

भारत का राजदूतावास, अदिस अबाबा



**EMBASSY OF INDIA
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ETHIOPIA**

PRESS RELEASE

Gift of medical aid package to Ethiopia

On behalf of the Government and people of India Charge d' Affaires a.i., handed over a consignment of medical aid consisting of 100,000 HCQ tablets and other essential drugs including life saving antibiotics on 21st August 2020. H.E. Dr. Dereje Duguma, State Minister of Health, while accepting the consignment on behalf of the Government and people of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, conveyed his gratitude and appreciation for this assistance. The handing over ceremony was held at the premises of the Embassy of India and was attended by officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health, other dignitaries and media persons.

The donation of medicines was made in fulfillment of announcement made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in April 2020 to combat COVID-19 pandemic to assist 25 African countries including Ethiopia.

India's cooperation in the health sector with Ethiopia includes support for training and capacity building, supply of equipment and medicines, telemedicine facilities and continuing medical education for health care professionals as well as facilitation for treatment at tertiary care facilities in India. India has donated a 64-Slice CT Scan machine to Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa and provides fully-paid training opportunities to hundreds of Ethiopian doctors, paramedics and other health care professionals under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme as well as the India-Africa Forum Summit initiative.

During the State Visit of H.E. Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the President of India to Ethiopia in October 2017, which was the first foreign visit the two countries re-affirmed their mutual desire to strengthen bilateral economic, commercial, technical, educational, scientific and cultural cooperation. In the spirit of warm and friendly relations between the two countries and particularly as part of India's development partnership with Ethiopia, announcements were made for grant assistance of 1000 Metric Tonnes of rice, USD 2 million worth of medicines and one hundred thousand school text books of Maths and Science.

Embassy of India in collaboration with Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) organized an Artificial Limb Fitment Camp (Jaipur Foot) from 22nd November to 28th December 2019 under GOI's "India for Humanity" Project at St.

Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College, Addis Ababa. During the camp, 538 limbs were fitted to beneficiaries.

Following the telephone conversation between the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and Hon'ble Prime Minister of Ethiopia on May 6, 2020 to express solidarity with each other on COVID-19 pandemic, Government of India at the request of Ministry of Health of Ethiopia allowed export of 5 million pieces of surgical masks on commercial basis. The consignment has been received by the Ethiopian side.

Four officials of Ministry of Health were benefited under e-ITEC programme on "Managing COVID-19" through webinar conducted on 18th May 2020.

India's development partnership cooperation with Ethiopia is also carried out under the framework of India Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) III held in New Delhi in October 2015. The commitments under this framework which are being implemented with partner countries in Africa, including Ethiopia are: (i) concessional credit of US\$ 10 billion over the next five years which is in addition to ongoing credit programme; (ii) grant assistance of US\$ 600 million that includes an India-Africa Development Fund of US\$ 100 million and an India-Africa Health Fund of US\$ 10 million; and; (iii) fully paid 50,000 scholarships/training opportunities in India over five years.

India and Ethiopia have recently celebrated 70 years of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries through a series of events and activities. A number of initiatives and programmes have been put in place to strengthen bilateral ties through enhanced cooperation in political, economic, commercial, scientific, cultural and educational spheres.

21st August 2020