

**Office of the Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
(Independent charge) & Parliamentary Affairs, Government of India**

PRESS RELEASE

PM's Special Envoy Rudy extends invitation to Tanzanian President

- **Inviting His Excellency President of Tanzania for the India-Africa Forum Summit 2015**

New Delhi / Tanzania, 8 September: As a Special Envoy of the Hon. PM Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship met His Excellency the President of United Republic of Tanzania Mr. Jakaya Kikwete, today at his office in Dar Es Salaam, to invite him for the forthcoming India-Africa Forum Summit 2015 in India.

Mr. Rudy has been personally appointed by the Hon. PM for inviting the President in person to the Summit which will take place in the month of October 2015.

India-Africa Forum Summit is an important international initiative by India to bolster Indo-African ties including strategic and economic partnerships and intensive people-to-people contact in areas of education, healthcare and tourism.

The Tanzanian President conveyed his acceptance to the invitation. Recalling his participation in the First India-Africa Forum Summit in 2008, the President said that he looks forward to participate in the Third Summit. During the meeting, the two sides emphasized the implementation of the agreements and decisions reached during the Tanzanian President's visit to India in June 2015 and shared interest in intensifying India-Tanzania bilateral cooperation in diverse fields including healthcare, connectivity and infrastructure development.

Mr. Rudy highlighted the centrality of Tanzania in India's trade and investment portfolio, apart from sectors like capacity building, IT Centres, education, health care and water supply projects. He also emphasized about the potential of deeper cooperation between the two countries. He also referred to the role of skill development, of which he is the Minister, in economic growth and industrialization. He thanked the President for his continued support to the sizable Indian community in Tanzania.