



**Embassy of India,
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PRESS RELEASE

Visit of Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri V. Muraleedharan, to Zimbabwe (June 06-08, 2022)

Minister of State for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri V. Muraleedharan (MoS VM) paid an official visit to the Republic of Zimbabwe from 6 – 8 June 2022. This was the first high-level visit from India since 2018. MoS had earlier visited Zimbabwe in November 2018 as part of delegation of Shri M. Venkaih Naidu, Hon'ble Vice President.

During the visit, MoS called on President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Dr. E.D. Mnangagwa. MoS conveyed the message of goodwill and friendship from Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi to President Mnangagwa. President Mnangagwa thanked India for the friendly gesture and expressed his desire to further strengthen the bilateral relationship.

MoS met with the First Lady, Her Excellency Dr. Amai Auxillia Mnangagwa and handed over a sewing machine, out of the consignment of 950 sewing machines being gifted to the Angel of Hope Foundation, being run under the patronage of the First Lady.

MoS met with Minister of Foreign Affairs and International

Trade, Mr. Frederick Shava. The two Ministers reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relationship, including cooperation in the energy sector for which Government of India has extended three lines of credit worth US\$ 468.1 million.

During the visit, MoS met with Speaker of the National Assembly Advocate Jacob Mudenda and exchanged views on further strengthening bilateral relationship including through more parliamentary exchanges. MoS extended an invitation to the Speaker to visit India.

MoS attended a Community Reception hosted in his honour where he addressed and interacted with the members of the Indian community. Zimbabwe has a vibrant Indian community comprising of about 8500 persons of Indian origin and Indian nationals. He also paid floral tributes at the Bust of Gandhiji installed at the Hindu Society premises.

MoS handed over a consignment of anti-TB medicines gifted by India worth around US\$ 100,000 to Deputy Minister of Health & Child Care, Dr. John Mangwiro.

MoS along with Dr. Amon Murwira, Minister of Higher & Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development of Zimbabwe, inaugurated new CNC machines gifted by India and installed at the Indo-Zim Technology Centre at the Harare Institute of Technology.

MoS's visit to Zimbabwe helped to consolidate the bilateral relations between India and Zimbabwe and set out a road map for future engagements.