

EMBASSY OF INDIA LUANDA

INDIA - ANGOLA RELATIONS

Here are a few snippets from the past.
(Historical press clippings from Times of India newspaper)

Pages from history covering India-Angola Relations.

❖ India recognizes MPLA Govt in Angola : 6 / 7 February 1976

India recognises MPLA govt.

The Times of India News Service

The Times of India (1861-current); Feb 7, 1976; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Times of India
pg. 1

07 FEB '1976

India recognises MPLA govt.

"The Times of India" News Service

NEW DELHI, February 6.

THE government of India today extended recognition to the MPLA government in Angola "led by its distinguished President and freedom-fighter, Dr. Agostinho Neto."

Announcing this amidst applause in the Lok Sabha today, the minister for external affairs, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, said: "We are confident that in keeping with its declared policy, the MPLA government will join to strengthen the fraternity of non-aligned nations and help to build a world based on equality and co-operation among nations."

A similar statement was also made in the Rajya Sabha.

The following is the text of Mr. Chavan's statement:

As the house is aware, the government has always given full support to the struggle against colonialism and racism in Africa. We have been in full sympathy with the Organisation of African Unity, which has demonstrated the unity and determination of the continent in the struggle for emancipation.

The house will recall that the OAU had recognised all the three liberation movements in Angola — the MPLA (popular movement for the liberation of Angola), the FNLA (national front for the liberation of Angola) and the UNITA (national unity for total independence of Angola).

With the rising tide of liberation movements and after the change of regime in Portugal, the OAU and African statesmen sought to bring about reconciliation among these three liberation movements.

When Portugal decided to end its

domination over the country, the government of India immediately recognised the independence of Angola and welcomed the determination of

the people of Angola to preserve the territorial integrity of their country.

The government of India also condemned categorically the unlawful violation of Angolan territorial integrity by the racist regime in South Africa.

As the house is aware, an extraordinary meeting of the OAU at the summit level was held in January, 1976, to discuss the problem of Angola.

Even after several days of intensive discussions, the member-states of the OAU remained evenly divided between countries which supported the recognition of the government of MPLA and others who wanted a cease-fire and reconciliation among the recognised liberation movements.

Since then three more African countries — Ethiopia, Sierra Leone and Togo — have accorded recognition to the government of MPLA based in Luanda, representing a clear majority of the 46 member-states of the OAU.

The MPLA government alone seems committed to preserve Angola's integrity and independence and fight the South African armed intrusion.

In the totality of these circumstances, the government of India has decided to accord recognition to the MPLA government led by its distinguished President and freedom fighter, Dr. Agostinho Neto.

Samachar adds: In the Lok Sabha, Mr. S. M. Banerjee (CPI) congratulated the Prime Minister, who was present when Mr. Chavan made the announcement, on behalf of the opposition groups "for her bold step".

Moscow: India's recognition of Angola has been welcomed in Soviet circles.

The announcement in Indian Parliament was given big play in the media here with the Tass treating it as a high priority item and following up with a fuller report.

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❖ Decision on Opening of Indian Embassy in Luanda :

17 / 18 May 1986

(As would be noted from this archival press clipping, this decision was announced during visit of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India to Luanda in May 1986. Also note the reference to Indian offer to send an eminent archaeologist to Luanda to suggest measures to preserve the Armed Forces Central Museum at Fort of St. Miguel - presently known as Fortelezza. Subsequent to this, an Indian team eventually visited Luanda and contributed to the reconstruction of the Fortellezza Museum)

Indian embassy for Luanda

The Times of India (1861-current); May 18, 1986; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Times of India
pg. 9

(18 MAY 1986)

Indian embassy for Luanda

LUANDA, May 17 (PTI).

INDIA has embarked on a new era of bilateral relations with Angola with a decision to establish a permanent embassy in Luanda and enter into an agreement for technical and economic co-operation.

The decision to set up the embassy in Luanda was taken by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi during talks, lasting over two hours, with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos here last night.

Indian interests in Angola are currently looked after by the Indian high commission in Zambia.

While Mr. Gandhi and Mr. dos Santos held talks on bilateral and international issues, the external affairs minister, Mr. Shiv Shanker, and the Angolan trade minister, Mr. Ismael Martins, helped by senior officials, discussed ways of enhancing trade between the two countries.

Mr. Shiv Shanker told newsmen today that a high-level Angolan delegation led by Mr. Martins would visit India in July to sign the agreement on technical and economic co-operation.

India has offered to buy as much crude oil, raw gems and precious stones as Angola can supply and in return supply textiles, drugs and machine tools to it.

Mr. Shiv Shanker, who is also in charge of commerce, said an Indian delegation would visit Angola within 15 days to finalise the deal for buying diamonds and precious stones.

Angola has sought Indian co-operation in developing its open mines and setting up a fertiliser plant.

The country, which is rich in natural resources, will supply phosphate to India.

Angola produces 260,000 barrels of petroleum per day and its oil reserves

are estimated at 1.84 billion barrels. Its diamond production in 1985 was 800,000 carats. Angola is the fifth largest producer of diamonds in the world with over 80 per cent of production being high-quality gemstones while the rest are of industrial quality.

Angola also has deposits of iron ore, coal, phosphate, uranium, nickel, copper, gold, bauxite, limestone and rare earths.

Mr. Shiv Shanker said that the Angolan delegation would come to India with a comprehensive shopping list.

He said Angola had sought a feasibility report from India for setting up a gas-based fertiliser plant here. It has also asked for Indian assistance in developing its communication systems, including shipping, transport and the automobile sector.

During his discussions with President dos Santos, Mr. Gandhi offered to send an eminent archaeologist to Luanda to suggest measures to preserve the armed forces central museum, a legacy of the Angolan freedom struggle, at the fort of St. Miguel.

Mr. Gandhi yesterday visited the museum which contains mementos of Angola's late founder President de Antonio Agostinho Neto and the fiery revolutionary Jose Mendes de Carvalho, who studied in Cuba and died in battle against the Portuguese on April 14, 1968.

According to an official spokesman, Mr. dos Santos has asked Mr. Gandhi to step up bilateral economic co-operation.

On his part, Mr. Gandhi extended political and economic support to Angola. He said that India was keen to develop South-South co-operation and pointed out that most of the current problems arose from lack of economic independence of developing countries.

Mr. Gandhi said some of the de-

veloped countries were making a concerted effort to lower prices of commodities from developing countries to make development more difficult.

He also pointed out that the expertise developed by India in nuclear engineering, space, defence, electronics and biotechnology was far cheaper than that available in the West.

Mr. Shiv Shanker said that India had agreed to Angola's request for agricultural implements and expertise to train personnel to promote agricultural development.

Angola is also keen to import more bicycles from India. Last year, it bought one million dollars worth of bicycles from different countries.

Dar-es-salaam (UNI): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today said India would resist all efforts by the racist South African regime to destabilise the frontline states.

Speaking at a banquet hosted in his honour by Tanzanian President H. A. Mwinyi, he said India firmly supported the struggle of the people of South Africa to attain their human rights and political freedom.

MAY 18, 1986

THE TIMES OF INDIA, SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1986

Mani's sacrifice for Pillai's sake

THE TIMES OF INDIA NEWS SERVICE
TRIVANDRUM, May 17. The Kerala Congress leader, Mr. K. Mani, has been elected today to the assembly by a landslide vote.

He had been elected to the assembly in 1980, but had lost his seat in the 1984 elections. He had been elected to the assembly in 1980, but had lost his seat in the 1984 elections.

Bangla poll's dubious legacy

By ZAGUL A. CHOWDHURY
THE TIMES OF INDIA NEWS SERVICE
DHAKA, May 17. The Bangladesh election of May 17, 1986, has been a landmark event in the country's history.

The election was held in a free and fair manner, and the results were accepted by all sides. The election was a success for the country.

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Indoson plant goes on stream

THE TIMES OF INDIA NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, May 17. The largest indoson plant in India, set up by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), has gone into production.

The plant is located in the state of Andhra Pradesh, and it is expected to produce a large quantity of indoson for the country.

Indian embassy for Luanda

THE TIMES OF INDIA NEWS SERVICE
LUANDA, May 17 (PTI). India has decided to open an embassy in Luanda, Angola, to strengthen its relations with the country.

The embassy will be headed by an Indian ambassador, and it is expected to be opened in the near future.

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AIDS cases in TN show no symptoms

MADRAS, May 17 (PTI). Of the six suspected AIDS cases in Tamil Nadu, none have shown any symptoms, according to health officials.

The cases were reported in the state capital, Chennai, and the officials are conducting further tests to confirm the diagnosis.

Talcher fire: danger signals ignored

THE TIMES OF INDIA NEWS SERVICE
BHUBANESWAR, May 17. The heavy water plant at Talcher in Orissa, which was damaged by a fire on April 25, is still under repair.

The fire caused significant damage to the plant, and the officials are working to restore it to its original condition.

Jagmohan briefs

NEW DELHI, May 17 (PTI). The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has briefed the members of the Union Cabinet on the progress of the government's work.

The briefing was held in the Prime Minister's office, and it was attended by all the members of the cabinet.

MGR briefed on Lanka proposals

NEW DELHI, May 17 (PTI). The Minister of External Affairs, Mr. G. V. Narasimha Rao, has briefed the members of the Union Cabinet on the proposals put forward by the Government of Sri Lanka.

The proposals relate to the peace process in Sri Lanka, and the officials are discussing them in detail.

Greenpeace members sneak into U.K. ship

GILBRALTAR, May 17 (PTI). Greenpeace activists have sneaked onto the U.K. ship, the *Rainbow Warrior*, to protest against nuclear testing in the South Atlantic.

The activists were caught by the British authorities, and they are facing charges of trespassing.

Cheruby worker sacked

MOSCOW, May 17 (AP). A worker at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant has been sacked for leaking information about the accident to the press.

The worker was found guilty of breaching the security rules of the plant, and he is facing disciplinary action.

All eyes on Bombay skies...

The skies over Bombay are expected to be clear and sunny today, according to the weather forecast.

The temperature is expected to rise, and there is a chance of a light breeze.

MRF predicts rain on May 28th

MRF TYRES predicts rain on May 28th, which may affect the traffic on the roads.

The company is advising motorists to take extra precautions during the rain, and to use their brakes carefully.

Miss Poona tie on May 24

THE TIMES OF INDIA NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, May 17. The Miss Poona beauty contest will be held on May 24, and the winner will represent the city in the Miss India competition.

The contest is organized by the Poona Municipal Corporation, and it is expected to attract a large number of participants.

2 foreigners held in gold smuggling case

NEW DELHI, May 17 (PTI). Two foreigners have been arrested in connection with a gold smuggling case in the state of Karnataka.

The case involves the smuggling of gold from the state to other parts of the country, and the officials are investigating the matter.

5 freed in Delhi riot case

NEW DELHI, May 17 (PTI). Five persons have been released from custody in connection with a riot case in the city of Delhi.

The persons were charged with participating in the riot, but the court has found them innocent.

Power supply to suburbs interrupted

BOMBAY, May 17. Power supply to the suburbs of Bombay was interrupted for several hours today due to a technical fault.

The fault occurred in the main power line, and the officials are working to restore the supply as soon as possible.

Unseen hand in Belgaum

Belgaum, May 17. A mysterious 'unseen hand' is believed to be behind the recent developments in the city of Belgaum.

The developments include the arrest of several persons and the closure of some businesses.

Pakistanis down Afghan jet

ISLAMABAD, May 17 (AP). Pakistani forces have shot down an Afghan jet over the border between the two countries.

The jet was carrying several passengers, and the incident has caused a diplomatic row.

3 backed to death

GHAZIABAD, May 17 (PTI). Three persons have been sentenced to death for their involvement in a recent terrorist attack in the city of Ghaziabad.

The attack resulted in the death of several people, and the court has found the three persons guilty.

Scathing hostile drama burns school kids

DELHI, May 17. A scathing and hostile drama performed by school children in Delhi has caused a stir among the authorities.

The drama depicted the government in a negative light, and the officials are considering taking action against the children.

Seating hostess drama burns school kids

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In Brief

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05 SEPT 1988

Angola ravaged by war

The Times of India (1861-current); Sep 5, 1988; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Times of India
pg. 18

Angola ravaged by war

LUANDA, Sept. 4 (ZIANA-Pool)

THE armed forces war museum in the Angolan capital bears testimony to the mass destruction caused by the 13-year-old war with South Africa.

Indian experts are busy renovating the 400-year old fort of Saint Michael perched on a hill-top overlooking the quiet port city of Luanda, battle-scarred by the war.

The task of restoration is sponsored by the Africa Fund of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to help frontline states and epitomises the hope of Angolans for peace.

For them this restoration will forever store the war memories behind glass showcases.

Angolans here say, "It is the things that are stored in this museum that we want to forget." An Indian team headed by D. K. Sinha is restoring the city's war museum at a cost of 700 million granted by the Africa Fund.

A government spokesman said Angola had to build a high military capability to combat the South African defence forces.

"Before independence, Angola was never allowed to develop. The Portuguese never develop, but plundered Angola during colonialism", Mr Sinha said.

War-weary Angolans, whose country got its name from that of the pre-colonial traditional ruler Ngola have no doubt suffered severe economic setbacks in the post-colonial struggle to

defend their sovereignty.

The country has spent billions of dollars on the war.

A war communique reported in the local newspaper *Journal de Angola* said 153 armed bandits were killed and five others were captured in recent battles in Malanje province, east of Luanda.

When South Africa began its fourth major incursion into Angola in condemned "Operation Modular" at Cuito Cuanavale in November last year, The president, Mr Eduardo Dos Santos faced a similar situation that

confronted the first Angolan president, Mr Agostino Neto, on the eve of independence.

Mr Dos Santos acted in the same way that his predecessor did.

Describing the scenario in retrospect, the secretary-general of the African National Congress of South Africa, Mr Alfred Nzo, said: "The adventurism of Pretoria was to prove its own undoing. This time Pretoria went too far. It created conditions for the Angolans to get all the help they needed from Cuba."

Indian technical team for Angola

The Times of India (1861-current); Apr 4, 1987; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Times of India
pg. 9

1987

Indian technical team for Angola

NEW DELHI, April 3 (PTI): India, acting to share its developmental experiences with Angola, is to send its technical experts to Luanda and also help develop Angola's telecommunications and postal services.

This was agreed to in new protocols signed between the two countries to mark the three-day state visit by the Angolan president, Mr. Jose Eduardo Dos Santos.

Mr. Santos said that Angola is ready to involve India in mining of precious stones including diamonds and will also examine proposals by India for co-operation in oil exploration.

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Rs. 10-cr. credit for Angola

5 APRIL 1987

NEW DELHI, April 4 (UNI): Indo-Angolan economic relations entered a new phase today with India agreeing to grant a credit of Rs. 10 crores to enable Angola to buy consumer durables and capital goods from here.

The agreement on two suppliers credit of Rs. 5 crores each marked the three-day state visit of Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos which ended here today.

Before the President emplaned for Luanda, India and Angola issued a joint statement highlighting the failure of the U.S. policy of "constructive engagement" in ending apartheid in South Africa and instead favoured vigorous implementation of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the racist regime.

President Zail Singh, the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, and his ministerial colleagues were present at the airport to see off Mr. Santos.

Two protocols were also signed relating to deputation of Indian technical personnel to Angola and co-operation in the field of communication.