



# भारत की बात Bharat ki Baat

Newsletter of the Embassy of India in Suriname

Concurrently accredited to Barbados, Saint Lucia & St. Vincent & The Grenadines



Volume 1 / Issue No.13

July 2025



PM Narendra Modi along with fellow BRICS leaders at the Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, reaffirming India's commitment to closer cooperation and shared growth. BRICS holds immense potential to shape a more inclusive and equitable global future.

## Ambassador congratulates President Simons



Amb. Subhash Gupta congratulated and extended best wishes to the President of Suriname, H.E. Dr. Jennifer Geerlings-Simons, and Ministers of her Cabinet during a reception hosted by the President of Suriname on 16 July. He expressed his commitment to working with the new Government to further deepen and expand the bilateral relations between India and Suriname.



**Om Birla**   
@ombirlakota

Congratulations to H.E. Michael Ashwin Adhin @AdhinMichael on your election as Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Suriname. Wishing you success in strengthening democratic values and further enhancing the Suriname-India relations.

@IndEmbSur



Hon'ble Om Birla, Speaker of Lok Sabha (Indian Parliament) congratulated H.E. Michael Ashwin Adhin for his election as he chairperson of the National Assmeby of Suriname.



Ambassador received H.E. Amb. Agus Priono at his office. They discussed exploring the possibility of collaborating in the field of performing arts—Ramayana, dance, traditional medicine, etc.—given the strong civilization linkages between India and Indonesia, especially Java, and the presence of sizable Hindustani and Javanese diasporas in Suriname.



The 'Maratha Military Landscapes of India' have been inscribed in @UNESCO World Heritage list. Developed between 17th & 19th centuries, the extraordinary fortification systems showcase the complexity and strategic prowess of Maratha defense systems as well as India's rich civilisational legacy.

## Ambassador interacts with participants of 82nd KIP



Ambassador extended his best wishes to three participants from Suriname who will be proceeding to India to attend the 82nd Know India Programme scheduled to be held during July-August. Prior to the ambassador's interaction with participants, Second Secretary Mr. Prem Selwal had conducted a pre-departure orientation session for the participants.

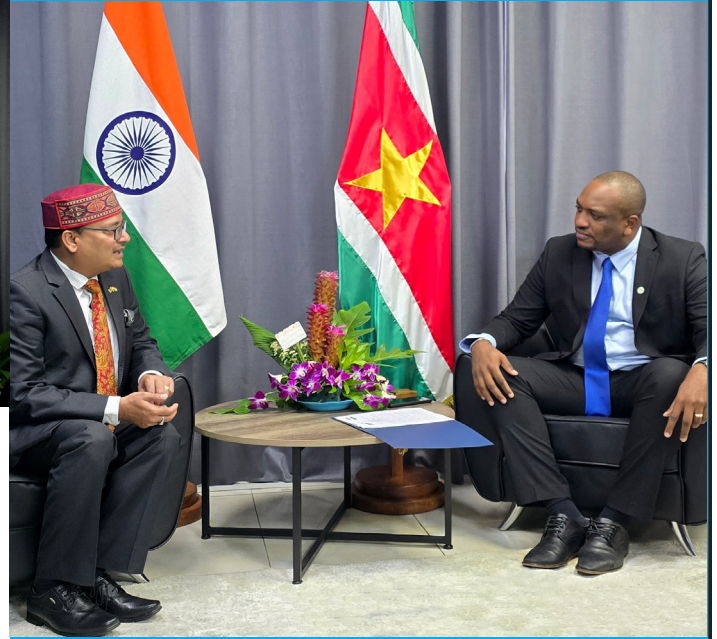
Ms. Ratna Sushma Madhvi Bahadoersingh, official of the Ministry of Land and Forest Management, Suriname took leave on 28 July before her visit to India to attend a capacity building training course on "SUSTAINABLE GOALS AN INTEGRATED APPROACH" at National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development, Narela, New Delhi from 07-20 Aug 2025. It is a fully funded course under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). She had a pre-departure briefing with Second Secretary Mr. Prem Selwal.



# Ambassador calls on Foreign Minister



Amb. Subhash Gupta briefed H.E. Mr. Melvin Bouva, the newly appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Cooperation of Suriname, on the state of the two countries' cooperative relations, including developmental projects, historical connections and cultural linkages, economic cooperation, and collaboration at multilateral fora, during his courtesy call on 22 July 2025. The minister conveyed the Government of Suriname's willingness to further strengthen the ongoing collaborations.



## High Commissioner interacts with community in SVG



During an open house, the High Commissioner had an interaction with medical students from India pursuing their studies at the medical universities in Kingstown. About 60 students, including Indian diaspora students and a few Indian faculty, attended the event at Palki, Villa. HC assured them that the High Commission of India remains committed to students' well-being and encouraged them to engage closely with the High Commission for required assistance.

High Commissioner Subhash Gupta visited the New India Assurance Company, a decade-old branch in Saint Lucia, on 28 July and interacted with a team led by the Resident Branch Manager, Mr. Sameer Nikalje. HC congratulated the team for impressive annual growth of 25 percent compared to the previous financial year, as shared by Mr. Sameer.



## Ambassador interacts with KIP Alumni



Ambassador had a productive interaction with the Know India Programme's participants from Suriname at the dinner at the 'Bharat Bhawan' on 10 July 2025. Besides discussing their impressions of the trip and the knowledge they acquired from India, the participants promised to keep collaborating with India. The atmosphere was brought to life by Mr. Kries Ramkhelawan's melodious Baithak Gaana and quick Hindustani music workshop.



Ambassador Subhash Gupta had an interaction with Know of India Programme's participants from Suriname at the dinner at the 'Bharat Bhawan' in Paramaribo on 30 June 2025. In addition to sharing their thoughts on the visit and gained experience from India, the participants pledged to continue working with India.



The High Commissioner interacted with members of the Indian community at Vieux Fort on 27 July during an open house, and he addressed the queries related to consular and commercial matters raised by community and diaspora members residing in Saint Lucia.



A delegation led by Pt. Sarwankoemar Ramsoedit Tewarie, the president of the board of the Sanatan Dharm Maha Sabha of Suriname, called on the Ambassador Subhash Gupta on 11 July. Besides joining hands in the fields of Hindi teaching, yoga, and Ayurveda, the discussion was centered around the proposed setting up of a Vriddha Ashram Nursing Home cum Day Care Center for Senior Citizens under India's grant assistance in the district of Wanica.

High Commissioner Subhash Gupta and H.E. Jonathan W. D. Reid, the Minister of Innovation, Industry, Science, and Technology of the Government of Barbados signed a Memorandum of Understanding for setting up a coconut processing plant to support local micro and small enterprises and farmers in Barbados. This project is part of a USD 1 million grant announced by Hon'ble EAM, Dr. S. Jaishankar, at the India-COFCOR Georgetown meet in 2023.



Mr. Kien Troy official of the Ministry of Defense, Suriname took leave on 24 July before his visit to India to attend a capacity building training course on "Multimedia Forensics" at National Forensic Science University, Gandhinagar from 04-15 Aug 2025. It is a fully funded course under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). He had a pre-departure briefing with Second Secretary Mr. Prem Selwal.



On July 23, the High Commissioner visited the following Quick Impact Project sites to evaluate their implementation progress:

1. Construction of the gym at the Central Leeward Secondary School;
2. Rehabilitation of the Penniston Community Centre; and
3. Rehabilitation of the Netball Hard Court, Edinboro

These small, quick-impact projects are being implemented under the Grant-in-Aid Assistance of the Government of India.

# High Commissioner interacts with SVG PM



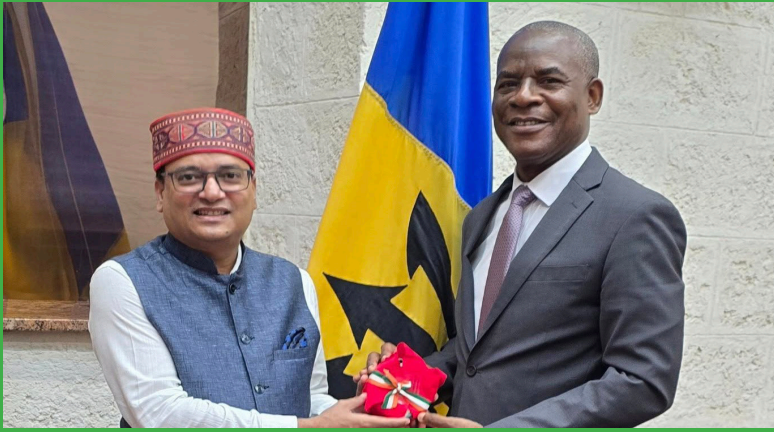
High Commissioner Subhash Gupta had a brief interaction with Hon'ble PM Ralph Gonsalves at the Cabinet meeting room. The High Commissioner held a detailed productive discussion with some of the prominent ministers just before the Cabinet Meeting. They discussed a wide range of matters of bilateral cooperation, including ongoing developmental projects, ITEC training, and cooperation at multilateral forums between India and SVG.

Mr. Jason Menso, Head International Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Employment and youth Affairs, Suriname took leave on 22 July before his visit to India to attend a capacity building training course on "Fundamentals of International Law and Security" at Rashtriya Raksha University, Gandhinagar from 28 Jul – 08 Aug 2025. It is a fully funded course under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). He had a pre-departure briefing with Second Secretary Mr. Prem Selwal



HC Subhash Gupta called on several senior ministers of the Saint Lucian government, including Agriculture, Commerce & Manufacturing, Public Services & Labor, and Health, and also met with External Affairs officials on 28 July.

A wide range of bilateral matters of mutual benefit, including digital infrastructure & SME development, health, mobility, ITEC training, and developmental partnership projects, as well as cooperation at multilateral forums, was discussed.



During his visit to Bridgetown, HC Subhash Gupta met with the President of the Barbados Senate to discuss the preparation of the forthcoming 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference scheduled to be convened in Bridgetown in October.

High Commissioner Subhash Gupta had productive exchanges pertaining to the entire gamut of bilateral relations and cooperation at multilateral fora with the Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade of Barbados and Senior Minister coordinating productive sector, H.E. The Hon. Kerrie D. Symmonds, M.P., when he called on the Minister on 30 July 2025.



Mr. Kien Troy official of the Ministry of Defense, Suriname took leave on 24 July before his visit to India to attend a capacity building training course on "Multimedia Forensics" at National Forensic Science University, Gandhinagar from 04-15 Aug 2025. It is a fully funded course under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). He had a pre-departure briefing with Second Secretary Mr. Prem Selwal.



On July 23, the High Commissioner visited the following Quick Impact Project sites to evaluate their implementation progress:

1. Construction of the gym at the Central Leeward Secondary School;
2. Rehabilitation of the Penniston Community Centre; and
3. Rehabilitation of the Netball Hard Court, Edinboro

These small, quick-impact projects are being implemented under the Grant-in-Aid Assistance of the Government of India.



Ambassador received a delegation comprised of the Managing Director of the South American and Caribbean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ms. Nancy Haynes; Mr. Umesh K. Menon, Senior International Expert, and Mr. Gaddam Shachindar Reddy, Honorary Consul of Suriname to Mozambique, at the Embassy. Discussion was held covering a wide range of matters related to India-Suriname trade and commerce, investment, business development, mobility, connectivity, etc.

## Guru Purnima celebrated at the SVCC

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Center and Embassy of India, Paramaribo Celebrated Guru Purnima festival at SVCC.

## Ambassador addresses audience at opening Bollywood Film Festival

Ambassador Subhash Gupta addressed the audience during the inauguration of the Bollywood Festival on 11 July at TBL Cinema, organized by Lex Entertainment. He highlighted the popularity of Bollywood cinema in the Caribbean region, including Suriname. The evening was to feature a red-carpet event followed by a screening of the timeless classic Sholay. Seven films were screened during the film festival which significantly attracted the Bollywood lovers.



**भारत की बात**  
**Bharat ki Baat**

[www.indembassysuriname.gov.in](http://www.indembassysuriname.gov.in)

For more updates follow our social media

Embassy of India, Paramaribo:

@India in Suriname

Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre:

@ICCR in Suriname

