

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY ACTIVITIES - Friday, September 11, 2015

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf today received in audience a Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of India, His Excellency G. M. Siddeshwara; who is also the Minister of State, Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises of India. The Liberian leader met with him during a courtesy call.

Minister Siddeshwara was in the country to deliver a special message from Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Liberia-India relations and to also deliver a Special Invitation for the Liberian leader to attend the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit to be held in New Delhi, India on October 29, 2015.

The India-Africa Forum Summit serves as a platform to deliberate on the latest developments in India-Africa Cooperation and chart out the future course of common efforts to enhance South-South Cooperation.

For her part, President Sirleaf thanked the Envoy for the visit and the Special Message from Indian Prime Minister Modi. She also acknowledged the long standing excellent relations between Liberia and India citing both countries' participation in the G-77, India's contribution to the transport sector and the large Indian business community in Liberia.

The Liberian President indicated that India's assistance will be crucial in the health and educational sectors as well as in industrialization for value addition to the country's vast natural resources and the development of an industrial park for the country. Support to the Government's infrastructural program was also sought.

Special Envoy Siddeshwara was accompanied to the office of the President by India's Honorary Counsel Upjit Singh Sachdeva and India's Ambassador accredited to Liberia, His Excellency Mr. Dinesh Bhatia.

- President Sirleaf, in remarks on the occasion marking the 66th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), extolled the Government and people for the important role they're playing in Liberia's recovery process, including helping to attract critical private sector investments in the mining sector, professional contractual service in the construction sector, and support for critical infrastructure in the health and education sectors.

She noted that Liberia and China have enjoyed a long and cherished relationship spanning several decades; noting that two years ago this was further consolidated by the passage of a resolution by both Houses of the National Legislature reaffirming the "One China Policy" as the political basis for the country's relationship and demonstrating that Liberians are supportive of the friendship and cooperation enjoyed with China.

On the occasion marking the National Day celebrations, President Sirleaf extended, through the Ambassador, congratulations and warmest felicitations on behalf of the Government and people of Liberia, to His Excellency President Xi Jinping and the Government and gallant people of the PRC.

Speaking earlier, PRC Ambassador to Liberia, His Excellency Mr. Zhang Yue said the visit of his country's Foreign Minister, Mr. Wang Yi to Liberia a month ago has turned a new page in the bilateral cooperation between the two countries, especially in the post-Ebola era.

He assured that as promised by Foreign Minister Wang Yi, China will fully support Liberia's Economic Stabilization and Recovery Plan and will focus on the bilateral cooperation in health, education, infrastructure, agriculture and other fields.