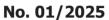
# **Embassy of India Newsletter**

# QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE EMBASSY OF INDIA, JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN









**JAN - MAR 2025** 







#### **AMBASSADOR'S PAGE**

**Anil Nautiyal**Ambassador of India to
South Sudan





#### **FOREWORD**

I am delighted to present the first quarterly letter of 2025, encompassing the events and achievements of the Embassy of India in Juba from January to March 2025.

India's 76th Republic Day was celebrated with immense national fervour and patriotic feeling. The event saw a large turnout of citizens and friends of India, all coming together to mark the significant occasion.

Former Ambassador Vishnu Kumar Sharma concluded his successful tenure in January. I assumed office in February.

The quarter was a busy and vibrant one for the Embassy, marked by a variety of community and cultural activities. We arranged a cleanliness drive, demonstrating our commitment to civic responsibility. The Embassy also had the pleasure of celebrating the colorful festival of Holi with the spirited Indian diaspora, a truly joyful occasion that brought people together.

The Embassy observed Vishwa Hindi Diwas. The event underscored the importance of Hindi as a unifying language and a significant cultural bridge connecting India with the world. The Ambassador also made a visit to the Hindu temple, attending evening Aarti with the diaspora. In a direct effort to support the well-being of the community, the Embassy attended a medical camp, providing essential health guidance. These events collectively highlight the Embassy's commitment to fostering strong community bonds and celebrating shared heritage.

During the period, the Embassy also hosted important feedback sessions with individuals who participated in the Surajkund Mela and ITEC candidates who underwent training in India. Attendees enthusiastically shared their inspiring stories and experiences, reflecting positively on their time and learning in India.

I'd also like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Indian Association in South Sudan for their invaluable contributions. They do an excellent job of promoting Indian culture and fostering a strong sense of community among our nationals here.

Equally commendable are the efforts of our Indian peacekeepers in UNMISS. Their humanitarian initiatives consistently make a positive impact on the lives of communities across South Sudan. This dedication to serving humanity truly reflects the core values that bind our two countries together.

India's commitment to South Sudan's peace building journey is unwavering. As in the past, we continue to offer our full support and stand ready to collaborate in achieving lasting peace and stability for this young nation.

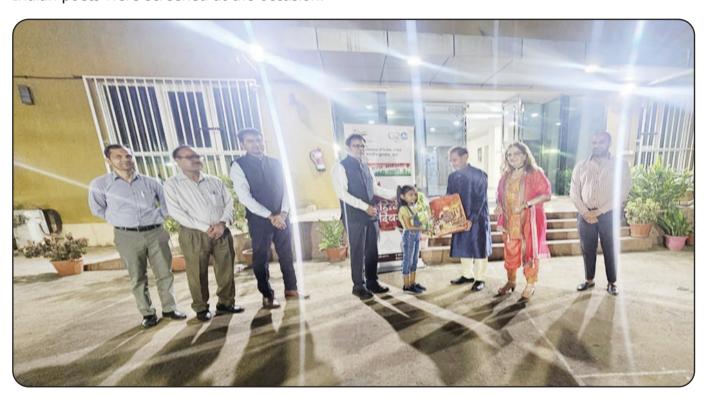
I am grateful to each and every one of you for your constant support and dedication, and I look forward to continuing our collective efforts towards a brighter future.

Thank you!

(Anil Nautiyal) Ambassador

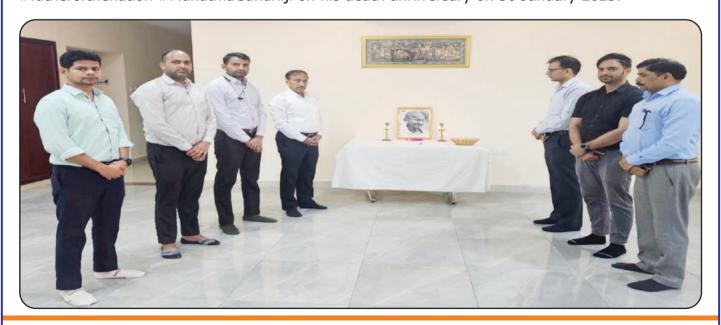
# **CELEBRATIONS OF VISHWA HINDI DIWAS (WORLD HINDI DAY)**

The Embassy of India in Juba celebrated Vishwa Hindi Diwas (World Hindi Day) on January 10, 2025. The Ambassador highlighted the importance of using Hindi in daily life and commended the audience's interest in the language. He also shared his views on importance of promotion of Hindi as the link language in India. The event included an essay competition and poetry recitation, featuring participants such as the Indian peacekeepers from UNMISS, Indian community members residing in South Sudan and some South Sudanese nationals, who shared their perspectives on promoting Hindi. Prime Minister's message on World Hindi Day and selected poems by renowned Indian poets were screened at the occasion.



# FLORAL TRIBUTES TO MAHATMA GANDHI

Ambassador Vishnu Kumar Sharma with Embassy officials offered floral tribute to the #fatherofthenation #MahatmaGandhiji on his death anniversary on 30 January 2025.



## **76TH REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS**

Ambassador Vishnu Kumar Sharma hoisted the tricolor on the occasion of 76 Republic Day in presence of Indian peacekeepers and members of Indian community in South Sudan and read excerpts from address of Hon'ble President of India delivered on the eve of Republic Day2025

Ambassador in his remarks highlighted the strong bilateral relations between India and South Sudan and acknowledged significant contribution of Indian peacekeepers, ONGC Videsh Ltd. and Indian community in South Sudan for extending their valuable support to the economic and social development of South Sudan. On this auspicious occasion, the Ambassador also recognized and honored prominent Indian business entities and individuals for their active participation in various initiatives of the Embassy and for their philanthropic efforts to benefit the local population, which has fostered goodwill for India.





# **VISIT OF AMBASSADOR TO THE ONLY HINDU TEMPLE IN SOUTH SUDAN**

Ambassador Anil Nautiyal visited the only Hindu Temple in South Sudan and joined the devotees for evening Aarti. Ambassador lauded the diaspora for preserving & promoting the heritage and traditions of India.





# **CLEANLINESS DRIVE AT THE EMBASSY**

As in the past, the Ambassador and Embassy officials carried out a cleanliness drive to clean the office premises. A clean office not only improves our productivity but also gives a good glimpse of India to our visitors.





## **MEETING WITH ONGC TEAM**

ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) Team met Ambassador Anil Nautiyal and briefed about their work in South Sudan. OVL has made large investment (spread over Sudan and South Sudan) in the hydrocarbon sector since 2003 & is helping in growth of South Sudan.



## **MEETING WITH IASS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The Office bearers of Indian Association of South Sudan met Ambassadpr Anil Nautiyal & apprised him of its activities such as organization of cultural functions, charitable activities & free medical and blood donation camps. Ambassador assured them of all possible help from Embassy.



## **BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL CORNER**

The Honourable Monday Semava Kumba, the then Deputy Minister of Foreign **Affairs** International Cooperation, warmly bid farewell to His Excellency Ambassador Vishnu Kumar Sharma on 21 January 2025, the outgoing Head of Mission of India to the Republic of South Sudan.

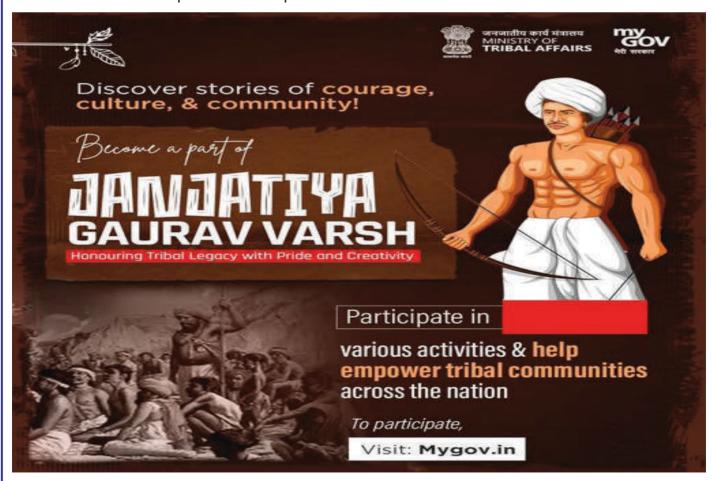
During their meeting, Honourable Semaya expressed his gratitude for the unwavering support the

Indian Government has provided through various projects and initiatives. He reaffirmed his commitment to further strengthening the bilateral relations between the two nations through ongoing dialogue and collaboration.

In response, Ambassador Kumar conveyed his heartfelt appreciation to Honourable Kumba for the invaluable cooperation he experienced



during his tenure. He outlined key areas for enhanced collaboration that would benefit both countries and their peoples. Ambassador Kumar stated that he is leaving South Sudan with fond memories and extended his sincere thanks to the people and government of South Sudan for their hospitality, which made his family feel safe and welcome.



## **MEDICAL CAMP IN JUBA**

#### **Fortis Hospital Medical Camp at Juba Teaching Hospital:**

A free medical camp was organized by AARAV MEDICARE in association with Fortis Hospital, one of leading healthcare service provider in India at Juba Teaching Hospital, South Sudan, on 6th and 7th February, 2025.

Two senior doctors from Fortis Hospital India, Dr. Dhananjay Gupta and Dr. Suman S Karanth provided free consultation to local community in Juba on issues related to Cancer, Spine and pain of bones, joints and back.



# NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR PRESENTED LETTER OF CREDENCE TO THE THEN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Mr. Anil Nautiyal, called Ambassador, on Hon. Ramadan M. Abdallah Goc, the then Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation of the Republic of South Sudan and presented a copy of his 'Letter of Credence' 26.02.25 thus on marking the start of his official duties in South Sudan.



# AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON HON, MONDAY SEMAYA K, KUMBA

Ambassador Anil Nautiyal paid a courtesy call on Hon. Amb. Monday Semaya Kenneth Kumba, the then Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, on 04 March 2025 and discussed issues of mutual interests.





# MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OF SOUTH SUDAN TO INDIA

Ambassador of South Sudan in India H.E. Amb Lumumba Makele Nyajok paid a courtesy call on Ambassador Anil Nautiyal and the two discussed areas to further strengthen the ties. India opened Consulate in Juba in 2007 and upgraded it to Embassy in 2012 & both countries enjoy friendly relations.

# **MEETING WITH ERITREAN AMBASSADOR**

**Ambassador** Anil Nautiyal met Eritrean Amb. Yohannes Teclemichael who is also Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and discussed of issues mutual interests. Ambassador Yohannes, an alumnus India's premier Foreign Service Institute fondly remembered his training days in India



# FEEDBACK SESSION WITH SURAJKUND TROUPES

Embassy had a feedback session with the Cultural Troupe from South Sudan that visited Surajkund International Crafts Mela in Feb 2025. Participants were happy by the warm hospitality and dazzled by blend of tradition & modernity and are eager to participate and perform again in India.



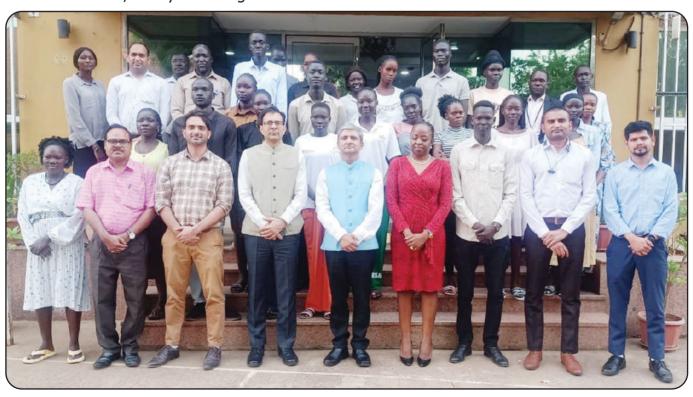
# **INSPECTION OF SOUTH SUDAN LEARNING CENTRE**

Embassy Team inspected the South Sudan Learning Center being renovated with the help of India on 26 February 2025, to take stock of project work. The SSLC is yet another project towards India's commitment in the field of capacity building and humanitarian assistance



## **INTERACTION WITH SOUTH SUDANESE STUDENTS**

Ambassador interacted on 19.03.25 with enthusiastic South Sudanese Students proceeding to India, the land of ancient Nalanda & Taxila Universities, for a degree course & gave them a glimpse of India's culture, history & heritage.



# AMBASSADOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH SUDAN

Ambassador met on 20.03.25, the President of Geological Society of South Sudan and Geologists from Ministry of Mines who are overseeing India-funded Construction of an Observatory for a Seismic Station in Juba. Through such projects, India is partnering in growth of this young & vibrant nation.



## **INTERACTION WITH ITEC NOMINEES**

Ambassador Anil Nautiyal interacted on 06.03.25 with South Sudanese nationals proceeding for ITEC courses to India and encouraged them to share their experiences about training & educational facilities in India with fellow citizens for capacity building & development of South Sudan.



# **CELEBRATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

Embassy celebrated of IWD2025 with young Artists on 14.03.25, celebrating the strength, resilience, and invaluable contribution of women in every field! Ambassador also highlighted various initiatives of the Govt of India so as to make the women as agents of social and economic change.



## **COURTESY CALL WITH MINISTER OF ICT & POSTAL SERVICES**

Ambassador Anil Nautiyal paid a courtesy call on Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth, Minister of Information, Communication Technology and Postal Services on 25.03.25 and discussed on going and future projects. India is actively partnering with young & vibrant South Sudan in capacity building and human resource development.



# FOSTERING CONNECTIONS: EMBASSY ENGAGES WITH ITEC ALUMNI AND NOMINEES

Embassy celebrated ITEC Day in the Embassy on 24.03.25. It was heartening to hear many inspiring stories of success and growth of the Alumni, their love for India & their contributions in the growth and development of South Sudan.



## **CELEBRATION OF HOLI IN SOUTH SUDAN**

The Indian Association in South Sudan organized a vibrant celebration of Holi, the popular Indian festival of colors, joy, and brotherhood, on 16.03.25. The festivities were held at the Nimule resort in Juba, where members of the Indian community came together to revel in the spirit of unity and togetherness. On the eve of Holi, Holika Dehan was also celebrated with the Indian diaspora at JIT Temple.

The Embassy extends its heartfelt appreciation to the Indian Association for their invaluable efforts in promoting Indian culture and heritage in South Sudan. Their dedication and enthusiasm in organizing such cultural events play a pivotal role in fostering a sense of community and belonging among Indian nationals residing in the country.





# **INDIAN PEACEKEEPERS WITH UN MISSION IN SOUTH SUDAN (UNMISS)**

1. 3 JAK RIF Infantry Battalion Group (INDBATT-I) has assumed operational responsibility as INDBATT-I in Sector North of UNMISS wef 02 Aug 2024 and ensured proactive, persistent and integrated UNMISS presence in the entire Upper Nile State by means of duration multiple Patrols.

#### 2. Winning Hearts and Minds.

(a) The battalion excelled in its traditional role such as CIMIC, Winning Hearts and Mind, confidence-building efforts & community security measures, in conjunction with the various UN agencies and local government, which were vital for maintaining a high level of safety and security in the AOR. The Bn has provided veterinary assistance by conducting 10 Veterinary Camps and treated more than 4,393 domestic animals belonging to the local populace. It can be safely assumed that the veterinary camps conducted by the Bn were able to address the concern of the local population. Other CIMIC activities to include awareness on gender equality, importance of girl's education, assistance to local community in terms of providing sports items and first aid kits have made a tremendous impact on perception among locals about UNMISS













**(b) Special Veterinary Camp, at Renk:** Veterinary Camp established from 0730 hrs to 1230 hrs extended veterinary service to the sick animals of local population. A total of 218 x Goat/ Sheep and 275 x Cattle/Cow were treated for various ailments. 318 x Cow and 218 x Goat were dewormed. The livestock herd owners appreciated the efforts.





**(c) Medical Aid.** Medical Aid provided to Mrs Amum Martha F/39 yrs, Diagnosis, Dog bite by Maj Kapil Sharma, RMO, level-1 Kodok AOB 03 Mar 2025.





#### 3. FET Activities.

**(a) Malakal COB to Obodiang.** A SDP comprising two officer, one WO & ten privates of INDBATT-I from from Malakal COB to Obodiang for area familiarisation, to ensure protection of civilians, to ascertain current security situation and show UNMISS presence.





**(b) Pilot Network Online Event.** Maj Swathi S rep UNMISS at the pilot network online event org on 11 Feb 2025 by the UN. She shared her experience with the FET in UNMISS, focusing on the msn, indn, trg and the op conducted so far.





(c) Discussions with the Sector Cdr. The sector commander of sector north interacted with the Women peacekeeper on 24 Mar 2025. He motivated the peacekeepers to proceed on more patrols to increase their presence and to make the women in the Malakal town and around sector AOR to feel secure and have trust in the UNMISS. He then asked each of the women peacekeepers to share their own experiences and to bring forward any recommendations that the sector can put forward to assist to Women peacekeepers to carry out their duties. Each of the peacekeepers shared their own experiences of carrying out duty within the area and highlighted the need for more control and for a combined effort to improve the situation.





(d) Discussions with the Force Cdr. The Force Commander, UNMISS interacted with the Women peacekeeper on 24 Mar 2025. The Force Commander then applauded the good work being done by all peacekeepers and highlighted the role they play in establishing peace in the country through PTCCs. He highlighted the importance of a woman peacekeepers who can share equal load as the male counterparts and do much more. Major Swathi highlighted the progress, done by her team, which has gained applause from not only the UNMISS, but also the local Women of the community. Even during the crisis the women tend to call regularly to update their present status, and also to seek help or assistance, which ever can be provided through the UN agencies. Two of the engagement team members Private Neetu and private Tamang shared their own experiences of being the ground, soldier and interacting with the local women, and also the impact they have had on the community.





#### **Misc Events.**

**(a) Tree Plantation Drive.** As part of CIMIC activity, a tree plantation drive was carried out at Renk COB on the auspicious occasion of Republic Day on 26 Jan 2025, in which total 50 x trees (Neem, Blueberry & Guava) were planted inside campus, near the Office Complex, along the road & Entrance of COB.







FASTEST SOCIAL SECURITY EXPANSION IN THE WORLD?

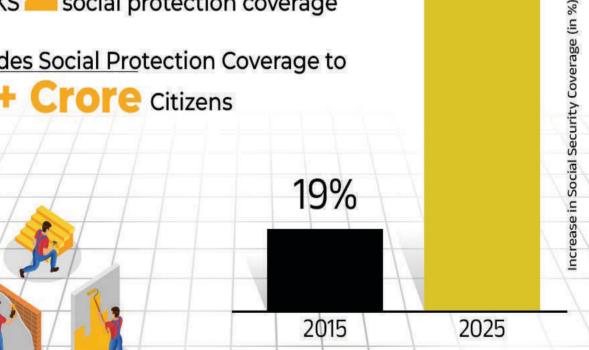
IT'S IND





Provides Social Protection Coverage to

4+ Crore Citizens

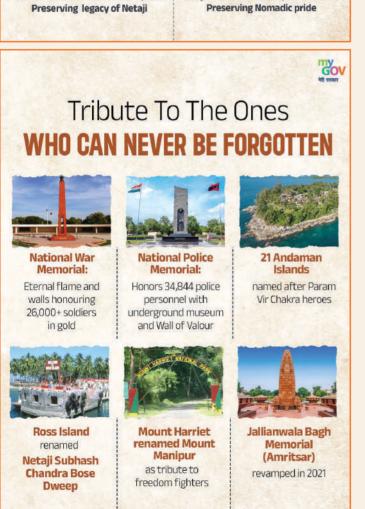


Source: International Labour Organization Database



Subhash Chandra Bose Museum, Delhi





Banjara Virasat Museum, Maharashtra

