



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत की बात Bharat ki Baat

Newsletter of the Embassy of India in Suriname

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



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Chenab Bridge in Jammu and Kashmir, India was inaugurated on 6 June by Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi. With an impressive height of 359 meters above the riverbed, the Chenab Bridge is the world's highest railways bridge. The bridge will give a boost to socio-economic development of the J&K region while improving its connectivity with other parts of #BemisaalBharat.

Union External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar extends Passport Seva Divas wishes



13वें पासपोर्ट सेवा दिवस के अवसर पर भारत और विदेश में सभी पासपोर्ट अधिकारियों को हार्दिक बधाई।

‘सेवा, सुशासन और गरीब कल्याण’ के भाव से प्रेरित आपके सराहनीय प्रयास, लोगों की यात्रा को सहज बनाने, वैश्विक कार्यस्थल तक उनकी पहुँच को विस्तार देने और अपने नागरिकों को सशक्त बनाने में बहुत उपयोगी हैं।

पासपोर्ट सेवा कार्यक्रम 2.0 और ई-पासपोर्ट की शुरुआत के साथ, #TeamMEA, अपनी पासपोर्ट सेवाओं की समयबद्धता, पारदर्शिता और सुलभता को और भी बेहतर करने की प्रतिबद्धता को दोहराती है।



Ambassador Subhash Gupta witnessed the inaugural session of the National Assembly of Suriname on 29 June 2025 that elected Mr. Ashwin Adhin, a PIO, as the Chairman of the National Assembly. It was pleasant to see that Mr. Adhin became the second leader in Suriname who took his pledge in Sanskrit, a classical language of India. Later, the ambassador congratulated him for his election and expressed that India-Suriname relations, including parliamentary exchanges, will be further enhanced under his able leadership.

Ambassador meets Governor of Kerala



Amb. Subhash Gupta called on the Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, Shri Rajendra Arlekar, and other dignitaries, including the industry & tourism minister and the Chief Secretary of Kerala, during his ongoing official visit to Kerala.

He gave dignitaries a briefing on the Indian diaspora's status in Suriname, Barbados, Saint Lucia, and SVG, as well as their cultural ties to India. He sought guidance in order to enhance cooperation between these countries in the field of coconut-based industries, including coir processing, spice and tea growing and processing, Ayurveda, and tourism through technology transfer and sharing of know-how, promoting entrepreneurs for joint ventures, etc.



Ambassador Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy call on the Governor, Smt. Anandi Ben Patel, and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogi Adityanath. The Chief Minister shared his insights about the Indian diaspora in the Caribbean region and expressed his eagerness to further revitalize the civilizational connections through people-to-people engagements and cultural exchanges besides strengthening economic ties.



The ambassador of India to Suriname and his spouse joined the first lady of Suriname, Madam Melissa Santokhi Seenacheri, at the inauguration ceremony of the monument set up to mark 145 years of the foundation of the New Nickerie city. The monument showcases the history of immigrants, including the Indian diaspora and their settlement and cultural heritage, including rice plantations and other aspects.

Assisting a Global South partner



Under SEEDS (Supply of Equipment for Efficient Development of SMES) initiative, sends USD 1 million worth SMEs machinery to St. Vincent and the Grenadines for setting up a Root Crop Processing Plant. Aimed at boosting St. Vincent and the Grenadines' food processing sector & farmers' incomes, the project will strengthen bilateral ties between India & SVG.

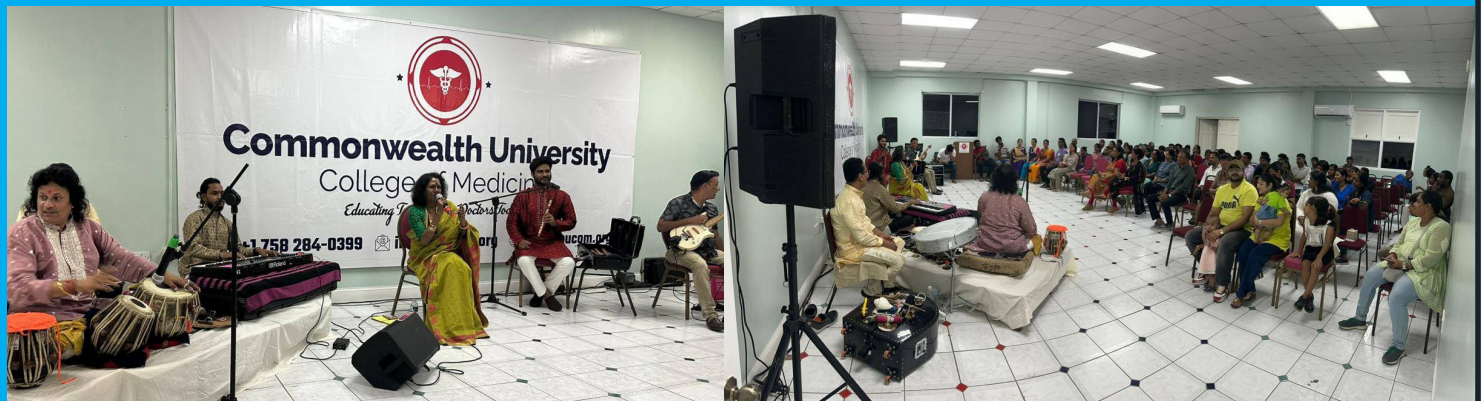
First Shipment of Fruit Processing Machinery Arrived From India to Suriname



The Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) grant initiative, announced by Honourable External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar, has achieved a key milestone with the arrival of the first shipment of fruit processing machinery from India to Suriname. Implemented in collaboration with NABCONS India, this USD 1 million grant aid project reflects India's commitment to supporting sustainable economic growth, strengthening SMEs, increasing farmers' income, and promoting international cooperation.

Embassy Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Shri Prem Selwal visited the project site, inspected the shipment, and met with Melkcentrale NV Director Mr. Dewkoemar Sitaram and his team. Installation will begin after the second and final shipment arrives, enabling the facility, site developed with cooperation of Melkcentrale NV, to become operational. The facility will primarily process Passion Fruit but will also have the capacity to handle other fruits.

Bhojpuri Folk Music & Dance Group performs in Saint Lucia



The visiting Bhojpuri Folk Music & Dance Group led by Dr. Shailesh Srivastava sponsored by the Indian Council for Cultural relations (ICCR), New Delhi performed the Bhojpuri Folk Music and Dance at Commonwealth College of Medical (CUCOM) Auditorium, Saint Lucia in the evening of 04 June 2025 followed by a Workshop on Music and Dance in the evening of 05 June 2025.

On 05 June 2025 dance & music performance and a workshop on basic principles of the art was conducted by group leader, Dr. Shailesh Srivastava and her group.

The Raneau Group of Company and Commonwealth College of Medical (CUCOM), Saint Lucia joined hands with the High Commission of India and the SVCC in organising this show.

Over 150 guests attended the various events and the workshop.



On June 5, 2025, the Embassy and Cultural Centre observed the 152nd anniversary of the arrival of Indians on the Surinamese shore, commemorating the arrival of the Indians in the country.

Mr. Prem Selwal, Charge d' Affaires a.i., along with mission officials and community members, offered flowers at the Baba and Mai Statue. Dr. Somveer Arya, Director of the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, led the yoga event following the floral tribute. This occasion honored the contributions of Indian ancestors who first arrived in Paramaribo via the ship Lalla Rookh in 1873, with approximately 34,000 Indians arriving in Suriname between 1873 and 1916.

The Embassy extends its wishes to the Indian-Surinamese community on the 152nd anniversary of Indian arrival.

11th International day of Yoga celebrated in Suriname



On 21 June 2025, the Embassy of India in Paramaribo, in collaboration with the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), celebrated the 11th International Day of Yoga (IDY) at Arya Diwakar Hall, Paramaribo. The event, centered on the theme “Yoga for One Earth, One Health,” promoted the holistic benefits of yoga for physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.

Embassy Charge d’Affaires, a.i. Prem Selwal, welcoming the guests, spoke about the significance of the Day and the usefulness of yoga as a means for achieving holistic health. The event featured a one-hour session of the common yoga protocol, which was led and demonstrated by Director (SVCC) Dr. Somveer Arya, along with Pandit Ashis Mathura, Local Yoga Teachers, and attendees of SVCC Yoga classes. Adding an Indian cultural touch to the event, SVCC Dance teacher Ms. Ambili Chindagil performed Bharatanatyam. A Yoga dance was also performed by the SVCC students led by Ms. Chindagil.

M/S Kalpataru Power Transmission Ltd. Country Manager Mr. Sudheendra Basavanakote and company team, the Director of Public Health in Suriname, Dr. Rakesh Gajadhar Sukul, Deputy Chairman of Arya Diwakar Temple, Pt. Ranjeet Mangrey, Ms. Daniella Sumter representing the NDP party leader Mrs. Jennifer Geerlings-Simons, Members from Diplomatic Missions, Ministry officials and distinguished guests joined the occasion in celebration of the IDY.

The session saw an enthusiastic participation of around 250 people from different walks of life and of all ages, keen to embrace the benefits of yoga.

International Yoga day celebrated in Saint Lucia



On 21 June, 2025, the Commonwealth University College of Medicine in Saint Lucia, in collaboration with the Indian Embassy in Paramaribo (Concurrently accredited as the High Commission of India to Saint Lucia), organized an event to celebrate the 11th International Day of Yoga on the theme of 'Yoga for One Earth, One Health'. About 75 yoga participants, comprising of Indian students/teaching staff, local citizens, and the Indian diaspora highlighted the growing global appreciation for yoga's benefits in promoting health and well-being. Common Yoga protocol demonstrated by Dr Sreevani Namani from the Faculty of Commonwealth University.



Mr. Satish Avinash Kumar Harpal, Medical lab Technician at the Bureau of Public of the Ministry of Health, Suriname took leave this morning (24 June) before his visit to India to attend a capacity building training course "International Public Health Management Development Program Iteration -I " at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh from 02 July 2025 to 11 July 2025. It is a fully funded course under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme. Suriname is an ITEC partner country and over 500 Surinamese have benefitted from this scholarship.

A warmful and insightful orientation was held before his departure.



India's Astronaut in Space

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla lifts off from NASA's Kennedy Space Center on the Axiom4 mission to the International Space Station to join the Space Station crew. This historic occasion, facilitated through a joint ISRO - Indian Space Research Organisation - NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration effort, makes him the first Indian to go to ISS. Astronaut Shukla will also conduct microgravity experiments for R&D and academic institutions of India.

Curtain raiser for the 11th International Yoga day held in various districts

Embassy of India, Paramaribo conducted Curtain Raiser of 11th International Day of Yoga in various districts over Suriname. Yoga protocol Led by SVCC Director, Dr Somveer Arya.



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
5th June 2025

Ending Plastic Pollution Globally

Reuse **glass containers/packaging plastic** items as storage boxes

भंडारण बक्सों के रूप में कांच के **कंटेनरों/प्लास्टिक पैकेजिंग वस्तुओं** का पुनः उपयोग करें।

#MissionLIFE #WorldEnvironmentDay2025

moefcc moefccgoi moef.gov.in



On 30 June 2025, Director of SVCC, Dr. Somveer Arya, delivered a lecture on Non Violence at Satya Sanatan Vedic Sansthan, Saramacca.

11 SAAL

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BRINGING JUSTICE CLOSER EVEN TO THE LAST VILLAGE

Tele-Law-Legal Aid Reaching the Unreached

Free online legal services to the poor

Services provided through
2.5 lakh Common Service Centres

Benefitted over 1.11 crore beneficiaries



Ambassador Subhash Gupta paid a courtesy call on the Governor of Bihar on 28 May 2025. He briefed him about the status of the Indian diaspora in the Caribbean region with special reference to Suriname, Barbados, Saint Lucia & SVG and sought the guidance of the governor in order to enhance people-to-people connections and intensify cultural linkages.



152nd Indian Arrival day celebrated in Suriname

On the occasion of the 152nd Anniversary of Indian Arrival in Suriname, Embassy Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Shri Prem Selwal and Director of Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Dr. Somveer Arya, had the honor of joining H. E. President Chandrikapersad Santokhi, Honorable National Assembly Member Michael Ashwin Adhin, distinguished political figures, members of the Indian Associations, the Indian community, and esteemed guests at the ceremonial garlanding of the Baba and Mai statue.



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