

High Commissioner Dr. Rajesh Ranjan's speech on the occasion of handing over a house to Ms. Kelebogile Kgorwane on 25th May 2018 at Boseja ward, Gakuto

- **Hon. Mr. Vincent Seretse, Minister of International Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Botswana**
- **Hon. Ms. Botlogile Tshireletso, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development of the Republic of Botswana**
- **Mr. Ghannie, District Commissioner**
- **Kgosi A. Letlamma, Kgosi-Gakuto**
- **Kgosi Molefhe, Kgosi – Kopong**
- **Ms Sekhala Ramphala, Chairperson, Gakuto VDC**
- **Mr. Pius Cyraic, Director, BC&LM GAS (Pty) Ltd**
- **Protocol observed**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

1. It is pleasure for me to be among all of you for this special occasion. I am deeply grateful to the Kgosi A. Letlamma of Gakuto VDC and Mr. Pius Cyriac, Director of BC&LM Gas (Pty) Ltd. for inviting me to deliver this keynote address and share my thoughts with you.

2. I believe that it is in this space — the partnership between government, business and civil society — that corporate social responsibility can find the most effective response to many of the challenges and opportunities we confront, both at home and abroad.

3. I would like to congratulate Mr. Pius Cyriac, Director of BC&LM Gas (Py) Ltd. You have shown that it is possible to be profitable, while being socially and environmentally responsible. You have demonstrated that in the inter-connected global economy that exists today, the long-term profitability and sustainability of business is directly related to the integration of environmental, social and governance issues into corporate policy and management.

4. I firmly believe that investors need to look beyond short-term financial performance and look into how businesses are run. Decisions on investment are not just about returns but are also about ensuring healthy, productive and sustainable economies and societies.

5. I believe the right way to go is to integrate CSR into the business strategies in order to be competitive and to build long-term relationships with employees, customers and consumers, as well as contributing to a better development within society.
6. I would like to appreciate the efforts of Private sector who is contributing through Corporate Social Responsibilities in achieving the 2030 Agenda and Vision-2036 achieving prosperity for all.
7. India has a long standing close and multifaceted relationship with Botswana. India and Botswana have a very strong and unique friendship. Our mutually beneficial partnership, driven by our common interests, is a perfect example of South-South Cooperation.
8. One of the important aspect of our cooperation is people to people contact through STRENGTH. Where S stands for Share, T stands for Tradition, R stands of Responsibility, E stands of Entertainment, N stands for New Ideas, G stands for Growth and prosperity, T stands for Training & Capacity Building, Trade & Investment, Transfer of Technology and H stands for Health and Healing.
9. A step of such gesture of Corporate Social Responsibility will definitely strengthen the people to people contact between India and Botswana through STRENGTH.

Thank You All