



Press Release

Inauguration of Fuel Storage Facility in Lilongwe

H.E. Prof. Arthur Peter Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi inaugurated the National Strategic Fuel Reserve facility in Lilongwe on 6th December 2017. The High Commissioner, Mr. Suresh Kumar Menon also participated in the inaugural event as a Partner Country for the project. The project was funded by Government of India with Line of Credit from Exim Bank of India worth US\$ 26.75 million. The project was executed by Apollo International Ltd. The storage capacity at Lilongwe and Blantyre is 25 million litres (18 million diesel & 7 million petrol each). The storage facility at Mzuzu is 10 million litres (5 million each diesel & petrol). The total capacity of the three storage facilities is 60 million litres. Construction of the project started in 2013 and the work was completed in 2016.

2. President Mutharika mentioned that the fuel was the lifeline of economy and the assured supply of fuel would spur the economic activity in Malawi. The regular and smooth supply of oil was a major challenge for Malawi due to its being a land-locked country. The 60 million litres of fuel is adequate to cover the fuel requirements of Malawi for a period of two months.

3. Mr. Suresh Kumar Menon, High Commissioner of India congratulated the people and Government of Malawi while dedicating this Strategic Fuel Storage Facility to the nation. High Commissioner mentioned that India is proud to be part of Malawi's developmental story by funding such projects. High Commissioner assured that India would continue to assist in different developmental & infrastructure projects, through various short-term and long-term training programmes for skill development and capacity building for people of Malawi.

4. The project was officially commissioned in the presence of Rt. Hon'ble Saulos Klaus Chilima Vice President, Dr. Emmanuel Fabiano, Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation, Mr. Aggrey Masi, Minister of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining, other Ministers, senior Government of Malawi officials and members of diplomatic corps.

Lilongwe

Dated: 7th December 2017