

Banjul, Gambia, July 11 (Infosplusgabon) - The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, is scheduled to visit Banjul at the end of July 2019, the Indian High Commissioner to The Gambia, Mr. Rajeev Kumar, disclosed after an audience with President Adama Barrow on Wednesday at State House.

Infosplusgabon reports that this is the single most high profile visit by Indian Head of State to the West African nation.

The visit is motivated by what the High Commissioner described as “excellent commercial and bilateral relations between the two countries. India and The Gambia, as members of The Commonwealth, share a long history of bilateral relations dating back to the colonial days.

“The visit shows the importance attached to his country’s relations with The Gambia. India is the largest democracy in the world and The Gambia is the youngest democracy. This relation could not have been any better,” the diplomat explained.

Trade between the two countries is close to US\$ 190 million annually. The Gambia enjoys strong presence of Indian companies.

A major infrastructural contribution of India to The Gambia is the construction of the National Assembly building in Banjul by an Indian company that was financed through a line of credit from an Indian bank.

The capacity building programme also constitutes an important element of bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Mr. Kumar told State House press corps that many Gambians go for higher education in India, including government officials.

“Recently, 25 permanent secretaries went for studies at India’s Good Governance Centre in Mussoorie.

Last year, 20 diplomats from the Foreign Ministry also went for a month training program,” he added, noting that the visit will avail an opportunity for both governments to further solidify cooperation for their mutual benefits.

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India's President Kovind to visit Banjul

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