

**Ministry of External Affairs  
(East and Southern Africa Division)**

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**India-Malawi - Bilateral relations**

Malawi gained independence from Britishers on 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1964. Diplomatic relations were established with Malawi since it became Independent. The first Independence Day was attended by Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Information and Broadcasting Minister. The relations between India and Malawi have been cordial and friendly since independence. A resident Mission in Malawi was established immediately after Malawi obtained Independence. However, due to some administrative reasons, our Mission in Malawi was closed in 1993, though we continued to have diplomatic relations. Malawi was concurrently accredited to our Mission in Zambia until February 2012. A resident mission again re-opened in March, 2012. Malawi opened its Mission in Delhi in February, 2007. There is considerable goodwill among the Malawian leadership for India.

**VVIP Visits:** Late Prof. Bingu wa Mutharika, President of Malawi visited India from 2-7 November 2010. Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima, Vice President of Malawi visited India from 25-27 March 2018. Shri M. Hamid Ansari, Hon'ble Vice President of India visited Malawi from 7-9 January 2010. Sh. M. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Vice President of India visited Malawi on 4-5 November 2018.

**International Solar Alliance:** Malawi was one of early countries who signed and ratified the ISA Framework Agreement in November, 2017. Mr Aggrey Masi, Minister for Natural Resources, Energy and Mining represented Malawi at ISA Founding Conference held on 11 March, 2018 in New Delhi.

**MOUs :** Two MOUs were signed during visit of Hon'ble Vice President of India Shri M.H. Ansari visited Malawi on 8 January, 2010 which are (1) MOU on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors; (2) Protocol for Consultations between Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malawi and Ministry of External Affairs of India. Four MOUs signed during the visit of President of Malawi H.E. Late Bingu wa Mutharika on 3 November, 2010, which are (i) General Cooperation Agreement for Promotion of Bilateral Agreements under Various Regional and International Organisations' including establishing a JPC; (ii) MOU on Cooperation in the field of Mineral Resources Development; (iii) MOU on Cooperation in the field of Rural Development; and (iv) MOU on Cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine. Three MoUs were signed during the visit of the Hon'ble Vice President of India Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu in November 2018 viz. (i) Exemption of Visa for Diplomatic & Official Passport Holders; (ii) Extradition Treaty; and (iii) MoU for capacity building in regulating the mining of Radio-active/Atomic Minerals and Rare Earth materials,

**ITEC & IAFS and ICCR Scholarships:** During 2018-19 Malawi utilized 125 ITEC slots; 63 IAFS; and 11 ICCR scholarship.

**Lines of Credit to Malawi:** Since 2008, India has extended and completed LoC projects worth US\$ 156.5 mn for Malawi Government for various infrastructure development projects like Sugar Factory in Salima; 60 mn litre capacity Fuel Storage Facilities, Cotton Ginneries, Dal Processing Plants. LoC worth \$ 23.50mn for water project for Blantyre Water Board was completed and inaugurated by President of Malawi in October 2019. With the completion of this project, US\$ 180mn worth of LOC projects extended by EXIM Bank to Malawi have been completed. In November 2018 Hon'ble Vice President of India during the visit to Malawi announced new LoC of US\$ 215.68 million for drinking water supply schemes in Malawi.

**Grants to Malawi:** Under a grant of US \$ 5 million offered during the visit of Vice President of India to Malawi in January 2010. Science & Laboratory equipment worth US\$ 1.5 million and medical equipment worth US\$ 1.5 million consisting of mammography and ultra-sound machines were donated to Malawi government. The mammography machines were installed in all the four Central Hospitals at Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba, and Mzuzu. US\$1 million worth of tractors and agricultural implements supplied by India were handed over in August 2015 to Government of Malawi. A grant of US\$1 million worth of essential medicines and drugs were handed over to Government of Malawi on 1st July 2015 towards disaster relief operations in 2015. The GoI has also extended another grant of US\$ 1 million in response to an international Appeal declaring Malawi on "State of Disaster" by President of Malawi in 2016. Government of India has agreed to provide 1000 MT of Rice in January 2018 in response to request for Aid due to failure of crop and declaring of 20 districts as disaster struck out of the 28 districts of Malawi.

During the visit of Hon'ble Vice President of India to Malawi in November grants for following were announced (i) Bhabhatron Cancer treatment machine. Government of India has completed the formalities for supply of the machine and awaiting completion of the logistical arrangements for supply of the machine; (ii) Medicines worth US\$ 2 million; (iii) 10 ambulances. These ambulances have arrived in Malawi and will shortly be gifted to GoM; (iv) 100,000 text books for Malawi schools. The books have been presented by High Commissioner to the Minister of Education, Science and Technology on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in a ceremony in Lilongwe School.

The Government of India under its "India for Humanity" initiative launched Artificial Limbs Camp in Lilongwe at Kamuzu Central Hospital. The formal inauguration of the camp was done during the official visit of the Hon'ble Vice President of India. During the camp 551 artificial limbs fitted.

**Business Incubation Centre (BIC):** Hon'ble Vice President of India on 5 November 2018 inaugurated establishment of a Business Incubation Centre worth US \$ 1 million in Malawi to provide short term training in processing of Tomato, Mangos and Kasava, semi-precious stone cutting and polishing techniques; compost processing; and bricketing unit. The Center was completed in January 2019 and has been officially launched by Mr. Francis Kasaila, Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism, GoM on 25 March 2019.

**IAIARD:** It was decided to locate India-Africa Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development (IAIARD) at Lilongwe University of Agriculture & Natural Resources (LUANAR) in Malawi. It is a grant project from Government of India worth Rs. 100 crore (US\$ 15 million).

**Pan-African E-Network** The multi-million dollar project was set up at Chancellor College in Zomba, Malawi and started in August 16, 2010 and ended in March 2017. The programme was successful and more than 2,000 Malawians have benefited under this programme. The second phase of the project has now been launched in Malawi and the implementing agency is processing supply of equipment for early implementation of the project.

**Cotton Technical Assistance Programme (C-TAP)** :The C-TAP Programme was started by India in 2012 for African countries including Malawi. The programme has trained 200 participants and 25 trainers from Malawi through regional training and exposure visits in India. Gol has set up and handed over the 'Skill School for Apparel Manufacturing' with 20 Industrial Sewing Machines and Cutting equipment to Government of Malawi in September 2016. The second phase of C-TAP has been launched by the Government of India. In the last few years the cotton production in Malawi has declined drastically. The GoM authorities have provided details of proposed assistance under the C-TAP II which is being considered by Gol

**Commercial Relations:** Bilateral Trade between both countries for period 2018- 2019 was \$224.35mn. The balance of trade is in favour of India.

**Indian Community/PIO:** There are estimates of about 8,500 Persons of Indian origin in Malawi who predominantly originated from Gujarat and are concentrated in important cities like Lilongwe, Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba and Mzuzu. The number of NRIs at present is about 2500 from different parts of India, primarily engaged in trading, agriculture and agro business, pharmaceutical, hospitality, besides a few professionals.

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FEB 2020