

**EMBASSY OF INDIA
ASMARA**

**Visit of Minister of State for External Affairs Shri V. Muraleedharan
to the State of Eritrea on September 14-15, 2022**

Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs & Parliamentary Affairs Shri V. Muraleedharan paid an official visit to the State of Eritrea from 14-15 September 2022. This was the first ever full-fledged bilateral Ministerial visit from India to Eritrea.

During the visit, MoS called on Eritrean President H.E. Mr. Isaias Afwerki and Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Osman Saleh Mohammed, paid homage to Indian soldiers at Asmara War Cemetery, and interacted with the Indian community in Eritrea.

In his meeting with President of the State of Eritrea, MoS conveyed the greetings of the Indian leadership and held discussions on further strengthening bilateral cooperation in several sectors and thanked him for taking care of the Indian community in Eritrea.

MoS had a productive meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Eritrea. He fondly recalled the visit of the Eritrean Minister of Foreign Affairs to India in April 2021 and took stock of the entire gamut of bilateral relations. Both leaders explored new areas of cooperation including energy, health, education, capacity building and agriculture.

MoS visited Asmara War Cemetery and paid homage to the Indian soldiers, who laid their lives during World War II in Asmara.

MoS was also pleased to meet the vibrant Indian community in Eritrea consisting of professionals and skilled workers and shared with them the giant strides made by India in several fields. MoS thanked the Indian community for being active partners in Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and encouraged them to continue their contributions.

India enjoys warm and friendly relations with Eritrea including strong cultural linkages. After opening of Indian Embassy in Asmara in August 2019, a new momentum has been generated to diversify this cooperation in sectors of mutual interest.

Asmara

September 15, 2022