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22/23 Westcliff, 127 West Street, Durban, 4001
Phone 370403 Fax 374307 Telegraphic Address: "NEWSCUT"

Date

24 SEP 1993

SA and India stand to benefit from mutual trade

SOUTH Africa is well-positioned to become an important trading partner for India as it can provide the Asian country with the technology, equipment and expertise to complement its own infrastructure.

Graham Roper, overseas forwarding manager for Safcor, says that aside from general industrial and agricultural opportunities, underground mining in India is still in its infancy "so both countries stand to benefit from the exchange of ideas and know-how".

Safcor last week hosted senior delegates from Safcor's Indian agent Jeena and Company who were investigating further trade potential in South Africa.

Roper says India, with a

population of more than 800-million, has one of the highest under-used skilled labour forces in the world.

"Up until a few years ago India operated largely as a closed economy, restricting imports through tariffs as high as 400%.

"Now, foreigners may own up to 51% of the equity in Indian companies and many international firms have set up manufacturing concerns, as it is often cheaper than in the Far East," he elaborates.

For more details contact Chris Cox at (011) 493-4900.

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Phone 370403 Fax 374307 Telegraphic Address: "NEWSCUT"

Date 07 SEP 1993
NATAL DAILY NEWS

India to resume relations with South Africa

MARTIN CHALLENOR
Political Correspondent

WITH one million people of Indian origin living in South Africa, the resumption of relations between India and South Africa was appropriate and essential, Bhadra Ranchod, Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, has said.

Welcoming the resumed ties with India, he said today that he would also expedite diplomatic relations between South Africa and Pakistan.

Dr Ranchod was responding to a statement by Salman Khursheed, the Indian Minister of State for External Affairs, that India would establish diplomatic relations with South Africa, soon after lifting economic sanctions later this month.

"We would like to set up a diplomatic mission in South Africa as quickly as possible," Mr Khursheed said.

India has appointed Mr K. Sehdev as its Ambassador to South Africa.

India lifted cultural sanctions, including visa and consular restrictions, against Pretoria in 1991.

Air India flights would begin operating between Bombay and Johannesburg from October 2, Mr Khursheed said.

Mr Khursheed has just returned to India from South Africa, where he met African National Congress leaders and Mr Pik Botha, Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr Khursheed called Mr Botha a political pragmatist.

The South African director-general of Foreign Affairs, Rusty Evans, visited India in June to meet Indian Foreign Affairs staff.

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Date 8 SEP 1993

India plans to open consulate in Durban

THE Indian government, which announced this week that it had decided to resume diplomatic relations with South Africa, will decide on the location of its embassy after the elections next year.

"We will make the choice once we know where the future government decides to locate itself," Indian first secretary BP Kothiyal told the Mercury from Gaborone yesterday.

"However, we will open a consulate office in Durban ... we know you have a lot of Indian people living there."

Indian minister of state for external affairs Salman Khurshed, who visited the Indian cultural office in Johannesburg last week, said on Monday his country would

By Veven Bissetty

establish diplomatic relations with South Africa after lifting economic sanctions later this month.

An Indian trade delegation dealing in rice, telephone cables, spices, cotton and bicycles is due to arrive in the country next week, said Mr CT Bhoola, a Grey street local affairs committee member.

The move will also allow Air India to operate flights between Johannesburg and Bombay, from October 2.

One of the biggest travel agents conducting tours to India, Mr MK Bobby Naidoo, said the move was welcomed.

Mr Naidoo said about 5 000 people visited India each month.

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Date

- 8 SEP 1993
NATAL DAILY NEWS

Visas now needed for India

Daily News Reporter

PROSPECTIVE visitors to India will soon have to apply and obtain visas before going there, according to the attache for consular services at the Indian Cultural Centre in Johannesburg, Satendar Kumar.

Previously, South Africans who were not white were allowed into India and were given "landing permits" at the point of entry.

South African passports were not stamped and visitors were given a "loose leaf" document.

"Visitors are now being advised to apply for visas to visit India and while it has not become compulsory yet, it will become common practice in the near future. We will make an

official announcement nearer the time," said Mr Kumar.

He said a 30-day visa would cost R20, a six-month visa R100, a year-long visa R200 and a five-year visa R400. There was also a R30 airport tax on their arrival.

If visitors leave from Jan Smuts then they have to pay another R30 airport tax.

Added to this, all visitors need two inoculations — yellow fever and cholera, which cost R102.

The cost shoots up even further when an additional R40 is charged for the use of a courier service to get visas.

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Date

13 SEP 1993

BUSINESS DESK

India to lift sanctions and restore ties

NEW DELHI — India, a founder of the international movement against apartheid, will lift trade sanctions against SA this month, a government minister said yesterday.

Minister of State for External Affairs Salman Khursheed, who made a rare private visit to SA this month, also said New Delhi was prepared to establish diplomatic ties with Pretoria within six weeks.

"We will first lift the trade sanctions this month and follow that up with diplomatic ties," he said.

India will set up air links with SA on October 2, the birthday of Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi, who led a peaceful campaign against racism in SA before leading India to independence from Britain.

India withdrew its ambassador

from Pretoria in 1948, a year after independence, in protest against the imposition of segregation laws, the first country in the world to do so.

Following a recent Commonwealth decision, it established a consular office in SA.

Khursheed said his talks with ANC leader Nelson Mandela and Foreign Minister Pik Botha enabled him to decide to lift sanctions and to establish diplomatic ties soon. "My meeting with these leaders convinced me that there was no going back on the elections proposed for April."

New Delhi, however, is worried about the future of SA's million-strong Indian community.

SA Indians say they are in a crisis of allegiance, dithering over whether to back the ANC as fellow sufferers

under apartheid or to throw in their lot with the newly nonracial NP.

Many Indians would seek security with other minorities against burgeoning black power, their leaders say.

They remember vicious anti-Indian riots by blacks in Durban in 1949 when 200 people were killed because an Indian trader assaulted a black youth. They witness at close hand the horrors of wars between supporters of the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party that have cost more than 5 000 lives since 1984.

Khursheed said the ANC expected the Indian community's vote to tilt the balance in its favour in the power-sharing arrangement proposed so far. — Sapa Reuter.

Date

- 6 OCT 1994
NATAL MERCUR

Ambassadorial Embassy



Property Editor

THE huge Sanlam Embassy building in Durban is living up to its ambassadorial image with recent leaseings to two international organisations.

Air India has taken 206m² on the 22nd floor, while the Republic of Taiwan now occupies 241m² on the same floor.

Regional manager of Sanlam Properties, Mr Dallas Reed, commented yesterday: "During the past two months we have let a total of 2 400m² at the Embassy — a marked improvement compared with the previous six months".

Air India celebrates its new home in Durban. From the left: Pat Tait, Sanlam Properties; Keith Burns, director ICP estate agents; and Promod Gupta, regional manager Air India.



Sanlam Properties' Pieter du Toit with Dr Tai Feng, consul-general, Republic of China, at their new offices.

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4 OCT 1995
NATAL DAILY NEWS

Pl. Hennig

Direct flights from Bombay begin soon

A traditional Durban welcome for Air India

Air India flights to South Africa begin this month. **Farook Khan** reports.

FROM Sunday, October 10, Air India flights from Bombay will make Louis Botha Airport, Durban, their first stop in South Africa, the city being earmarked as a new holiday destination for Indian travellers.

A spokesman for Air India said that in future all flights from Bombay would stop

over in Dar es Salaam and fly on to Durban.

"They will then go to Jan Smuts Airport on their return journey."

This means that travellers from India, many of whom are looking for new holiday destinations, will have the choice of stopping off in Durban, a city which most of them have not previously visited.

According to tourist officials in Bombay, Durban has been earmarked as a new holiday spot for Indian travellers.

A high-powered delegation from the Clark Group of Hotels in India visited Durban and were impressed with the infrastructure, but said the people working in the hospitality industry should become more professional and be prepared to give

good service.

Presently British Airways, Singapore Airlines, Air Seychelles and Air Mauritius fly to Durban.

The next Air India flight is expected on Wednesday, October 6, and will fly from Bombay to Johannesburg before coming to Durban. After that, all Air India flights will come to Durban first.

Each aircraft will accommodate 206 passengers and 13 crew members.

Over the weekend, the Air India inaugural flight made a "low profile" entry at Jan Smuts and then Louis Botha airports.

Social welcoming events were cancelled because of the huge death toll in the earthquake disaster that hit western India last week.