

## **EMBASSY OF INDIA, JAKARTA**



### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Visit of Vice President to Indonesia**

His Excellency Mr. Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Hon'ble Vice President of India will be paying an official visit to Indonesia from 1-4 November, 2015 at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Jusuf Kalla, the Vice President of Indonesia. Apart from the capital Jakarta, the Vice President and the delegation will also travel to Bali. The Vice President will be accompanied by Mrs. Ansari, Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat, Minister of State for Water Resources, four Members of Parliament and several senior officials. A media and business delegation will also accompany the Vice President.

In Jakarta Hon'ble Vice President will hold official talks with H.E. Mr. Jusuf Kalla, Vice President of Indonesia. Hon'ble Vice President of India is expected to call on His Excellency Mr. Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia, and meet Ms. Retno Marsudi, Minister for Foreign Affairs. A meeting with Ms. Megawati Sukarnoputri, former President of Indonesia and Chairman of PDI-P is also expected. The Hon'ble Vice President of India will visit Parliament where he will have meetings with H.E. Mr. Zulkifli Hasan, Speaker of MPR and H.E. Mr. Irman Gusman, Chairman of DPD.

Hon'ble Vice President will give a public lecture at the reception being organized by Ambassador of India, Kemlu and Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (FPCI) on 2 November 2015 and will also inaugurate the Business Forum meeting being held on 3 November 2015. The Hon'ble Vice President will visit Istiqlal mosque on his arrival on 1 November 2015, which is largest mosque in South East Asia and is symbol of Indonesia's resurgence.

Hon'ble Vice President is scheduled to arrive in Bali in the evening of 3rd November 2015. His Excellency Mr. I Made Mangku Pastika, Governor of Bali, shall host the Vice President for dinner on 3 November 2015. On the morning of 4th November, Hon'ble Vice President is scheduled to deliver a lecture in Udayana University in Bali. He will also unveil a bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Udayana University campus before his departure to Brunei.

The Government of India and the Government of Indonesia are expected to sign MoU on Cooperation in New and Renewable energy and MOU on Cultural Exchange. The two countries will also exchange notes on acceptance and coming into effect of the Extradition Treaty and the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty. A procedure for implementing the treaty has been completed. A MOU will also be signed for establishment of an Ayurveda Chair at the Faculty of Medicine at Sudirman Campus in Denpasar, Bali.

Since the election of new governments in India and Indonesia in 2014, there has been several high level engagements between two countries. Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi met President Joko Widodo of Indonesia in Nay Pyi Taw on 13 November 2014 on the sidelines of 25th ASEAN summit. External Affairs Minister Mrs. Sushma Swaraj visited Indonesia from 21-25 April, 2015 to take part in the Summit meeting of the 60th Asian African

Commemoration Conference. On the sidelines of the meeting EAM met Mr. Jusuf Kalla, Vice-President of Indonesia and Ms. Megawati Soekarnoputri former President & Chairperson PDI-P. Minister of State for External Affairs Gen. (Retd) V. K. Singh visited Jakarta on 20 April, 2015 to attend the Ministerial Meeting of 60th Asian African Commemoration Conference and met Indonesian Foreign Minister Ms. Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi on the sidelines. Minister of State for External Affairs Gen. (Retd) V. K. Singh also attended IORA meeting at Padang on 22-23 October 2015.

There have been several high level visits from Indonesia to India as well. Mr. A.M. Fachir, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia participated in Delhi Dialogue held in New Delhi from 10-11 March 2015. Dr. Fadli Zon, Vice Chairman of House of Representatives visited India from 11-14 June 2015. He had meetings with H.E. Mr. M. Hamid Ansari, Vice President of India, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs, and Dr. Nasim Zaidi, Chief Election Commissioner. Prof. Dr. Sri Adiningsih, Chairperson of the Presidential Advisory Council Republic of Indonesia paid a working visit to New Delhi and Chennai on 22-25 June 2015. She held meetings with Mr. Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Finance and senior officials of National Institution for Transforming India Aayog (NITI Aayog), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). Indonesian Delegation from People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) led by Mr. Rambe Kamarul Zaman visited India in October 2015. The Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Anies Baswedan visited India in September 2015 and held meeting Dr. Mahesh Sharma Minister of State for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation.

The cooperation between India and Indonesia in cultural field received big boost this year by organization of "Sahabat India-the Festival of India in Indonesia" from 26 January 2015 to 15 August 2015. Sahabat India brought the vibrancy and vigour of India's social, economic and cultural engagement with the friendly country of Indonesia to a new level. During the Festival of India, folk dances, dance drama, puppet show, musical shows, exhibitions, seminars, mall promotions, screening of Bollywood cinema, documentaries and the like were organized in 18 different cities of including Bali, Yogyakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, Surakarta, Semarang, Bogor, Serang, Purwakarta, Makassar, Medan, Padang, Banda Aceh, Samarinda, Balikpapan and Palembang. Sahabat India was much liked by the large young population of Indonesia and refreshed people to people contact existing between the two countries.

India and Indonesia enjoy a long standing shared historical affinity and close cultural ties. Indonesia is an important partner of India among the ASEAN countries. Hon'ble Vice President's visit to Jakarta and Bali will provide an opportunity to reaffirm and strengthen bilateral relations including commercial, investment and strategic ties. It will also strengthen our pursuit of a closer and enduring partnership with the countries of ASEAN region as part of our Act East policy.

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Jakarta  
October 28, 2015