

# **Our Objective**

To promote bilateral political, economic and cultural relations between India, other countries and multilateral agencies in alignment with policies of the governments.

# **Our belief**

Every country has its unique resources, heritage & strengths and can contribute to improving the state of the world which we should recognise, respect and also help in achieving individual and national aspirations.

Good bilateral relations between countries are key to global prosperity, peace and harmony.

Some of the commendable work being done by embassies and multilateral missions in India is either going unnoticed or not fully appreciated and needs to be brought to the attention of the people at large.

Based on Ministry of External Affairs data, with 154 Embassies and 37 Multilateral Agencies functioning in the country, India is among the largest hosts in the world to important Missions.



**Ambassadors Forum India (AFI)** 

# VISION

## Prosperity for all peoples irrespective of colour, creed or country

# Background

Never before in the history of mankind has there been such an urgent need to build bridges of cooperation to secure peace, harmony and prosperity as there is today. The Ambassadors Forum India makes a contribution to this need.

Not withstanding a few rays of hope here and there, the global economic recession and unrest are not going away, with political instability in many countries which call not for rhetoric or lofty speeches, but concrete result oriented multi-pronged action, nationally and internationally.

# Heads of Mission a valuable resource

A Head of Mission, by virtue of his or her nomination to represent a Country or a Multilateral Agency in India, the second largest populus and developing economy in the world, is a person of distinguished background, is resourceful and has a record of success.

We believe that there is much to gain from the knowledge, experience and wisdom of the Heads of Mission, in a non-partisan manner on issues of vital importance which influence citizens' well being, growth, employment, peace and prosperity.

# Advisors

Former Foreign Secretaries Ambassador Lalit Mansingh & Ambassador Kanwal Sibal

> **Promoters** Mr. Man Mohan Bhagat, Convenor Ms. Geeti Bhagat, CEO



# **Ambassadors Forum India (AFI)**

A not-for-profit entity, Ambassadors Forum India was established in the year 2012.

Since its inception the promoters have been organising events on an ad hoc basis involving serving foreign Ambassadors, heads of multilateral agencies and high level decision makers.

From time to time AFI collaborates with Indian and International entities and personalities consistent with its objectives.

Encouraged by the success and stakeholders asking for more to be done, it has been decided to institutionalise AFI to operate with a Secretariat headed by a Secretary General and organise regular events.

Membership is now open to distinguished citizens, diplomats, corporates and institutions to participate in its management, planning of meaningful programmes and their implementation.

**AFI a unique institution**: AFI's laudable mission, its focus on promoting bilateral relations and activities are different from any other organisation operating in India.

**Photo Gallery** 

Mr. G M Rao, Chairman, GMR Group (front row middle) at the AFI event hosted by him for Ambassadors visit to DIAL



A group at AFI Farewell Reception for Slovenian Ambassador, Ms. Darja Bavdaz-Kuret (5th from right front row) at Convenor's residence

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Above 2 photographs: AFI meeting with Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (IC), Ministry of Culture & Tourism at Transport Bhawan, in Chair in top photograph.



A group at the Welcome Reception for the US Embassy DCM, Ms. MaryKay Carlson (3rd from right) and Mr. Aubrey Carlson (2nd from left) at Convenor's residence

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# <image>

Ambassadors Forum Reception to meet External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid (2nd row middle) at the Claridges Hotel.



Dinner hosted by the Canadian High Commissioner Stewart Beck (front row 4tyh from left) & wife Brenda Beck (front row second from right) at their residence in honour of Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Chairman, Planning Commission (front row centre).



## Some programmes and projects

- 1. **Meet the Leader:** Events with Indian Cabinet Ministers, dignitaries, top Business Leaders and Industrialists from India and other countries.
- 2. **Panel discussions and lectures**: By Heads of Diplomatic and Multilateral Missions, current and former Foreign Secretaries, Secretaries to various Ministries, Think Tanks and Eminent Personalities on subjects of interest to Diplomats and Members.
- 3. **With Embassies**: Offer to arrange programmes and projects consistent with the Embassy's priorities in bilateral relations with India.
- 4. **Monthly**: A Reception with an Ambassador or a distinguished personality as guest speaker. A Women's programme.
- 5. **Delegations abroad**: For Business, tourism and participation in national events consisting of members, women entrepreneurs and sports persons.
- 6. **With Multilateral Missions**: Organise programmes to create awareness of their activities and contribution being made by the multilateral agencies in humanitarians fields and development of India.
- 7. **In collaboration**: Organize activities of mutual interest in cooperation with other entities e.g. Institute of Foreign Affairs; Institute of Social Sciences; Institute of Directors and eminent citizens.
- 8. **Showcase talent among diplomats and members:** Many diplomats, members and their spouses are writers, have special interests and expertise e.g. are painters, singers, photographers, collectors of antiques and art and more. To showcase talent and collections, organise appropriate programmes and exhibitions.
- 9. Welcome to Ambassadors batch of last year: A welcome Reception for the Heads of Mission, who have presented their credentials in 2016.
- 10. **Awards of Excellence:** To Embassies and Multilateral Missions for outstanding initiatives and achievements during 2017 based on self nomination against defined criteria and judged by an eminent jury. Awards to be given in early 2018 at a befitting ceremony.

## **Bilateral Affairs Journal**

A quarterly journal in print and electronic editions with contributions by Indian and international authors, serving and retired diplomats on bilateral and multilateral aspects in general and on specific sectors and issues.

# <image>

L-R: Claude Maniscalco Dir Tourism St Tropez, Veronique Ziegler wife of French Ambassador (3rd), Ambassador Alexandre Ziegler (centre), Henri Prevost-Allard, Dy Mayor of St Tropez (4th), Ms. Geeti Bhagat AFI CEO & India Representative of St. Tropez (5th) in front of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's bust for installation in St. Tropez



Participants at a session with Mr. Shiv Khera, renowned Management Guru and Motivator organised at the French Embassy



After a meeting L-R: Noble Laureate Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, Ms. Geeti Bhagat, CEO and Mr. Man Mohan Bhagat, Convenor, AFI



Group at IHC cosponsored event with IAFA, AFI Convenor M M Bhagat is seated second from left in the front row



At a joint event L-R: Mr. Ike Sinha, Country Director, U4G, Ms. Nirupama Rao, Former Ambassador of India to USA, Ms. Geeti Bhagat, CEO, AFI, Ms. Lovita Morang, Documentary Filmmaker "Discovery of Rhododendron Forest"

> Farewell Reception for the Portuguese Ambassador at the Bhagat residence

Right photograph L-R: Ambassador of Iraq Mr Ahmad Berwari, Jorge Oliveira jr, Maria Martorell, Ambassador Jorge Roza de Oliveira

Below photograph L-R: Ms. Kiran Mehra-Kerpelman, UNIC, Mrs. Nadia Jalfi, Ambassador of Spain Mr. Gustavo de Aristegui, Mr. Jess Dutton, Canadian DCM





Above 2 photographs: AFI meeting with Minister of Urban Development Mr. Kamal Nath at the Leela Palace



Group at a joint event to welcome Unite4:Good Chairman Mr. Anthony Melikhov (middle) and his wife Marina Melikhov on his left

# Ways to be associated with AFI is to become:

## HONORARY MEMBER

All Heads of Embassies, Multilateral Missions, Diplomats and Senior Government of India officials

### MEMBER

Distinguished citizens and entities .

### COLLABORATOR

Sponsor and collaborate in organizing meaningful high profile events and projects.

### SUPPORTER

Ministries, Embassies and Multilateral agencies which agree with the AFI's objectives and beliefs.

# Some participants at various events Organised by Ambassadors Forum India

51. 52 53. 54. 55. 56. 57 58. 59. 60. 61.

62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78 79. 80. 81. 82.

| l.  | Angola - H.E. Mr. Manuel Eduardo Bravo                |
|-----|---|
| 2.  | Bangladesh - H.E. Tariq A. Karim                      |
| 3.  | Belgium - H.E. Mr. Pierre Vaesen                      |
| 4.  | Brazil - H.E. Mr. Carlos Duarte                       |
| 5.  | Brunei - H.E. Mr. Dato Paduka Sidek Ali               |
| 5.  | Canada - H.E. Mr. Stewart Beck                        |
| 7.  | Czech Republic - H.E. Mr. Miloslav Stasek             |
| 3.  | Denmark - H.E. Mr. Freddy Svane                       |
| 9.  | Egypt - H.E. Mr. Khaled El-Bakly                      |
| 10. | European Union - H.E. Mr. Joao Gomes Cravinho         |
| 11. | France - H.E. Mr. Francois Richier                    |
| 12. | Germany - H.E. Mr. Michael Steiner                    |
| 13. | Iceland - H.E. Mr. Gudmundur Eiriksson                |
| 14. | Indonesia - H.E. Mr. Rizali Wilmar Indrakesuma        |
| 15. | Israel - H.E. Mr. Alon Ushpiz                         |
| 16. | Italy - H.E. Mr. Daniel Mancini                       |
| 17. | Kazakhstan - H.E. Mr. Doulat Kuanyshev                |
| 18. | Mexico - H.E. Mr. Jaime Nualart Sanchez               |
| 19. | New Zealand - H.E. Ms. Jan Henderson                  |
| 20. | Pakistan - H.E. Mr. Salman Bashir                     |
| 21. | Portugal - H.E. Mr. Jorge Roza de Oliveira            |
| 22. | Philippines - H.E. Mr. Benito Valeriano               |
| 23. | Slovakia - H.E. Mr. Marian Tomasik                    |
| 24. | Slovenia - H.E. Mrs. Darja Bavdaz-Kuret               |
| 25. | Spain - H.E. Mr. Gustavo de Aristegui                 |
| 26. | South Africa - H.E. Rev. Harris Majeke                |
| 27. | Sri Lanka - H.E. Mr. Prasad Kariyawasam               |
| 28. | Sweden - H.E. Mr. Harald Sandberg                     |
| 29. | Suriname - H.E. Mrs. Aashna W. Radha Kanhai           |
| 30. | The Netherlands - H.E. Mr. Alphonsus Stoelinga        |
| 31. | Trinidad & Tobago - H.E. Mr. Chandradath Singh        |
| 32. | Turkey - H.E. Dr. Burak Akcapar                       |
| 33. | Uruguay - H.E. Mr. Cesar Ferrer                       |
| 34. | AARDO - H.E. Eng. Wassfi Hassan El Sreihin            |
| 35. | Aditya Birla Group - Dr. V. Rangaraj                  |
| 36. | AIES - Dr. Herbert Traxl                              |
| 37. | Andrade Gutierrez - Mr. Anupam Prakash                |
| 38. | AyiBo Solutions - Mr. Sanjay Lodha                    |
| 39. | Brookings Institute - Mr. Subir Gokarn                |
| 40. | Chinese Embassy - Mr. Deng Xijuan, DCM                |
| 41. | Canadian H C - Mrs. Brenda Beck, wife of CHC          |
| 42. | CTBF Canada - Mr. Harjeet Bajaj                       |
| 43. | Eawater - Mr. H. Subramaniam                          |
| 44. | ETI Dynamics - Mr. Sanmit Ahuja                       |
| 45. | Former Foreign Secy Amb. Kanwal Sibal                 |
| 46. | Former Foreign Secy Amb. Lalit Mansingh               |
| 47. | Former Under Secretary, UN - Mr. Chinmaya Gharekhar   |
| 48. | German Embassy - Mr. Cord Meier-Klodt, DCM            |
| 49. | German Embassy - Mr. Jose Schulz, Minister Counsellor |

50. GMR Airports - Mr. Rommel Valles

| IDSA - Ms. Chavi Hemanth                                  |
|---|
| IMF - Mr. Thomas Richardson                               |
| ISTP Canada – Mr. Bharat Rudra                            |
| ITC Heritage Hotel - Mr. Sanjay Kirpal                    |
| Jagriti Communications - Mrs. Savita Wakhlu               |
| Lanco Group - Mr. G. Venkatesh Babu                       |
| Mantec - Mr. Arvinder S. Brara                            |
| MEFCOM - Mr. Vijay Mehta                                  |
| Melting Pot - Mrs. Shefalika Lodha                        |
| Mercedes Benz - Mr. Ravi Talwar                           |
| Ministry Parliamentary Affairs - Mr. D. D. Verma, Secreta |
| M.K. Sanghi Group - Mr. Mahendra Sanghi                   |
| Norwegian Embassy - Mr. Sigvald Tomin Hauge, DCM          |
| Russian Embassy - Mr. Denis Alipov, DCM                   |
| Scotia Bank – Mr. Sanjeev Mittal                          |
| Shapoorji Pallonji – Mr. K.C.Mehra                        |
| Swedish Embassy - Mr. Daniel Wolven, DCM                  |
| Tata – Mr. Bharat Wakhlu                                  |
| TV 99 – Mr. Moses Manoharan                               |
| UNDP – Ms. Lise Grande                                    |
| UNIC – Ms. Kiran Mehra-Kerpelman                          |
| Unite4:Good - Mr. Anthony Melikhov                        |
| URS – Mr. Roy Marrett                                     |
| URS – Mr. Srinivas Krishnaswamy                           |
| WHO - Dr. Mrs. Nata Menabde                               |
| Former Secy MEA - Amb. Surendra Kumar                     |
| Amity - Dr. Ajit Kumar Nagpal                             |
| BJP, Bharat Niti - Ms. Parull Mahaajan                    |
| CII - Ms. Subha Rajan                                     |
| Corpmatic - Mr. Malvinder Singh Rikhy                     |
| Design Studio - Ms. Shabnam Akram                         |
| Eminent Dancer - Mrs. Shovana Narayan                     |
|   |

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- 83. FIFA Mr. Shaji Prabhakaran
- 84. Franzen Partners Drs. Marianne Franzen
- 85. Guidant Mrs. Shubre Prakash
- 86. Guidant Mr. Rohit Datta87. IILM Dr. Bhaskar Chatterjee
- - 88. Krishna Hydro Mr. Dalip Dua
  - 89. Media Mr. Chetan Sharma
  - 90. Nangia & Co. Mr. Rakesh Nangia

  - Public Diplomat Mrs. Ratan Kaul
    Shahnaz Group Mrs. Shahnaz Husain
  - 93. Sheffield Haworth Mr. Deepak Verma
  - 94. TIARA- Dr. M. V. Krishna Kumar
  - 95. Treo Mining Corp Mr. Thomas Varghese
  - 96. Unite4:Good Mr. Ike Sinha97. VTY Ms. Neeta Raheja

  - 98. Yes Bank Ms. Preeti Sinha
  - Le Meridien Ms. Meena Bhatia 99.
  - 100. Autometers Alliance Mr. Sajal Gupta



People + Governments + Corporations Working Together for Prosperity



# **Ambassadors Forum India**

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