

India High Commission celebrates Itec

Dar es Salaam. Two hundred Tanzanian alumni who went to various Indian universities celebrated the ITEC Day organised by the India High Commission in Tanzania on March 19.

ITEC is abbreviation for the Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC), which is a programme aimed at offering capacity building and skills development training to public servants in developing countries. The programme was started by the government of India in 1964.

Prof James Mdoe, deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology & Vocational Training graced the occasion.

Speaking at the event Prof Mdoe noted that 2,369 Tanzanians have been trained in India in the last five years. Furthermore India is working with Tanzania on centres of excellence located at the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) and at the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science & Technology in Arusha.

In his welcome remarks the High Commissioner of India to Tanzania Mr Sandeep Arya about the ITEC programme, areas of bilateral cooperation with Tanzania including new initiatives such as e-

ITEC, focus on areas of interest for Tanzania such as healthcare, agriculture, entrepreneurship, infrastructure and the much acclaimed water projects under Government of India's Lines of Credit, the proposed e-VBAB tele-education programme in five universities and tele-medicine programmes in five hospitals in Tanzania.

Five of the ITEC alumni who underwent training programmes in India also spoke during the event. They narrated their experiences of staying and getting trained in India. Young Tanzanians who are learning Hindi language at the High Commission's Cultural Centre sang popular songs in Hindi from Bollywood films.