

**EMBASSY OF INDIA, JAKARTA**



**PRESS RELEASE**

**India reaches out to Eastern Indonesia**

The Ambassador of India to Indonesia, H. E. Mr. Gurjit Singh accompanied by Madam Neeru Singh continued their engagement with Eastern Indonesia in the last week.

They travelled to Ambon which has a long history of association with India.

During the visit, Ambassador called on the Vice Governor H.E. Mr. Zeth Sahuburua and his officials to get a better understanding of the economic potential and cooperation with the Province of Maluku. He offered 10 scholarships for the people of Maluku for short-term training programmes under ITEC in India. Subsequently, Ambassador and Madam Neeru Singh called on the Mayor H.E. Mr. Richard Louhenapessy, popularly called “Tambi” (brother in Tamil). In an amenable discussion they looked at the problems of growing cities and how they can be tackled. Ambassador explained to both dignitaries the Indian programmes of Make in India, Digital India, Smart Cities and Skills Development and encouraged cooperation and experience sharing. He also offered five scholarships for the Mayor of Ambon’s office and people under the ITEC Programme. Both the Vice Governor and Mayor deeply appreciated the offer of scholarships.

Subsequently, Ambassador and Madam Neeru Singh visited the Province of South Sulawesi and the city of Makassar. In his meeting with the Governor H.E. Mr. Syahrul Yasin Limpo, Ambassador and the Governor discussed many relevant issues for developing in a democratic framework and the challenges and opportunities emerging thereon. They discussed issues pertaining to Renewable Energy, Smart Cities, Skills Development and improving infrastructure. Ambassador promised to bring more Indian companies to look at the opportunities for some of the programmes which could be focused on. Ambassador also specially offered 10 scholarships under the ITEC Programme to the people of South Sulawesi which was gladly accepted by the Governor. The Governor recalled that Ambassador visited South Sulawesi frequently this year including for events of Sahabat India, for the Makassar Investment Forum and now for a bilateral visit.

Separately, in the absence of the Mayor, the First lady of Makassar Ibu Indira, wife of popular Mayor H.E. Mr. Moh. Ramadhan Pomanto and the Vice Mayor Dr. Syamsu Rizal, hosted a special dinner in honour of the Ambassador and Madam Singh showcasing the cultural diversity of the South Sulawesi and the strong links with India. The offer of five special scholarships for the city of Makassar was gladly accepted by the Vice Governor. During the visit to Makassar, Ambassador Gurjit Singh and Madam Neeru Singh met the representatives of KADIN, the Women’s Business Association and other provincial officials.

On a separate visit to the unique regency of Toraja Utara, Ambassador and Madam Singh met with the Bupati Mr. Frederik Battisoreng and had an opportunity to understand the unique culture of the area. Scholarships were offered for training in relevant areas under the ITEC Programme and consequently to enhance engagement with India. Matters like improving tourism infrastructure were discussed. Ambassador also visited schools in the area and discussed the role of young populations in the future of democratic developing countries.

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Welcoming dance



Ambassador speaking on the event



Ambassador present a comic book to the Vice Governor of Makassar



Ambassador present a comic book to the Mayor of Makassar

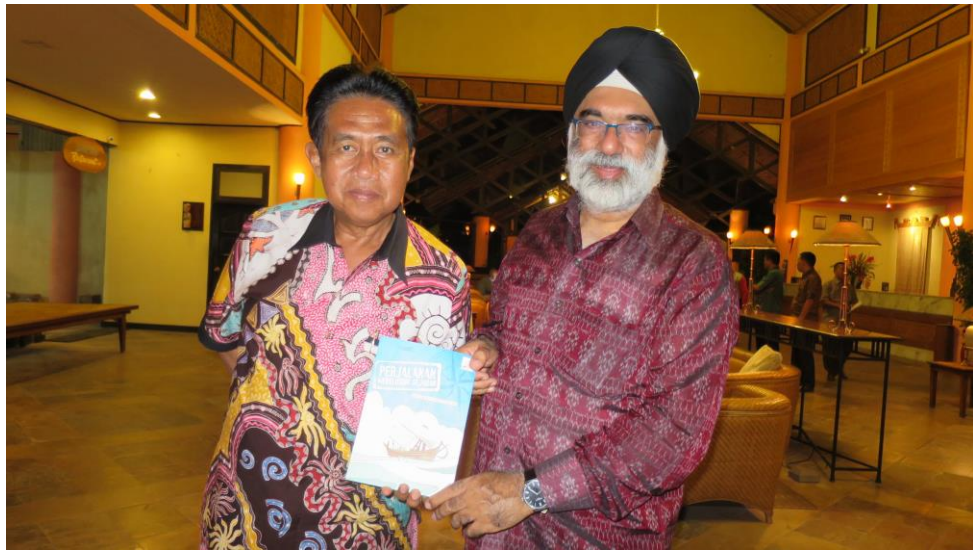


Ambassador pay homage at Pangeran Diponegoro's grave



Special dinner hosted by the First lady of Makassar





Ambassador present a comic book to Bupati Toraja



With local performers of Toraja



Ambassador as special guest at the funeral ceremony by Lembong Bulan family in Toraja