture



While calling on Yaa Naa Abukari II at Gbewaa Palace in Yendi, High Commissioner was welcomed with traditional warmth of people of Dagbon for India and its culture.

Addressing 'India@75: Continuing Universal Message of Buddha' on BuddhaPurnima High Commissioner urged audiences to follow Buddha's message for Compassion & Reason for world Peace & Prosperity.



At India Community Forum 'India@75: Growing together with Diaspora' High Commissioner recognized its significant contribution and urged the diaspora to work together to bring India closer to the people of Ghana.



In which year was Kaziranga National Park declared a Tiger Reserve ?

- a. 2005
- b. 2006
- c. 2007
- d. 2008

Please mail your responses by 15th June, 2020

info.accra@mea.gov.in

1st five successful responses will receive interesting information material about India.

AGNi (Igniting Ideas) Taking Your Innovation to Market

AGNi–Accelerating Growth of New India’s Innovations –is a programme of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, and a Mission under the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). AGNi convenes India's finest technologists and their deployment-ready technologies -from startups and laboratories - with top technology users from Indian and global enterprise, government, and non-profit sectors.



Architecture

Kaziranga National Park–A World Heritage Site, the park hosts two-thirds of the world’s Great One-horned rhinoceros and also boasts of the highest density of tigers among the protected areas in the world and was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2006. The park is home to large breeding populations of elephants, wild water buffalo and swamp deer

Festivals

Rongali or Bohag Bihu (festival of happiness) is celebrated on the occasion of Assamese New Year and marks the beginning of the harvesting season. Celebrated over two days the first day of Rongali Bihu known as Goru Bihu which begins with washing and worshiping cows and the second day called *manuh bihu* is usual celebration of joy.



Ghila Pitha (Rice Fritters) is an essential part of the Assamese Bihu Platter that is lightly sweetened with jaggery. Ghila Pitha (Rice Fritters) is served as a tea time snack or as a dessert after a good lunch.



Ingredients for Ghila Pitha (Rice Fritters)

- 1 cup rice, soaked in water
- 1/2 cup Jaggery
- 1/2 teaspoon Cardamom Powder
- 1 teaspoon Lemon zest
- 1/2 teaspoon Fennel seeds / Saunf
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- Pinch of Salt Oil, for frying

PREPARATION

- To make Ghila Pitha, soak rice in water for 2 to 3 hours. Once soaked, drain the water completely and pat dry.
- Put the rice in a grinder and make a coarse powder.
- Take about 1/4 cup of water In a bowl and add jaggery. Mix well with hand so that jaggery completely dissolves in the water.
- Gradually add it to the rice flour and mix well so that no lumps are formed. The dough should neither be hard nor soft, but just enough to hold and put in a pan.
- Add lemon zest, fennel seeds, salt and baking powder to this mixture and mix well. Let it sit for 15 minutes.
- Heat oil in a deep pan or kadhai for deep frying.
- Grease your palms with oil and form small balls. Flatten the Ghila Pitha a little and place them in the pan. Fry on both sides on medium flame until golden brown. Ghila Pitha can be served hot or at room temperature and can also be stored in air-tight containers.