



सत्यमेव जयते

**High Commission of India
Pretoria**

High Commission of India to South Africa & Lesotho

PRESS RELEASE

The High Commissioner of India to South Africa and Lesotho, Her Excellency Ms. Ruchira Kamboj today presented her credentials to His Majesty King Letsie III at Maseru, Lesotho. During her visit to Maseru, the High Commissioner also called-on the Acting Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Monyane Moleleki and the Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr H. Setsabi.

Later in the day, High Commissioner handed over 500 metric tonnes of rice to the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho, donated by the Government of India as a gesture of goodwill and friendship between the two countries, at an official function organized in Maseru. In her speech while presenting her credentials to His Majesty King Letsie III, the High Commissioner remarked that the gift was a manifestation of the concern of the people of India for the people of Lesotho and their desire to help their brothers and sisters mitigate the devastating effects of food shortages caused by famine and other acts of nature.

In addition, the High Commissioner inaugurated the India-Lesotho Centre for Advanced Information Technology which is a fully funded Government of India project, at the Lerotholi Polytechnic, Maseru. The construction of the new building to house the Centre was completed recently. The Centre will be a significant marker of the India-Lesotho friendship, imparting as it will much needed critical training skills to youth leading to more inclusive growth and development.

India and Lesotho maintain friendly and fraternal relations that are characterised by a shared appreciation of common values and principles. An exchange of visits between the two countries at the political and official levels as well as a growing economic partnership bolstered by people-to-people exchanges through cultural exchange programmes, education and training provide a firm foundation to the relationship. The 3rd meeting of the India-

Lesotho Joint Bilateral Cooperation Commission will be held in New Delhi on 1 December 2017 and is expected to yield productive outcomes to the benefit to the two countries and people. The focus will be to both deepen and diversify, identifying new synergetic areas for cooperation and collaboration.

Maseru, 29 November 2017