



CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA
HO CHI MINH CITY
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
JANUARY – MARCH 2020



The year 2020 also known as the ‘Rat Year’ started off with quite an unexpected turn of events. After the annual TET holidays in the last week of January 2020, South East Asia was confronted with the ‘CORONAVIRUS’. The virus, which initially started in Wuhan District in China, has now spread to almost all the countries in the world with more than 3.6 million infections and more than 250,000 deaths. Many countries have termed this as the ‘Worst Disaster’ being faced after the World War II. With Social Distancing being the key to curb this enemy to humankind and respecting the local laws, many economic and cultural events could not be carried out as scheduled and has been either postponed or cancelled.

Consulate celebrated 71st Republic Day of India by unfurling the National Flag at the Consulate premises on 26th January, 2020. Due to the annual TET holidays, the National Day Reception was hosted on 4th February, 2020 at Hotel Sheraton. Consulate celebrated the 15th World Hindi Day, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and 30th Anniversary of Vietnam-India Friendship Association (VIFA) on 8th January, 2020 at Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH). A special event was also organized by Ho Chi Minh City Union of Friendship Organisations along with the above events on 8th January, 2020 to mark the 71st Republic Day of India. Tamilian Community along with the support of INCHAM and Consulate celebrated the festival of Thai Pongal on 12th January, 2020.

On the commercial front, Embassy of India in Hanoi organized ‘Meet India’ Event on 9th January in Hanoi which highlighted the opportunities presented by India in the commercial sector. Consulate also participated in a seminar on the investment opportunities in the Tra Vinh Province along with the celebration of 120 years of establishment of the Tra Vinh Province which was organized on 14-15 January, 2020. A group of 10 officers of Indian Foreign Service visited Vietnam in the first week of February, 2020 as part of their Mission Attachment Programme. On 4th March, 2020 Consul General also attended the launch ceremony for Vietnam Level II Field Hospital Rotation 3.

The first quarter also witnessed a number of farewell calls and meetings due to the transfer of Consul General Dr. K. Srikar Reddy. Dr. Reddy proceeded from Vietnam to join his new assignment in Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 8th March, 2020.

Villa Orchid 14, An Phu Superior Compound
36 Thao Dien, Thao Dien ward, district 2
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Website: www.cgihcmc.goc.in

Phone: (+84) 28 3744 2400
Fax: (+84) 28 3744 2405
Facebook.com/cgihcmc
Twitter: @cgihcm

INDEX

I.	ENGAGEMENT WITH SOUTHERN PROVINCE OF VIETNAM	
a.	Annual Meeting between the Consular Corps and Binh Duong Provincial Authorities	Page 2
b.	Celebration of 120 years of establishment of the Tra Vinh Province & Seminar on Investment Opportunities in the Tra Vinh Province.....	Page 2
II.	BILATERAL	
a.	Launch Ceremony for Vietnam Level II Field Hospital Rotation 3.....	Page 3
III.	ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL	
a.	Textile Industry Commemoration by Association Of Garment Textile Embroidery Knitting (AGTEK).....	Page 4
b.	Meet India Event, Hanoi.....	Page 4
IV.	CULTURAL OUTREACH	
a.	World Hindi Day, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Special Event organized by Vietnam-India Friendship Association (VIFA) to mark the 71 st Republic Day of India & 30 th Anniversary of Vietnam-India Friendship Association.....	Page 5
b.	Thai Pongal Festival celebration in Ho Chi Minh City	Page 6
c.	71 st Republic Day of India	Page 7-8
V.	MISCELLANEOUS	
a.	Visit of 2019 Batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Probationers	Page 9
b.	Farewell calls and meetings by Consul General, Dr. K. Srikar Reddy	Page 10
VI.	CONSULATE IN NEWS	

ENGAGEMENT WITH SOUTHERN PROVINCES OF VIETNAM



On the evening of 9th January, 2020, the Provincial Party Committee, the People's Council, the People's Committee, the Vietnam Fatherland Front Committee held the annual Diplomatic Corps meeting at Thu Dau Mot City. Mr. R.O. Sunil Babu, Consul & Head of Chancery represented the Consulate.



Mr. R.O. Sunil Babu, Consul & Head of Chancery attended the celebrations to mark the 120th anniversary of the founding of Tra Vinh province as well as the Tra Vinh Investment Promotion Conference 2020 on 14-15 January, 2020. The celebrations and the investment conference were attended by the Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr. Nguyễn Xuân Phúc. Prime Minister Phúc in his speech pointed out the progress in the agro and aquaculture fields in the province and spoke on the need of ensuring a consolidated and integrated transport system for further enhancing the development of the province. Mr. Phúc also spoke on the need to improve the education system, better administrative machinery for business development as well as the need for administrative reform at the provincial level.

BILATERAL



Dr. K. Srikar Reddy, Consul General on 4th March, 2020 attended the Launch Ceremony for Vietnam Level II Field Hospital Rotation 3 participating in the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in South Sudan. The event was organized by the Vietnam Department of Peacekeeping Operations (VNDPKO) of the Ministry of National Defence of Vietnam. Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Chi Vinh, Deputy Defence Minister presided as Chief Guest of the event.

ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL

Shri R.O. Sunil Babu, Consul & Head of Chancery attended the commemoration ceremonies of the Textile and Garment Sector in Hoa Su Restaurant, Binh Thanh District on 03rd January, 2020. The ceremony included Member's admissions ceremony and ritual of incense offering and receive a blessing for a full year of prosperity.



The Embassy of India in Hanoi, in association with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam, jointly organized “Meet India 2020” in Hanoi on 9th January, 2020 to showcase opportunities presented by India and developments in India-Vietnam relations, for the provinces in Vietnam. The event provided an interactive platform for participants from both sides to deepen economic and business linkages in emerging and priority areas. The event was co-chaired by H.E. Bui Thanh Son, First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam and Mr. Pranay Verma, Ambassador of India to Veitnam. Over 150 participants, including senior officials and representatives from more than 25 provinces of Vietnam, joined along with members of Vietnamese and Indian business communities. Indian Business Chamber in Vietnam (INCHAM) partnered in the event. A delegation from Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and representatives from India’s EXIM Bank, along with a number of Indian businesses having presence in Vietnam, also joined.

CULTURAL OUTREACH

On 9th January, 2020 Consulate General of India in Ho Chi Minh City celebrated 15th World Hindi Day, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and 30th Anniversary of the establishment of Vietnam-India Friendship Association (VIFA). Along with this, VIFA also organized a special event to mark the 71st Republic Day of India. The event was organized in the Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences & Humanities (USSH) which is the only University in Vietnam to offer Hindi classes to Vietnamese. Apart from Consul General, Dr. K. Srikar Reddy and other officers from the Consulate, dignitaries who were present for the event included Dr. Phan thanh Dinh, Vice President, USSH; Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong Diem, Vice Chairwoman, Ho Chi Minh City Union of Friendship Organisations (HUFO); Dr. Huynh Thanh Lap, Chairman, VIFA; Dr. Ho Minh Quang, DEAN, Faculty of Oriental Studies, USSH; Mr. Mohan Ramesh Anand, Chairman, INCHAM; officials from Home Affairs Department and Foreign Affairs Department of Ho Chi Minh City. Approximately 300 people including faculty, students from USSH and members of the Indian diaspora attended the event.



THAI PONGAL FESTIVAL

The Indian Business Chamber in Vietnam (INCHAM) in collaboration with the Ho Chi Minh City Tamil Sangham organised Thai Pongal Festival on Saturday, January 12, 2020 at Van Thanh Park, Binh Thanh District, Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC). The event was attended by around 350 people, including Dr. Ho Thi Trinh Anh, Vice-Chairwoman, Vietnam-India Friendship Association (VIFA); Mr. Duong Quoc Tuan, General Secretary, VIFA; Vietnamese local people; local Indian community; travel and tour operators from Vietnam and media. This is the fifth consecutive year of Thai Pongal celebrations in HCMC.



71ST REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA

Consulate General of India celebrated the 71st Republic Day of India by Unfurling the National Flag on 26th January, 2020 at the Consulate premises. More than 150 members from the Indian community and Indophiles were present for the occasion. On this occasion, Indian community members put up an spectacular show portraying their love for their motherland. Keeping up the spirit of Republic Day, kids from the Indian Community presented a fancy-dress show where they were dressed as national heroes and freedom fighters. Patriotic songs and dances were also performed by kids and adults on this occasion. During this occasion, Consul General Dr. K. Srikar Reddy read out President's address to the nation.



71ST REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA

On 4th February, 2020 Consulate hosted the Republic Day Reception at Hotel Sheraton in Ho Chi Minh City which was attended by approximately 200 people. Mr. Võ Văn Hoan, Vice Chairman of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Other important dignitaries who attended the Reception included Mr. Tran Hong Quan, Vice Chairman, Ca Mau Province People's Committee, Dr. Huynh Thanh Lap, Chairman, Vietnam India Friendship Association (VIFA); Ms. Nguyễn Thị Hồng Diễm, Vice-Chairperson, Ho Chi Minh City Union of Friendship Organizations (HUFO); Mr. Tran Phuoc Anh, Deputy Director, Department of External Relations of HCMC, Ms. Le Thi Thanh Giang, Chairwoman, Can Tho Union of Friendship Organizations; senior officials from various official departments of Ho Chi Minh City and many Southern provinces and institutions/universities. Besides these, members of diplomatic corps, some prominent members of Indian community & business associations also attended the Republic Day Reception. In his speech, Consul General highlighted the historical linkages, high-level exchanges, development partnership and growing trade and economic relations between India and Vietnam.



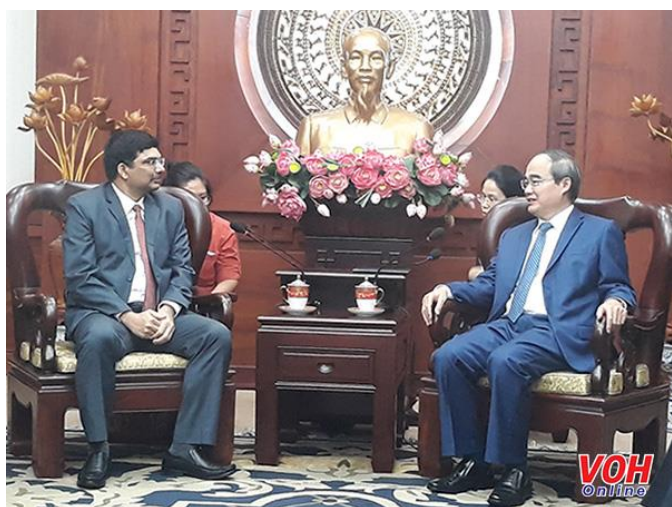
MISCELLANEOUS

As part of Mission Orientation Attachment Programme, a group of 10 officers of the 2019 batch of Indian Foreign Service (IFS) visited Ho Chi Minh City during 6-8 February, 2020. They visited the Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park in Binh Duong Province and were briefed on the history, functioning and prospects of the Park along with visiting some of the Indian companies established in the province. They also visited the Consulate where they were briefed by the Consul General on the activities of the Post and the developments in various fronts. They also interacted with the representatives of OVL and INCHAM. OVL representatives made a presentation on their activities in Vietnam. As part of their cultural familiarization, officers also visited the Indian temples and Mosque in Ho Chi Minh City, as well as some of city's architectural landmarks like the President Ho Chi Minh Museum and the Opera House. In order to get a glimpse of the history of Vietnam's struggle against the U.S, the group also visited Cu Chi Tunnels.



MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. K. Srikar Reddy, Consul General paid a farewell call on Mr. Nguyen Thien Nhan, Ho Chi Minh City Party Secretary on 20th February, 2020 and on the Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City People's Party Committee on 21st February, 2020. Ho Chi Minh City Union of Friendship Organisations and Vietnam-India Friendship Association hosted a farewell dinner for Dr. K. Srikar Reddy on 17th February, 2020 wherein they thanked the Consul General for the support he rendered during his tenure to grow the relations between the two countries. Indian Business Chamber in Vietnam (INCHAM) hosted a farewell get-together for Consul General and his family on 22nd February, 2020 which was attended by members of Indian diaspora. Consul General hosted Mr Lê Quang Long, Director General and other officials of the Department of External Affairs for a farewell dinner on 28th February, 2020.



tuổi trẻ
THẾ GIỚI HÔM NAY
trungpq@tuoitre.com.vn

THỨ TƯ 5-2-2020 | 20

*"Hắn sẽ thấy
từ hành động
sớm thôi."*

Việt - Ấn mong muốn thương mại đạt 15 tỉ USD trong năm 2020

Phát biểu tại lễ kỷ niệm Ngày Cộng hòa Ấn Độ lần thứ 71, ông K. Srikanth Reddy - tổng lãnh sự Ấn Độ tại TP.HCM - tuyên bố Việt Nam là một đối tác quan trọng trong Tầm nhìn Ấn Độ Dương - Thái Bình Dương của New Delhi.

Ông Reddy đề xuất hai bên cùng mở rộng hợp tác trên các lĩnh vực kinh tế, phát triển nguồn nhân lực, hợp tác an ninh, quốc phòng, năng lượng, trao đổi văn hóa và giao lưu nhân dân. Trong lĩnh vực thương mại, tổng lãnh sự cho biết đã có hơn 35 đoàn doanh nghiệp từ Ấn Độ đến thăm TP.HCM và 14 đoàn doanh nghiệp từ TP.HCM đến thăm Ấn Độ.

Tại buổi lễ, Phó chủ tịch UBND TP.HCM Võ Văn Hoan cũng bày tỏ sự vui mừng đối với "quan hệ đối tác chiến lược toàn diện" giữa Việt Nam và Ấn Độ. Ông khẳng định Việt Nam ủng hộ chính sách hành động hướng Đông của Ấn Độ và hi vọng thương mại song phương sẽ đạt mục tiêu 15 tỉ USD vào năm 2020 như kỳ vọng của hai quốc gia.

NGUYỄN HẠNH

Phát hiện

Số heroin tịch thu hôm 4-2

Hãng tin...
thông tin từ...
hay họ vừa b...
Đài Loan sau...

(Gist of unofficial translation)

VIETNAM – INDIA LOOK FORWARD TO REACH THE BILATERAL TRADE TARGER OF US\$ 15 BILLION BY 2020

Spoke at the 71st Republic Day of India, Dr. K. Srikanth Reddy – Consul General of India in Ho Chi Minh City said that Vietnam was an important partner in India's Indo-Pacific Vision.

Dr. Reddy gave a broad idea of collaboration between both the countries ranging from political engagement, economic and development partnership, defence and security cooperation, energy cooperation, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts. Consul General mentioned that over 35 business delegations from India visited Ho Chi Minh City and 14 business delegations from HCM city visited India.

In his address, Vice Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee mentioned that he was glad that India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership has recorded impressive results in many fields. He stressed that Vietnam supports the Indian 'Act East' Policy and hoped that the two Governments could reach the target of US\$15 billion by 2020 in bilateral trade as envisaged by the two leaders.