

High Commission of India
Gaborone

PRESS RELEASE



Under the aegis of Vande Bharat Mission of the Government of India, High Commission of India in Gaborone, with the cooperation of Indian Association of Botswana, organized a Special Chartered Flight for repatriation of the stranded Indian nationals. Ethiopian Airlines flight number ET 8836 departed Sir Seretse Khama International Airport, Gaborone at 1600hrs for New Delhi (via Addis Ababa) on 09 July 2020 with 116 Indian nationals on-board.



2. 116 Indian nationals, including 2 infants and others who were either business-persons or visiting their families and had got stranded in Botswana when the scheduled international commercial flights stopped operating owing to the calamity of COVID-19 pandemic

befalling the global international travel. A number of Indian Engineers and Technicians who had completed their projects in Botswana also availed this opportunity to return to their motherland.



3. High Commission of India extends its sincere thanks to the Government of Botswana, especially the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation; Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs and the Civil Aviation Authority of Botswana for making the repatriation effort successful. Partnering in the effort, Ethiopian Airlines through its GSSA M/s Timberlake Pty Ltd., Gaborone highlights the international collaboration that is vital for moving the global economies.



Vande Bharat Mission (enabler of repatriation of Indian nationals stranded abroad) – the mission of hope & happiness – continues to facilitate homeward movement of Indians stranded abroad. More than

570,000 Indians have returned on VBM & Special Charters, Naval Ships & land border crossings since 6 May and more than 70,000 have flown out.

Gaborone
July 9, 2020