



सत्यमेव जयते

**High Commission of India
Accra**

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**H.E. Mr. Sugandh Rajaram
High Commissioner**

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JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2020

High Commissioner hosted many leaders from the Government, other authorities and media and socio-cultural leaders and briefed them on important developments in India including Aatma Nirbhar Bharat, India's fight against COVID-19, new schemes like New Education Policy, National Master Plan for providing multi-modal connectivity to various economic zones, an important endeavour that will boost productivity, infrastructure, economic progress and opportunities for our youngsters, the launch of 'Transparent Taxation: HonoringTheHonest' platform that will strengthen the efforts of reforming and simplifying India's tax system, Aatma Nirbhar Krishi or self-sufficient Agriculture, National Recruitment Agency, Mission Karmayogi etc.



High Commissioner met Ghana Chief Justice, Mr. Kwasi Anin-Yeboah. High Commissioner discussed cooperation with India and briefed the Chief Justice on various initiatives in India towards social justice.

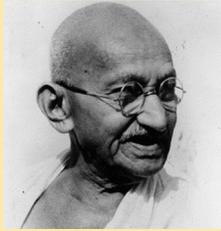
High Commissioner and World Bank Country Director in Ghana Pierre Laporte exchanged notes on India-Ghana ties and World Bank assistance to Ghana.



Independence Day 2020 was celebrated at India House in Accra on 15 August. High commissioner hoisted the National Flag. The function was celebrated with participation by Indian community, rendering of patriotic songs by students and awarding of prizes to winners of essay competition on Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.



Quote of the month



“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.” -

Mahatma Gandhi

Vande Bharat Mission

Vande Bharat Mission is the world's largest expatriation exercise to bring back stranded Indians from foreign destinations. With the spread of Coronavirus worldwide, the countries instilled their own lockdowns and put travel restrictions into place. In response, many nations evacuated their citizens as well as other nationals and brought them home. India was no exception: to control the COVID-19 pandemic in the country, all visas were suspended from 13 March and international flights were suspended. The Indian government initiated a massive evacuation program called "Vande Bharat Mission" on May 7, 2020. This involved flights via Air India and its low-cost arm Air India Express. In the first three phases of the mission, the government did not allow private airlines to participate, though they have been allowed to participate in the fourth phase onwards. The government continues to set the fare, determine the routes and decide the number of flights. While evacuating Indian nationals back to the country, certain flights also evacuated anyone who wanted to leave, provided they were a national, permanent resident, or had a visa valid for at least one year. Unlike previous evacuations, passengers have to pay for their journey, with fares ranging from ₹15,000 (US\$210) for the Gulf states to ₹100,000 (US\$1,400) for the USA. Till 6 September, over 15,00,000 stranded Indians had been repatriated through various means under #VandeBharat Mission.

High Commission facilitated evacuation of several stranded Indians in Ghana. A charter flight was organised on the sector Abidjan-Accra-Kochi on 4 August which was seen off by High Commissioner Sugandh Rajaram, together with High Commissioner of Ghana to India, H.E. Mike Oquaye Jr. High Commissioner interacted with the Indians being evacuated from Sierra Leone & Ghana with facilitation by the High Commission through Freetown-Accra-Mumbai charter flight that left on 11 August. One more evacuation flight left for India from Ghana & Sierra Leone on 20 August. High Commissioner interacted with Indians traveling back home. Till 20 August, 1500 stranded Indians from the Region were helped to return.



Interacting with leaders in education & culture High Commissioner highlighted need to strengthen people to people relations between India & Ghana.



High Commissioner interacted with economic policy authorities & business representatives in Ghana briefing them on developments in India and exploring possibilities to further strengthen India-Ghana economic ties.

High Commissioner interacted with Ghana Broadcasting Corporation authorities on developments in India & relations with Ghana and strengthening ties between broadcasters from the two countries.



High Commissioner interacted with GTV and highlighted aspects of ongoing transformation in India and opportunities for strengthening India-Ghana ties.

High Commissioner interacted with editors of Daily Graphic, leading Ghanaian daily on developments in India and the efforts in wake of pandemic, new GOI initiatives in education, agriculture etc.



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INITIATIVES

PM Modi launched **Transparent Taxation**-#HonoringTheHonest platform that will strengthen the efforts of reforming and simplifying India's tax system. PM unveiled the next phase of direct tax reforms aimed at easing compliance and rewarding honest taxpayers to boost Indian economy.

AtmaNirbharKrishi - PM launched Rs 1 lakh crore agriculture infrastructure fund; also released 6th instalment of PM-Kisan scheme. The scheme will provide better warehousing, cold storage facilities for farmers, food processing and post-harvest facilities will create new jobs.

New Education Policy 2020, which is a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in the country. It emphasizes on holistic multidisciplinary education for future nation's stakeholders.

National Recruitment Agency - approved by Union Cabinet under the chairmanship of PM Modi is a transformative reform aimed at enhancing transparency & streamlining recruitment process for Central Government jobs, through Common Eligibility Test. The decision will benefit job seeking youth of the country.

Mission Karmayogi -National Program for Civil Services Capacity Building approved by the Cabinet on 2 September, under the Chairmanship of PM Modi, will radically improve the Human Resource management practices in the Government. The programme aims to prepare Civil Servants for the future by making them more creative, constructive & innovative through transparency and technology.

The **POSHAN** (Prime Minister Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment) Abhiyaan, launched by the Government of India, aims to achieve improvement in nutritional status of children 0-6 years, pregnant women & lactating mothers in a time bound manner.

PM GraminGrihaPravesh -As part of 'Grih Pravesh' programme, on 12 September, PM Modi inaugurated 1.75 lakh houses built under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin) in Madhya Pradesh.

BUSINESS & CULTURE



High Commissioner interacted with top executives from the Ghana Union of Traders' Association (GUTA). Their discussions focused on Trade issues and need of strengthening bilateral trade especially to increase imports from India to Ghana.

High Commissioner interacted with top officials from JOSPONG Group of Companies. Their discussions focused on Trade related issues and need of strengthening bilateral trade between India to Ghana.



As part of the 2-year long celebration of Gandhi@150, HCI Accra organised GANDHI KATHA narrated by Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna on Facebook-live.

On the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi Festival High Commissioner visited Hindu Monastery of Ghana in Accra, sought blessings of Lord Ganesh and interacted with monks & devotees.



Hindi Day 2020 was organised in Accra with great enthusiasm on 14 September 2020. High Commissioner led the event with enthusiastic participation by the members of the High Commission, Indian community and school children. He also awarded prizes to the winners of the essay competition.



WAPCOS Team in Ghana called on High Commissioner and interacted on its ongoing projects in Ghana in diverse sectors including water, irrigation, energy etc.





Architecture

In which state of India did the martial arts Kalaripayattu originate?

- a. Andhra Pradesh
- b. Tamil Nadu
- c. Kerala
- d. Karnatak



Sri Harmandir Sahib also known as the Golden Temple, Sri Harmandir Sahib is one of the most sacred places in India and the holiest place for Sikhs. It is also one of the most visited places in India and witnesses tourists in millions of numbers every year. Surrounded by a beautiful lake, the Golden Temple was built in the 16th century; in 1604, the holy texts of Sikhism were introduced in the temple. The upper floors of this magnificent temple were originally built out of pure gold.

Please mail your responses by 1st October, 2020

info.accra@mea.gov.in

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

NEW EDUCATION POLICY 2020

NEP is a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in the country. The NEP 2020 announced by Ministry of Education, is a welcome move for the countrymen.

It emphasizes on holistic multidisciplinary education for future nation's stakeholders.

There are seven salient features or objectives of the announced National education policy apart from what is clearly evident in its documentation and which are in perfect harmony with Government's previous initiatives since 2014.

- (a) Self – reliant India
- (b) Sustainable development goals
- (c) Education as Economy booster
- (d) Internationalisation of Higher Education
- (e) Digitalized pedagogy and classrooms
- (f) A layered Accreditation system
- (g) Equipping teachers with latest technology and education methodology .



Fine arts

Kathakali comes from southwestern India, around the state of Kerala. Like Bharatanatyam, Kathakali is a religious dance. It draws inspiration from the Ramayana and stories from Shaiva traditions. Kathakali is traditionally performed by boys and men, even for female roles. The costumes and makeup are especially elaborate, with faces made to look like painted masks and enormous headdresses.



KADAI CHICKEN

Chicken karahi, or kaday chicken, is a dish from the Indian subcontinent noted for its spicy taste; it is notable in North Indian and Pakistani cuisine.

Ingredients for Kadai Chicken

- 750 g chicken
- 3 medium onions, chopped
- 3 medium tomatoes, pureed
- 3 tablespoons oil
- 2 teaspoons coriander seeds
- 2 teaspoons cumin seeds
- 10 black peppercorns
- 2 dried red chilies
- 2 tablespoon ginger-garlic paste
- 2 green chilies
- 2 tablespoons cashew nuts, pasted
- Coriander leaves for garnish
- Salt to taste



PREPARATION

- Dry roast peppercorns, cumin seeds, coriander seeds, and dry red chilies.
- Cool and grind it.
- Heat oil in a pan and cook the chopped onions until golden brown.
- Add the ginger-garlic paste and cook for 30 seconds.
- Add green chilies and cook for 20 seconds.
- Now, add the dry roasted spices, stir and cook for 1 minute.
- Add the chicken, tomato puree, cashew paste, and salt. Stir well, cover and cook for 15 minutes.
- Switch off the flame and let it stand for 5-7 minutes.
- Garnish with coriander leaves and serve hot.