

SPEECH BY HONOURABLE DR. SUSAN A. KOLIMBA (MP) DEPUTY
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EAST AFRICAN COOPERATION
ON THE OCCASION OF WELCOMING RECEPTION TO THE FIRST
TRAINING SQUADRON OF THE INDIAN NAVY, ON BOARD THE INDIAN
NAVAL SHIP TIR, DAR ES SALAAM HARBOUR, 21ST MARCH, 2018

*Your Excellency Sandeep Arya,
High Commissioner of India in the United Republic of Tanzania;*

*Lt. Gen. Yakubu Hassan Mohamed, Chief of Staff of the Tanzania Peoples'
Defense Force;*

Distinguished Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Invited Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Namaste and Habari za Jioni.

Allow me, Your Excellency to express on behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania sincere appreciation for the invitation to join this august gathering this evening on board of an Indian Vessel floating on Tanzanian Waters.

Allow me also to express deepest gratitude and appreciation to our gracious hosts, Captain DJ Devar and the Crew of the Ships of the First Training Squadron, and especially the Crew of the Indian Naval Ship TIR (**INS Tir**) on whose decks we are now standing.

Let me extend the warmest of welcomes to the Crew of the First Training Squadron to the United Republic of Tanzania at large and to Dar es Salaam, the harbor of peace. I hope that your stay will be successful and enjoyable.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I further wish to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the Indian Navy for the cordial relations and friendship that exist between our two brotherly Navy Commands. Our gathering today reaffirms these relations and cooperation and the visit of this ship is a step towards stronger cooperation between the two Navy Commands.

I appreciate the Commanding Officer and the Indian Navy for choosing to dock at the Port of Dar es Salaam. I have been well informed on the capabilities and strength of the Ship and on the trainings that the Navy Officers receive while on board. I hope that the Navy Officers from Tanzania will benefit from your presence by sharing experiences and knowledge on different disciplines offered by your trainers.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a well known fact that Tanzania and India have longstanding historical relations. These relations have been fostered not just by proximity but by the fact that we are connected by the Indian Ocean. In pre colonial times, travelers from India stopped in Tanzania to restock supplies and to trade. Some of them resettled in Tanzania and are still here today living as descendants, Tanzanian citizens of Indian origin. From these first links Tanzania and indeed the whole coast of East Africa learnt several useful skills like cloth weaving and dyeing reminiscent in the Kikoi found along the coast and gained some commonalities with the Indian Subcontinent through our adoption of their spices, their food and music that exist to the present day, albeit in an assimilated form.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tanzania and India also enjoy close, friendly and cooperative bilateral relations that have been built upon the firm foundation established through the friendship and faith that was shared between the founding fathers of our nations **the late Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere and the late Jawaharlal Nehru.**

The establishment of India's Diplomatic Mission in Tanzania (by then known as Tanganyika) in 1961, even before Tanganyika became independent is a testament to this faith. Tanzania (then Tanganyika) established its Diplomatic Mission in India in 1962, immediately after her Independence in 1961.

Today, more than five decades later, India and Tanzania continue to share strong ties characterized by shared ideological commitments to Anti-Colonialism, Anti-Racism, Socialism, South-South Cooperation and Non-Alignment as well as by active bilateral cooperation in trade and commerce, education and culture, health, defense and science and technology.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen:

India has been a steadfast friend and an all weather ally. She has stood by our side since independence and contributed immensely to our struggle to wrestle ourselves from the shackles of poverty and underdevelopment as a dependable partner and ally.

India has made invaluable contribution to our development endeavours. Many Tanzanians have been able to access and enjoy a variety of basic services due to India's support. Notable is India's contribution to bettering water supply in the country where through the extension of Lines of Credit and grants several projects have been completed or are currently underway. These include the Ruvu enhancement of water supply in Dar es Salaam that has been completed; the 268.35 Million USD Extension of Lake Victoria pipeline project to Tabora Region; extension of a US\$ 500 Million water project for the Tanzanian Mainland towns of Muheza, Wanging'ombe, Makambako, Kayanga, Songea, Zanzibar, Geita, Kilwamasoko, Handeni, Njombe, Mugumu, Chunya, Sikonge, Makonde, Manyoni, Kasulu and Rudewa as well as the envisioned rehabilitation and improvement of water supply system in Zanzibar

I am happy to note the number of Tanzanians attending Government of India-sponsored programmes has been increasing steadily over the years. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programmes have continued to grant scholarships to

Tanzanians in various fields of comparative advantage notably medicine, agriculture and Technology, and to extend material support in the form of text books and teachers for science and mathematics subjects wherever and whenever we have need. The Indian Navy has also been invaluable in conducting hydrographic surveys and mapping of the coastline providing invaluable information for posterity. I hope to see greater cooperation between our Navies in the near future in the field of marine security, anti piracy and anti terrorism.

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen;

The people and government of the United Republic of Tanzania highly value and deeply cherish this relationship and are committed and determined to see this relationship, which has served our two countries so well, grow from strength to strength with each passing day.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen;

I could spend the whole evening extolling the virtues of the relations of our two countries, however, permit me to wish you all a good evening and to reiterate our welcome to the crew of the First Training Squadron.

I hope that your stay here will give you just cause to become Ambassadors for the beautiful, hospitable, friendly and accommodating land that is, the United Republic of Tanzania

With these few remarks, may I now invite you all to join me in a prayer for the good health and personal wellbeing of His Excellency Shri Ram Nath Kovind, President of India and to His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and to the strong bond between Tanzania and India.

I thank you for your kind attention.