Indian parliamentary delegation at the 153rd IPU Assembly in Tanzania

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News

The **153rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)** is being held at **Arusha, Tanzania**, from **5 to 9 October 2026**. A nine-member Indian parliamentary delegation led by **Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh** is taking part.

Key facts

Venue	**Arusha, Tanzania** (host: Tanzania's National Assembly, the 'Bunge')
Theme	**Good governance and empowering communities** through inclusivity, trust and opportunity for all
Participation	183 member parliaments, over 2,000 delegates
Indian team	**Harivansh** (leader), Anurag Thakur, Aparajita Sarangi, Sasmit Patra, Sanjay Jaiswal, Kamaljeet Sehrawat, Lata Wankhede, Bijuli Kalita Medhi, N.K. Premachandran
Harivansh's role	IPU Governing Council, General Debate, the emergency item, and a hearing with candidates for IPU President

Background

- **IPU:** founded in **1889** in Paris by **William Randal Cremer** (Britain) and **Frédéric Passy** (France), both Peace Nobel winners (Passy 1901, Cremer 1903). HQ **Geneva**. One of the oldest international political bodies; it has **observer status** at the UN.
- **India** has been a member since 1949; the Assembly meets **twice a year**.
- **Tanzania:** formed on **26 April 1964** when **Tanganyika and Zanzibar** united; first President **Julius Nyerere**; capital **Dodoma**; largest city Dar es Salaam. **Kilimanjaro** (5,895 m), Africa's highest peak, lies near Arusha.
- **Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha: Art. 89**, elected by Rajya Sabha members; the Vice-President is the Chairman.

Tamil Nadu link: The Rajya Sabha's Chairman, **Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan**, is from **Tiruppur**, Tamil Nadu. Tamil ports have traded with East African coasts such as Tanzania and Kenya since ancient times.

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