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**PRESS RELEASE**

Government of India   announced a cash assistance of US$ one million to the Government of Malawi in response to the appeal made by H.E.Prof Arthur Peter Mutharika to the international community for humanitarian assistance.

Mr Suresh Kumar Menon, High Commissioner of India to Malawi in an event on 21 December, 2016 at the Ministry of Finance handed over the cheque to Hon’ble Mr. Goodall Gondwe, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development. The handing over ceremony was also graced by Dr. Peter Kumpalume, Minister of Health.

In his brief remarks after handing over the cheque, Mr Menon briefed the Hon’ble Ministers and the assembled audience and the media of the various projects that Government of India has undertaken in the last few years. He conveyed that   the Government of India was keen to see how India-Malawi relations can be further strengthened and looked forward to receiving proposals from the Government of Malawi. He mentioned about the announcement made by the Government of India   in December, 2016 for a special assistance to Malawi in the health sector as a Grant project   to assist the Hospitals in Malawi, which are in need of medical equipment’s to treat and diagnose the patients here in Malawi.

Hon’ble Finance Minister Mr Goodall Gondwe, in his brief remarks thanked the Government of India for this timely assistance and recalled the various projects that have come up in Malawi. He specially referred to the Fuel Storage Tank being constructed by GoI under a LoC.

Hon’ble Minister of Health also spoke on the occasion and thanked the Government of India for this humanitarian assistance and conveyed that a large portion of the assistance will be utilized for the health sector, which is in need of vast improvement. He thanked the Government of India, for the special assistance package for the Health Sector and assured that this will be utilized by the Government of Malawi.

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