

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY ACTIVITIES – Thursday, October 29, 2015

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, today, addressed the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit where she welcomed the formation of the India-Africa Business Council that will promote business partnerships and joint ventures, thereby expanding investment and trade between Africa and India.

She said these kinds of Summits have led to deepening of the relationship between India and Africa with significant expansion in trade, in private sector investment, and in bilateral programs and financing arrangements, aimed at supporting development across all sectors, as well as capacity building and institutional development.

President Sirleaf said the Summit will enable consultations at the highest political level between the heads of state and government of all 54 nations across Africa and the Indian government to give a new thrust to an age-old partnership. It will also provide an opportunity to not only reflect on the past, but to define the road ahead in tune with the present times.

Touching on Liberia – India relations which has spanned over six decades of strong bonds of friendship and economic cooperation, President Sirleaf catalogued the benefits from bilateral assistance in the area of public transport, education and agriculture.

Speaking earlier, Prime Minister Modi congratulated President Sirleaf on her 77th birth anniversary and welcomed the leaders of Africa to the 3rd India-Africa Summit. He said India will open its doors to the continent and build institutions in Africa to enhance development and strengthen democratic governance.

- Earlier today, President Sirleaf was conferred an Honorary Doctorate degree by the Amity University in New Delhi, India. The Honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree was conferred on the Liberian President at a Special Convocation held on the campus of the University by its Chancellor.

At the ceremony, Amity University awarded a number of post-graduate scholarships to Liberia and indicated that the details will be worked out between officials of the two tertiary institutions.

President Sirleaf thanked the University for the Honor which she dedicated to the women of Liberia and Africa. She reflected on the longstanding relations between Liberia and India and looked forward for more progress.