



नेपाली राजदूतावास EMBASSY OF NEPAL

Pretoria,
The Republic of South Africa

Press Release

Chargé d'Affaires Mr. Gyan Bahadur Magar hosted a reception to celebrate the Constitution and National Day of Nepal 2079 B.S. in commemoration of the promulgation of current Constitution of Nepal, 2015 at Sheraton Pretoria Hotel in Pretoria this afternoon. Her Excellency the Ambassador Ms. Ntombizodwa M. Lallie, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) of the Republic of South Africa attended the event as the Guest of Honour amidst the presence of over 150 guests comprising the Dean, Ambassadors, High Commissioners of diplomatic corps, high officials of South African Government, Nepali Diaspora and representatives from private business communities, academics and media.

Welcoming the distinguished guests, Chargé d'Affaires Mr. Magar underscored the importance of present Constitution in institutionalizing a federal democratic republican governance, and highlighted its democratic features such as constitutionalism, independent judiciary, rule of law, full press freedom, fundamental rights and respect for human rights, inclusion, and social justice for all, irrespective of geographical, ideological or socio-cultural differences. Recalling the daunting challenges facing the country and the people including a disastrous 2015 earthquake in the contemporary times, he expressed happiness over adoption of a democratic, inclusive and progressive Constitution that ended centuries-old unitary governance system and helped implement the Comprehensive Peace Accord.

Stating that Nepal and South Africa have had cordial, cooperative and historically meaningful relations in multiple areas including in trade, tourism, FDI, education and people-to-people contacts, Mr. Magar expressed confidence that mutually beneficial cooperation and partnerships, both on bilateral and multilateral fronts, will further expand in line with broad discussions and understanding reached during the first Nepal-South Africa bilateral consultations held in March this year.

On behalf of the Government and people of South Africa, Her Excellency the Ambassador Ms. Lallie extended warm greetings and best wishes to the Government and friendly people of Nepal on this special occasion for further progress and prosperity in all spheres of national life. While noting with satisfaction excellent Nepal-South Africa relations, she also appreciated an important role Nepal played as Vice-Chair of UN Special Committee against Apartheid for democratic rights and freedom of South African peoples during the apartheid days.

During the programme, Nepal's tourism promotional videos were screened, and framed pictures, paintings on major touristic destinations displayed. The guests were served with buffet lunch including Nepali cuisine, and a gift of Nepali tea, coffee including tourism brochures was also offered to them. The programme, facilitated by Mr. Bishnu Prasad Dhakal, Attaché, was commenced with the playing of national anthems of Nepal and South Africa respectively, and was formally inaugurated by jointly planting a sapling in bloom-pots by the Guest of Honour and the Chargé d'Affaires. Five Nepali students currently undertaking pilot training courses in South Africa performed a welcome Nepali dance in honour of the guests.

Embassy of Nepal
Pretoria
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