



**Embassy of India
Tunis, Tunisia**

PRESS RELEASE

**Visit by Shri Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East) to Tunisia for Foreign Office
Consultations, 29 April – 02 May 2015**



Shri Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs, visited Tunisia to hold the third round of Foreign Office Consultations on 30th April 2015, held after a gap of over 12 years. During his visit, he held comprehensive discussions with HE Mr. Mohamed Ezzine Shelaifa, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

of Tunisia. Bilateral and multilateral issues were discussed, as also regional and international issues of mutual interest. The two sides signed an Agreement on Exemption of Visas for Diplomatic and Official Passports.

Secretary (East) also called on HE Mr. Taieb Baccoush, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia. He informed the Tunisian Minister of the India-Africa Summit to be held in India in October 2015 and that the Prime Minister of India would shortly be sending the invitation to it to His Excellency the President of Tunisia. Issues of bilateral engagement, including the meetings of Joint Working Groups in diverse sectors and scheduling the next meeting of the Joint Commission, were discussed.

Shri Wadhwa held discussions with HE Mr. Ridha Lahwel, Minister for Commerce & Handicrafts, HE Mr. Ridha Ben Mosbah, Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister, HE Mr. Nooman Fehri, Minister for Information and Communication Technology and HE Ms. Amel Azouz, Secretary of State for Investment and International Cooperation. Issues pertaining to TIFERT, the bilateral joint venture in phosphates, were discussed. Further avenues of economic cooperation were explored and some specific items with potential for two-way trade were identified. He also met with Ms. Ines Fradi, the Executive Chief of DPM, the regulatory authority for pharmaceutical products in Tunisia, and discussed ways of streamlining the procedure of registration of new pharmaceutical products.

Secretary (East) met with academics and political experts in a discussion organized at the Centre for the Study of Islam and Democracy, and with Tunisian entrepreneurs at a Tunisian Chamber of Commerce, CONECT.

Officials of the Indian Embassy in Tripoli, which has been temporarily relocated to Djerba in Tunisia, met with and briefed Secretary (East).

01 May, 2015
Tunis



Secretary (East) Shri Anil Wadhwa calling on H.E. Mr. Taieb Baccouche, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Tunisia, 30 April 2015



3rd round of Foreign Office Consultations between India and Tunisia, Tunis, 30 April 2015



Secretary (East) Shri Anil Wadhwa presenting a gift to Mr. Ridha ben Mosbah, Economic Advisor to Prime Minister of Tunisia, 30 April, 2015



Secretary (East) Shri Anil Wadhwa meeting with HE Mr. Nooman Fehri, Minister for Information and Communication Technology of Tunisia, 29 April, 2015



Secretary (East) Shri Anil Wadhwa meeting with H.E. Mrs. Amel Azzouz, Secretary of State for Investment and International Cooperation of Tunisia, 29 April, 2015



Secretary (East) Shri Anil Wadhwa with HE Mr. Ridha Lahwel, Minister for Commerce and Handicrafts of Tunisia, 30 April 2015