

Visit of Delhi U3A Seniors to South Africa

On the invitation of Shri Virendra Gupta, Indian High Commissioner in South Africa, a 29 members goodwill delegation of Senior Citizens Council of Delhi led by its President, J.R. Gupta visited South Africa between 16th & 27th June, 2014. The other members were Mrs. & Mr. Ashok Popli (Safderjung Enclave), Mrs. & Mr. Daljit Singh Bhatia (Green Park Extn.), Mrs. & Mr. Bhagirath Prasad Agarwal (Vasant Enclave), Mrs. & Mr. Jagat Prakash Gupta (Nehru Apartments, Kalkaji), Mrs. & Mr. K.D. Jaitely (Navjiwan Vihar), Mrs. & Mr Uday Chand Jindal (Noida), Mrs. & Mr. Suraj Bhan Gupta (Jia Sarai), Mrs. & Mr. Vipin Kumar Bali (Vasant Enclave), Man Mohan Lal Malhotra & Shri Pal Agarwal (Noida), Mrs. Sharda Kochhar (Green Park Extn.), Col. Mrs. Amrita Darnal (Vasant Vihar), Harish Narayan Gupta (Vishal Enclave), Girdhari Lal Gupta (Hargovind Enclave), Lakhi Ram Garg (DDA Flats Munirka), Gyan Singh Tokas (Munirka Village), Ms. Aparna Jaitely (Navjivan Vihar), Mrs. Laxmi Dabas (Saket), Mrs. Daya Vati Kalra (Safderjung Enclave), Dharam Pal Rupal (Gteen Park).

The delegation members also visited Capetown, Pretoria, Sun City, Johannesburg & Kruger National Park. The members also had interactions session at Capetown, with the senior citizens associations and exchanged views with each other for the cause and care of elderly in both the countries. A dinner was hosted by the Indian High Commissioner at India House, Pretoria (Capital of South Africa) on 20/06/2014 in the Honors of delegation members.

Shri Virendra Gupta, Indian High Commissioner also briefed delegation members about South Africa particularly business relations as under:-

1. Indian Community:- 1.5 million

2. Indian Exports to South Africa:- Mineral Fuels & Mineral Oils, Vehicles, Pharmaceuticals Product, electrical machinery and equipment and parts, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances, organic chemicals, plastic and articles thereof, articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted, iron and steel, tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes.

3. South African Exports to India:- Gold & Silver, Coal, Coke & Briquettes etc Ores Slag and Ash, Inorganic chemicals, Iron and Steel, Aluminium and articles thereof, organic chemicals, boilers and machinery, pulp of wood or of fibrous material, wool, fine or coarse animal hair, fertilizers and plastics.

4. Political relations with India:- Formal diplomatic relations were established in 1993. Since then both countries have established strategic partnership. 33 agreements have been signed in diverse fields.

Both the countries are the members of BRICS and the 5th BRICS summit was held in March, 2013 in Durban ` which was attended by Dr. Manmohan Singh, Former P.M. of India. There is also an active contact between India and South Africa in multilateral fora, particularly at the NAM, Commonwealth, G-77, G-20, NAASP and WTO.

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J.R. Gupta,
President, Senior Citizens Council of Delhi &
Chairperson, Confederation of Senior Citizens Associations of Delhi
(an umbrella body of 11 lakh senior citizens),
National Vice Chairperson, ISU3A (North Zone)
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