



**PRESS RELEASE**

**EMBASSY CELEBRATES ITEC DAY**

Embassy of India, Addis Ababa celebrated ITEC Day at an event organized on 27 October 2016. Her Excellency, Ms. Demitu Hambisa, Minister of Public Enterprise, Government of Ethiopia graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The event witnessed an enthusiastic turnover from about 150 ITEC alumni from Ethiopia, UNECA and AU. The alumni included five former Members of Parliament and other dignitaries.

2. Ambassador Anurag Srivastava, in his keynote address on the occasion while welcoming the ITEC alumni to the event, elaborated on the history, significance and reach of the programme. He underlined the noble objectives of the programme, i.e., India's desire to share its experience and expertise in areas critical to economic growth and development with fellow developing countries. Talking of the success of the programme in Ethiopia, he mentioned that till date around 1258 professionals have attended ITEC courses both civilian and defence, in the finest institutions of India. With 200 training slots presently offered to Ethiopia, one ITEC candidate goes to India every other day. He expressed the hope that the bonds created through this education and capacity building partnership would continue to nurture our bilateral ties.

3. Several ITEC alumni, including former Members of Parliament Mr. Tesfaye Fufa Guluma and Mr. Mulugeta Tefera Debela, fondly recalled their stay in India and the professional gains as well as benefits to them as a result of their training. One common strand in feedback and experience sharing was the close civilizational and cultural similarities between India and Ethiopia.

4. H.E. Ms. Demitu Hambisa expressed her gratitude to India for offering opportunities in training and capacity building which was greatly appreciated in Ethiopia. She expressed the hope that such training cooperation would continue to grow and cover other areas of mutual benefit to the two countries.

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1 November 2016