

# PHILIPPINE EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE

## National Defense College of the Philippines' Inaugural Visit to India

A total of forty-eight (48) students of the Master in National Security Administration (MNSA) class of the National Defense College of the Philippines, led by NDCP President Brig. Gen. (retired) Fermin de Leon visited India from 19-27 April 2013. He was also joined by faculty and support staff, a total of eight (8) NDCP officials.

Before splitting into three (3) groups – for New Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai respectively, the entire delegation and H.E. Ambassador Benito Valeriano, accompanied by Defense and Armed Forces Attaché Col. Rolando S. Acop, Minister Ma. Agnes M. Cervantes and other NDCP officials were received by Secretary (East) Sanjay Singh at the Ministry of External Affairs on 22 April 2013. The Embassy hosted a reception dinner for the group at the Embassy Residence on the evening of 22 April, hosted by H.E. the Ambassador and Mrs. Jaclyn Sy Valeriano.

The following day, 23 April, the New Delhi group, undersigned accompanied by First Secretary Robert Ferrer and Col. Acop were received by India's Deputy National Security Adviser Nehchal Sandhu at the National Security Council (NSC) at Sardar Patel Bhawan.



At upper left, Mr. Sanjay Singh, Secretary (East) of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) welcomes H.E. Amb. Benito B. Valeriano at the Ministry of External Affairs' Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan complex, where he received the NDCP delegation led by President Fermin de Leon (at far right in photo at right, middle part; to the Ambassador's right is Col. Rolando Acop, Defense and Armed Forces Attaché. The rest of the photos show the entire NDCP delegation at the MEA.



At left, NDCP President, Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Fermin de Leon thanks H.E. Amb. Benito Valeriano and Mrs. Jaclyn Sy Valeriano for graciously hosting all 58 of them at the Residence for a welcome reception cum dinner, while the rest of the Philippine Embassy staff look on.



India's Deputy National Security Adviser, Shri Nehchal Sandhu (2<sup>nd</sup> from left of picture at left) received a private visit from NDCP President de Leon accompanied by H.E. Benito B. Valeriano at the National Security Council Secretariat in Sardar Patel Bhawan. At right, NDCP President de Leon presents a memento from the NDCP while Ambassador Valeriano looks on.