



भारत की बात Bharat ki Baat

Newsletter of the Embassy of India in Suriname

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High Commissioner Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia, Hon. Philip J. Pierre on 3 February 2026.

Discussions focused on the early implementation of key developmental projects and the strategic outcomes of the 2nd India-CARICOM Summit. Hon'ble PM Pierre reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring that the current momentum in bilateral relations is not only sustained but further enhanced for mutual benefit of both nations.



Amb. Subhash Gupta called on H.E. Andrew Baasaron, Hon'ble Minister of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship, and Technological Innovation, on 9 February 2026. The meeting highlighted:

1. The Minister-led delegation's participation in the upcoming Global AI Impact Summit
2. Advancing Suriname-India cooperation in Digital Public Infrastructure under the India STACK Memorandum of Understanding
3. Strengthening development partnerships in digital public service delivery

A step forward in harnessing innovation and collaboration for digital transformation and inclusive growth.



On February 2, 2026, High Commissioner Subhash Gupta visited the Commonwealth University College of Medicine for an interactive outreach session with students. The engagement fostered meaningful dialogue and shared perspectives.

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of *Vande Mataram*, students and faculty joined in a collective recitation, marking a memorable blend of cultural heritage and academic spirit.



An interaction session with a few ITEC participants was organized today to hear their valuable perspectives on the course and the experiences they've gained during their time in India. Their enthusiasm, insights, and commitment to applying this knowledge back home truly highlight the essence of the ITEC programme learning, collaboration, and partnerships.



On 7 February, Amb. Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy visit to the office of District Commissioner of Nickerie, Ms. Nisha Kurban, and discussed avenues to further deepen engagement between India and Nickerie.

Following their meeting, they visited the Nickerie Indoor Stadium cum Sports Complex. This site is set to undergo significant renovation under the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, a project that underscores India's commitment to supporting local infrastructure and



Amb. Subhash Gupta called on H.E. Mr. Stanley Soeropawiro, Minister of Land Policy and Forest Management. They held constructive discussions on strengthening cooperation in capacity building, wildlife and forest management, and the potential application of Indian technological expertise in Suriname besides timber exports and collaboration under the International Big Cat Alliance.

The minister also shared his experience when he was visited India participating in a Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation - ITEC course.



भारत कोना (हिंदीशाला) पहल के तहत सरमक्का के एक हिंदी विद्यालय को 19 फरवरी 2026 को हिंदी पुस्तकों का एक सेट उपहार स्वरूप दिया गया।



Diaspora outreach in Saint Lucia!

On 31 January 2026, High Commissioner Subhash Gupta hosted an Open House and Consular Camp in Vieux Fort to engage with the members of Indian Diaspora.

During the session, the High Commissioner:

- Met with board members of the Indian Cultural Foundation in Saint Lucia.
- Addressed community grievances and provided updates on key diaspora-related schemes.
- Discussed collaborative ways to boost cultural activities and build a more cohesive and connected community.

The gathering was further honored by the presence of Dr. Shanda Harracksingh, Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister and



On 11 February, Ambassador Subhash Gupta engaged in a fruitful consultation session with the Presidential Working Group of Suriname on Tourism, comprising senior government officials, the advisor to the Ministry of Tourism, and tour operators.

The discussions focused on strengthening cooperation in the field of tourism, including:

- Sharing best practices and capacity building through the ITEC programme
- Familiarization visits of Surinamese tour operators to India
- Exploring new avenues for collaboration

This dialogue marks another step toward deepening the India–Suriname cooperation in tourism and cultural exchange.



Ambassador Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy visit to the Minister of Oil, Gas and Environment of Suriname, H.E. Mr. Patrick Brunings.

During the meeting, they discussed ways to further strengthen engagement and collaboration between India and Suriname in the fields of hydrocarbons, renewable energy, and environmental management.

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Ambassador was invited by Suriname American Industries Ltd. (SAIL N.V)to tour their facility and engage in discussions on potential collaboration in the field of fisheries and fish processing. The visit provided an opportunity to explore avenues for strengthening cooperation between Suriname and India, particularly in advancing technology transfer, sustainable practices, capacity building and value-added processing in the fisheries sector.



Ms. Varsha P. Boejharat is all set to embark on an incredible journey to India for the 87th Know India Programme (KIP) from 8–27 February.

Following today's orientation session, Ambassador Subhash Gupta extended heartfelt wishes for a truly memorable experience as she reconnects with her ancestral roots.



High Commissioner Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Climate Change of Saint Lucia, Ms. Lisa Jawahir.

They engaged in productive discussions on the utilization of India's grant assistance of USD 1 million available under SME development, along with exploring additional areas of bilateral cooperation.



High Commissioner Subhash Gupta received Mr. Nickson Barry of the Ministry of Youth Development and Sports following his return from India, where he participated in the International Training Programme on Public Policy and Governance conducted by the National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development under the Government of India's ITEC Programme.

During the interaction, Mr. Barry shared valuable insights and experiences gained through the training, highlighting its contribution to enhancing his professional capacity and strengthening institutional linkages between India and Saint Lucia. The engagement reflected the continuing impact of India's capacity-building initiatives and the growing cooperation between the two countries through the ITEC framework.



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Last Date: 8 February 2026



Ambassador Subhash Gupta welcomed Mr. Quincy Joemai, Director of the Suriname Pharmaceutical Supply Company (BGVS), along with members of his team for discussions on strengthening cooperation in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors.

The meeting explored opportunities for sourcing medicines and medical consumables from India. Ambassador Gupta also highlighted India's Jan Aushadhi Scheme, which provides quality medicines at affordable prices, and discussed the potential applicability of similar initiatives in Suriname.

The interaction underscored the growing scope of India-Suriname cooperation aimed at improving access to affordable healthcare solutions.