

Press Release

India - Djibouti Business Forum

The 3rd India-Djibouti Business Forum (IDBF) was held at Ayla Grand Hotel in Djibouti on 26th November 2025 under the theme of promoting 'Small and Medium Enterprise (SME)' in Djibouti. The forum was jointly organized by the Secretariat of State for Investment and Private Sector of Djibouti and Embassy of India, Djibouti .

IDBF 2025's main agenda was to facilitate business and investment discussions between Indian and Djiboutian businessmen to identify possible areas of collaboration and address potential challenges to strengthen economic ties between India and Djibouti.

The event featured prominent attendees, including Ambassador of India Mr. M. Keivom; Secretary of State for Investment and Private Sector Development H.E. Mrs. Safia Mohamed Ali Gadileh as the Chief Guest of the event along with various senior government officials from both sides and representatives from both Djiboutian and Indian companies operating in Djibouti. Djiboutian Ambassador to India H.E. Mr. Isse Abdillahi Assoweh and several Indian companies including India SME Forum; co-founder of 'Herbal Blue Tea', manufacturer of Tree Free organic paper 'Surprise Someone' joined the event online among others.

In her remarks, while acknowledging India's growing stature and India, being the 3rd largest trading partner of Africa, Mrs. Safia appealed for Indian investment into this strategically located country across the sectors, particularly in SME. She assured of providing a transparent and mutually favourable environment to Indian businessmen. She also highlighted Government of Djibouti's priority towards developing SME sector in Djibouti and providing infrastructure support for attracting foreign direct investment.

Ambassador M. Keivom praised the excellent bilateral relations and highlighted the role of SME in India's development. He encouraged Djiboutian companies to take leverage of India's expertise in SME sector while appealing Indian businessmen to explore opportunities across the various sectors, including IT, green energy, construction, tourism, health & pharmaceutical, logistics, electronic equipment, etc. Also during his online address to the participants, Djiboutian Ambassador Assoweh assured Indian businessmen of providing tax-free benefits for their investments in Djibouti International Trade Free Zone (DIFTZ) for manufacturing or assembling products as Made in Djibouti and also highlighted the country as gate-way to Africa.

The meeting concluded with signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MoU) between National Investment Promoting Agency (NIPA) and India SME Forum to boost Indian investment in Djibouti and to further strengthen the cooperative ties between India and Djibouti. India SME Forum has at present 98,700 members with an annual turn-over of US\$ 24.67 billion.





Djibouti
November 26, 2025
