



## Press Release

In response to an appeal for relief supplies to mitigate the damages caused by Hurricane Beryl and enhance the country's readiness to face such natural disasters, the Government of India decided to supply relief supplies to the friendly people of St. Vincent & the Grenadines. The first tranche of 10 tonnes of relief supplies comprising of sleeping bags, personal hygiene kits, tarpaulins and other essential items arrived in SVG on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.

An official handover ceremony was organized by the National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October when the first tranche of the air shipment was handed over to the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade & Consumer Affairs at the NEMO Headquarters in Old Montrose, Kingstown, H.E. Mr. Subhash Prasad Gupta, India's High Commissioner to SVG, announced the arrival of the first shipment totaling 65 tonnes, with an additional shipment expected soon. He said that India has supplied much needed relief supplies to SVG even in the midst of their own challenges and conveyed thanks to the Government and people of India for this wonderful gesture of friendship. He expressed hope that the supplies would be put to good use and help to bring the necessary relief to the affected people in SVG.

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Frederick Stephenson, expressed deep gratitude to India, highlighting the strong bilateral relationship established since 1981. He noted previous Indian contributions, such as the US\$200,000 Grant Assistance for Quick Impact Projects (QIP), which funded the restoration of the Bequia Community Market, Chateaubelair Agricultural Processing Facility, Glenside Recreation Center, and Calder Community Center.

NEMO Director Michelle Forbes also thanked India for responding to the needs identified following Hurricane Beryl's passage on July 1, 2024. She highlighted that, four months later, weekly relief shipments continue to the Southern Grenadines as part of ongoing disaster recovery and reconstruction efforts.

A few representative photos are attached.

29 October 2024





