

JOINT STATEMENT ON THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA'S VISIT TO GUINEA

August 2, 2019, Conakry

1. At the invitation of His Excellency Professor Alpha Conde, President of the Republic of Guinea, His Excellency Ram Nath Kovind, President of the Republic of India, paid a State Visit to Conakry, Guinea from August 1-3, 2019. The President of India was accompanied by a high level delegation including Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi, Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, and Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries and Shri Dilip Ghosh, Member of Parliament.
2. This was the first State Visit of the President of India to the Republic of Guinea. The visit was undertaken to strengthen friendship and bilateral cooperation between the two countries.
3. The two Heads of State held an in-depth exchange of views in a warm and friendly atmosphere on bilateral relations, international and regional issues of mutual interest. They fondly recalled the historical ties of solidarity between the two countries and the visits of late President Ahmed Sekou Toure in 1983 to participate in the Non-Aligned Movement Conference in New Delhi and that of President Alpha Conde to India in 2015 to participate in the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit.
4. Both the leaders expressed the hope that opening of India's diplomatic mission in Conakry will further enhance and strengthen

the bilateral cooperation. They also agreed to the holding of the first session of the India-Guinea Joint Commission, at Ministerial level, at an early date.

5. The Heads of State expressed satisfaction over the cooperation in the field of developmental assistance between the two countries. President Conde also expressed his appreciation for the concessional line of credit of US\$ 35 million already extended by India to Guinea for construction of two regional hospitals. President Conde thanked President Kovind for the support and assistance extended by India to the Republic of Guinea during its fight for eradication of Ebola epidemic.
6. President Conde congratulated President Kovind for India's successful conduct of recent general elections to the Parliament. He also appreciated India's leadership role at the international level on socio-economic and developmental issues as well as in maintaining peace and security.
7. The two Heads of State emphasized the importance of democracy to the progress and prosperity of peoples and nations. In this context, President Kovind congratulated President Conde for various initiatives towards strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in Guinea. President Kovind also commended President Conde for his leadership of the African Union during 2017.
8. The two Heads of State reaffirmed their commitment to reformed multilateralism and for comprehensive reforms of the UN Security

Council, including its expansion in both Permanent and Non-Permanent categories of membership to make it more representative, accountable, transparent, inclusive and effective, reflecting the geopolitical realities of the 21st Century. President Alpha Conde also conveyed support for India's candidacy as non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the term 2021 – 2022.

9. Both the leaders also expressed their deep concern over the rise of extremism and terrorism around the world, and called for the need for heightened international efforts to combat terrorism and emphasized the need for the early adoption of the "Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism" in the United Nations. The two Heads of State also discussed the possibility of building capacity in the field of defence, particularly in areas such as the fight against terrorism and extremism.

10. Recognizing the importance of taking coordinated action to ameliorate the problem of climate change, the two Heads of State expressed their support for the implementation of the Paris Agreement (COP21) and reaffirmed their commitment the promotion of renewable energy through the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the African Renewable Energy Initiative (IAER).

11. In this regard, both the leaders underscored the importance of implementation of two solar projects in Guinea to be funded by Government of India's Lines of Credit valued US\$ 14.4 million [Solar Project for Supply of Electricity and Drinking Water for 7 Public

Universities] and US\$ 5.82 million [Solar Project for Electrification and Refrigeration in 200 Health Infrastructures in Guinea] respectively, announced during the ISA Founding Members Conference in New Delhi in March 2018.

12. While expressing satisfaction at the implementation of the ongoing hospitals project, the Guinean side solicited Government of India's concessional line of credit for construction of two more hospitals. The Indian side agreed to examine the proposal.

13. During the visit, the following three Memorandum of Understanding were signed in presence of the two Presidents:

a. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Guinea and the Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation in the Field of Traditional System of Medicine and Homeopathy.

b. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Guinea and the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited [TCIL] for Participation in the e-VBAB Network Project [Technology Upgradation of Pan Africa e-Network Project].

c. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Guinea and the Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation in the Field of Renewable Energy.

14. President Ram Nath Kovind also announced a new Line of Credit of US\$ 170 million for Water Supply Project of Metropolitan city of Conakry.

15. His Excellency President Ram Nath Kovind thanked His Excellency President Alpha Conde for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation. His Excellency President Kovind invited His Excellency Professor Alpha Conde to visit India, which was accepted, and it was agreed that the dates for the visit would be worked out later through diplomatic channel.
