



भारत की बात Bharat ki Baat

Newsletter of the Embassy of India in Suriname

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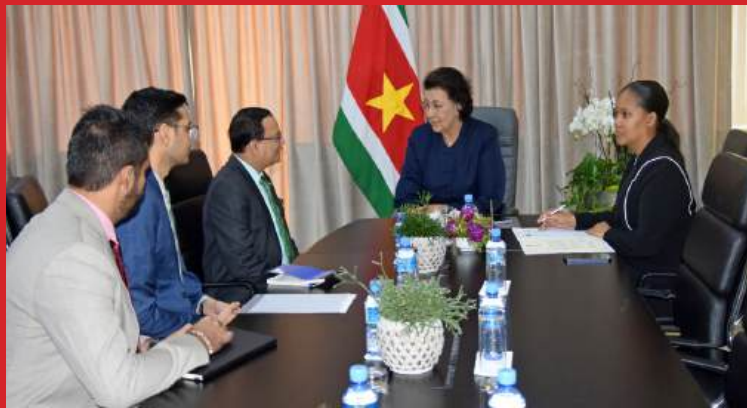
August 2025



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation on the 79th Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort.

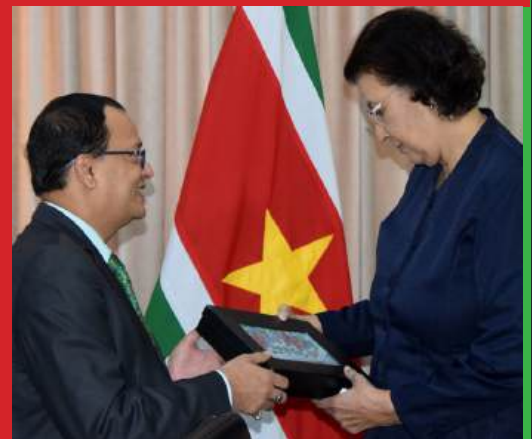
This day is a great occasion to remember India's freedom fighters and reaffirm the commitments to building a stronger, self-reliant India.

Ambassador pays courtesy visit to President Simons



Amb. Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy call on the Republic of Suriname's Hon'ble President, H.E. Dr. Jennifer Geerlings-Simons. The discussions centered on deepening the longstanding bilateral partnership and ongoing cooperation, with an emphasis on advancing technical cooperation and fostering mutual, citizen-centric development and new avenues for collaborations. During the meeting, a common commitment to transformative projects and sustainable growth through technological advancement and knowledge-sharing was emphasized.

The Honorable President emphasized the importance of India and the Indian Diaspora's contributions to Suriname in strengthening bilateral partnership and fostering cultural ties. A Maithili-printed handloom purse was also presented to the President of Suriname by the Ambassador to promote handloom and India's rich handicraft heritage. At the end, the Ambassador highlighted the main content of the meeting with the State media.



Ambassador meets Vice President Rusland



Amb. Subhash Gupta called on H.E. Dr. Gregory A. Rusland, the Vice President of the Republic of Suriname on 4 August. He reaffirmed his determination to work towards strengthening the two countries' relationship. The Vice President underscored the Government of Suriname's willingness to deepen the ongoing bilateral collaborations. To promote handloom and the rich handicraft tradition of India, the ambassador also presented a Maithili-printed handloom shawl to the Vice President of Suriname.

Amb. Subhash Gupta held a fruitful meeting with H.E. Adelen Wijnerman, the Minister of Finance and Planning of Suriname, today and discussed the status of the ongoing bilateral developmental projects funded by India, cooperation in the fields of financial technology and adoption of UPI, utilization of ITEC training, and other bilateral matters.



Ambassador visits Speaker of the National Assembly of Suriname

Amb. Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy call on H.E. Dr. Michael Ashwin Adhin, the Speaker of the National Assembly of Suriname, on 19 August and held a productive discussion covering a plethora of matters of common interest, notably cooperation in the fields of health & non-traditional medicine, IT and digital infrastructure, and fintech, besides parliamentary exchange and training, in order to further cementing and expanding the ongoing bilateral partnership between India and Suriname.

He presented to Dr. Adhin (a prominent member of the Indian community), a sapling of a curry leaf, an aromatic and medicinal plant used in Ayurveda and a maithilipainting depicting the Rama-Sita garlanding ceremony from the Ramayana. The Ramayana and Ayurveda traditions, among many, were brought to the region by Indian immigrants, a testament to the deep-rooted linkage between India and Suriname.



Embassy celebrates 79th Independence day

On 15th August 2025, the Embassy of India, Paramaribo celebrated the 79th Independence Day with great fervor and joy. The national flag was hoisted by Ambassador Subhash Gupta at the Chancery Premises in the presence of the members of the Indian community, diaspora members and the friends of India. Former Dy Speaker of the National Assembly and Pravasi Bhartiya Sammaan awardee, Mr. Dewanchandrabhose Sharman, along with two parliamentarians, Ms. Ameerani Jarbandhan and Mr. Rawien Raghoenanden, and Government officials also graced the occasion by their presence.

Flag hoisting was followed by the National Anthem and reading out of the address of the Hon'ble Rashtrapati Smt. Droupadi Murmu by the Ambassador.

To showcase India's rich diversity and culture, Dance teacher-cum-performer of Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) and SVCC students performed dances on a patriotic theme, following which the diaspora presented patriotic songs led by Shri Kries Ramkhelawan and his students.



Handloom Day celebrated in SVCC



The embassy celebrated National Handloom Day on 7 August at ICCR in Suriname showcasing rich handloom products from all corners of India and the Indian diaspora, displaying the beauty and elegance of the craftsmanship of Indian handlooms and textiles. In his remarks, the ambassador underlines the importance of handlooms and their role in providing livelihood and cultural identity of India.



Embassy holds Maithili Painting Exhibition

A captivating exhibition on Maithili paintings is inaugurated on 8 August 2025 at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in Paramaribo with the gracious presence of H.E. Dr. Michel Aswin Adhin, the Speaker of the Suriname National Assembly; the Minister of Justice and Police; diplomats; journalists; art enthusiasts; and members of the Indian diaspora.

The ambassador highlighted the salient feature of Maithili painting and underscored the significance of Maithili art as a living tradition and a bridge of cultural linkages between India and Suriname. Maithili painting is a traditional folk art led by women from the Mithila region of India, renowned for its intricate motifs, geometrical patterns, use of vibrant and bold colours, and deep cultural symbolism. The exhibition showcases a selection of works by Maithili folk artists, celebrating themes from mythology, nature, and daily life.

The Chief Guest Dr. Adhin commended the initiative, noting the importance of preserving and promoting ancestral art forms that continue to inspire across generations and geographies.

The Dance teacher and students of SVCC added new colour to the event by their cultural performance, especially with the captivating Jhijhiya Dance.



Glimpses of the celebrations of Raksha Bandhan at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre



On August 22, Amb. Subhash Gupta visited the Ministry of Regional Development and met with the Minister, H.E. Miquella Soemar-Huur, to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation between India and Suriname in the fields of regional, tribal, and rural development. The ambassador also informed her about the ongoing developmental projects in Suriname that are being funded by India and requested that Surinamese officials take advantage of various training and capacity-building programmes available in India.

A productive and detailed discussion was held between H.E. Lalinie Gopal, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Development and Sport, and Amb. Subhash Gupta on mutual cooperation and holistic youth development.

The Ambassador highlighted various initiatives available to the Government of Suriname to promote cricket and other key sports disciplines, emphasizing grassroots programs, talent identification, and infrastructure development.

The conversation also explored strategies to enhance youth engagement through a combination of physical fitness, sports, education, yoga-wellness practices, and skill-building activities.



Amb. Subhash Gupta met the Minister of Justice and Police, H. E. Mr. Harish Monorath at his office and discussed the ways to further advance the engagements in the field of police and justice administration between India and Suriname through capacity building, exchange of information and best practices.

BHARAT'S ECONOMY BOOMING!

ROBUST GDP GROWTH OF

7.8%

IN QUARTER 1 OF FY26

Highest in
5
Quarters

- » Strong growth in services, agriculture & construction
- » Economy powered by Modi Govt reforms & vision

Source: Matha Reports

VIKSIT BHARAT ON
FAST TRACK!



Mr. Vireender Lala, Policy Advisor of the Ministry of Public Works of the Government of Suriname, took leave on 11 August 2025 before his visit to India to attend a capacity-building training course on “Making Cities Sustainable” at the Human Settlement Management Institute, New Delhi from 20 August to 2 September 2025. It is a fully funded course under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). He had a pre-departure briefing at the Embassy.



A ceremony to constitute a chapter of the Global Indian Organization (GIO, erstwhile GOPIO) in Suriname was attended by Ambassador Subhash Gupta on 25 August held in Paramaribo, in which, Mr Radjindre Tewarie, GIO Chapter International constituted the Suriname Chapter comprising the President, Mr. Varun Sharma Mahtabsing, a Vice-President, Mr. Shivash Mahespalsingh and a Treasurer, Mrs. Rashnie Chhatta.



GIO constitute chapter in Suriname



Indian women steal show with three medals at the Asian Shooting Championship



Shri Goswami Tulsidas jayanti was celebrated at Mata Gauri. SVCC dance teacher Ms. Ambili Chidangil performed a dance. Mr. Prem Selwal, Second Secretary of the Embassy of India, Paramaribo addressed the gathering. He told them about the various scholarship schemes of the Government of India for Surinamese nationals.



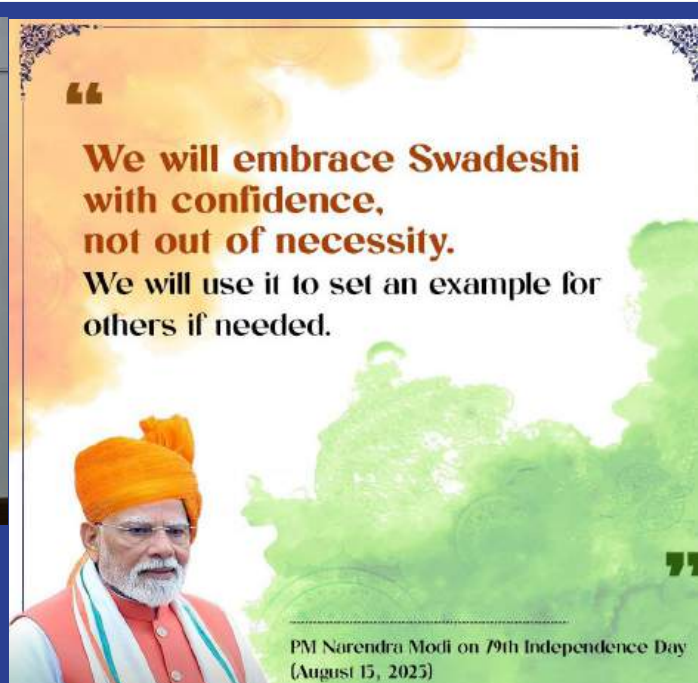
About four dozen senior women from the Indian diaspora, who are the keepers of our traditions, including Ayurveda and home remedies, interacted with Amb. Subhash Gupta and his team at Bharat Bhawan on 27 August. They shared herbal and spice-based mother remedies brought by their ancestors to their homes and how they are still in use today.

Common kitchen spices such as clove, ginger, garlic, Tulsi, and turmeric are used in both preventive and curative care in the Indo-Surinamese society. Ambassador honoured them for their unsung contribution to preserving the traditional knowledge and keeping the society healthy and invited them to participate in the Ayurveda Day Celebration scheduled to be held on 23 September at SVCC.





सुश्री सोनिया कर्बेडा, स्वामी विवेकानंद सांस्कृतिक केंद्र की हिंदी छात्रा, भारत जाने से पहले 18 अगस्त 2025 को भारत के राजदूत से मुलाकात कर उनसे मार्गदर्शन मांगते हुए भारत जाने के लिए विदा ली। इस वर्ष सूरिनाम से तीन लोगों का चयन इस पाठ्यक्रम के लिए हुआ है।



We will embrace Swadeshi with confidence, not out of necessity.
We will use it to set an example for others if needed.



On 25 August 2025 Dr. Somveer Arya, Director of the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, took a Yoga Darshan Class and explained the ways to concentrate of the chitt.

India is the largest producer of milk, pulses, and jute

2nd largest producer of rice, wheat, fruits, vegetables, and fish



Embassy of India, Paramaribo,
Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre
and
Surinamese Indian Women
Association
present

First-Ever All-Women
रत्नलोहदीव
in Suriname

Where grace meets divinity, and devotion takes center stage.
Witness the timeless tale of Lord Ram told
through the strength, spirit, and elegance of women.
A historic evening where Shakti brings Ramayana to life.

DATE 7 SEPTEMBER 2025	FREE ENTRY REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY	TIME 18:00 hrs (walk-in at 17:30hrs)
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