



सत्यमेव जयते
High Commission of India
Abuja

Press Release

Celebration of ITEC Day 2023

Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day 2023 was celebrated in the Chancery premises of the High Commission of India, Abuja on 15th September 2023. Around 350 ITEC alumni, Nigerian Dignitaries and friends from Media attended the event. Nigerian dignitaries including H.E. Senator Abubakar Atiku Bagudu, Minister, Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning ; Lt Gen H.E. Abdulrahman Dambazau (Retd), former Chief of Army Staff and Minister of Interior; H.E. Amb. Janet Olisa, Director (Region), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) (represented Minister of Foreign Affairs) ; H.E. Amb. Rahmat Omobolanle, Director, Asia & Pacific Division, MFA attended the event.

2. On 15 September every year India celebrates ITEC Day. It gives a unique opportunity to ITEC Alumni to reconnect with each other. ITEC Day 2023 celebration event started with Indian and Nigerian National Anthems followed by remarks by High Commissioner and Nigerian Dignitaries including Minister, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Amb. Janet Olisa, Director (Region), MFA and representatives from Nigerian Armed Forces etc. Event also witnessed vibrant cultural performances by Indian and Nigerian artists. ITEC Alumni shared their experience in India and how they are contributing in their own country from what they have learnt under this programme. Besides ITEC alumni, the event was also attended by alumni of various other programs such as PCFD, ICCR-GenNext, ICCR, Hindi Course, Defence Courses etc.

3. In his remarks, High Commissioner, Mr G. Balasubramanian talked about the importance of ITEC Programme in enhancing bilateral relations between two countries. He then mentioned that development partnership occupies a paramount place in India's foreign policy. He mentioned that this development cooperation is based on two main pillars, first, Development cooperation incorporating the idea of partnership, i.e. working for mutual benefit and secondly, development cooperation based on priorities determined by the partner. He added that, ITEC Programme was launched by the Government of India on 15 September 1964, its fully funded development cooperation program. The professionals and people from ITEC partner countries are offered unique training courses in different centers of excellence in India which empower them with not just professional skills but prepare them for an increasingly globalized world. He further added that ITEC is based on the belief of shared growth and prosperity by sharing our knowledge and resources with our partner countries. The approach of ITEC Programme is human centric and in line with the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that India's development partnership would be guided by priorities of the partner country and on terms that are comfortable to our partners. Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Bagudu, Minister, Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning expressed appreciation of Govt. of India for the ITEC training and other scholarship programmes offered to Nigeria and hoped for enhanced cooperation between the two countries. A short film on ITEC Day was also played during the event. Those ITEC alumni who were unable to join the event sent their video messages which were played during the event.

4. The event concluded with dinner in Indian and Nigerian cuisines.

Abuja

September 15, 2023





