

**Embassy of India
(Buenos Aires)**

India-Argentina Bilateral Relations

Political Relations

India-Argentina relations are cordial and encompass political, economic, scientific and technological cooperation including Antarctic research and cultural cooperation. There are no outstanding disputes between India and Argentina.

India opened a Trade Commission in Buenos Aires in 1943 and later converted it into an embassy in 1949. Argentina had established a consulate in Calcutta in the 1920s, which was transferred to Delhi as an embassy in 1950. Argentina opened a Consulate General office in Mumbai in April 2009. Mr. Sergio Lais-Suárez has been appointed Honorary Consul General of India in the Argentine province of Córdoba.

The 4th India- Argentina Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) was held in New Delhi in June 2013. The 4th Foreign Office Consultation led by Shri Dinkar Khullar, Secretary (West) was held in April 2014. Shri Ashok Das, Joint Secretary (LAC) visited Argentina from 2-4 December 2016.

Visits:

Important Visits from Argentina to India:

2009 Ms. Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, President
2013 Mr. Héctor Timmerman, Foreign Minister
2013 Mr. Francisco Perez, Governor of Province of Mendoza
2014 Mr. Antonio Bonfatti, Governor of Province of Santa Fe
2014 Dr Lino Baraño, Minister of Science and Technology
2014 Mr. Claudio Poggi, Governor of Province of San Luis
2014 Mr. Carlos Bianco, Deputy Foreign Minister
2015 Mr. Eduardo Zuain, Vice Foreign Minister
2015 Mr. Jorge Mayoral, Secretary, Mining

Important Visits from India to Argentina:

2010 Smt. Preneet Kaur
2013 Shri Salman Khurshid, EAM
2014 Shri DinkarKhullar, Secretary (West), MEA
2014 Shri Santosh Gangwar, MoS (IC)
2014 Justice Swatantra Kumar, Chief of National Green Tribunal

Bilateral Agreements:

Framework Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.	2009
MOU between SEGEMAR of Argentina and Geological Survey of India.	2009
Programme of Cooperation in Science & Technology	2009

MOU on Sports Cooperation	2009
MOU Trade Promotion	2009
MOU between INTI of Argentina and National Research Development Council Corporation, New Delhi	2009
Cooperation Agreement between the Argentine Council on Scientific and Technical Research [CONICET] and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research of India (CSIR)	2009
Agreement on Providing 5-year Multiple Entry Free Business visas	2009
Agreement for cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy	2009
Agreement on Exchange of Information and Assistance on Tax Issues	2011
Customs Agreement	2011
MoU for Cooperation in Agriculture and Allied Sectors	2010
MoU for Cooperation in Agricultural Research and Education	2006
MOU on Antarctic Cooperation	1998 renewed in 2006
Agreement for Exemption of Visas for Holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports	1994
MOU on Foreign Office Consultations	1994
Agreement on Technical and Scientific Cooperation	1985
Cultural Agreement	1974
Agreement for Waiver of Fee for Tourist and Transit visas	1968

Technical Co-operation and Training:

India gives ITEC scholarships to working professionals from Argentina every year. Argentine diplomats attend training courses in the Foreign Service Institute of India from time to time.

Support in Multilateral Fora:

India and Argentina have always supported each other on major international issues as well as India's candidature to various UN and multilateral bodies. India has also supported Argentina on the sovereignty issue of Malvinas Islands and on the issue of sovereign debt servicing and holdout creditors.

Commercial Relations

Bilateral Trade (US \$ million):

Year	India's Imports	Growth	India's Exports	Growth	Total Trade	Growth
2010	2033	-	496	-	2529	
2011	1214	-40%	561	13%	1174	-30%
2012	1264	4%	573	2%	1837	4%
2013	1105	-13%	695	21%	1801	-2%
2014	2032	84%	602	-13%	2633	46%
2015	1176	13%	659	9%	2935	11%

(Source: MERCOSURonline)

India's Exports to Argentina:

Major exports include organic chemicals, vehicles and auto-parts, lubricants, machinery, sound and image devices and garments, among others.

India's Imports from Argentina:

Major imports are soybean oil, petroleum, copper, sunflower oil, leather, wool, ferroalloys among others.

Investments, Joint Ventures and Business Delegations:

Thirteen Indian Companies have established operations in Argentina with investment totaling to USD 930 million. Indian companies include TCS, CRISIL, Bajaj, Cellent, Cognizant Technologies, United Phosphorus Ltd (UPL), SintesisQuimica, Glenmark, Godrej etc. Argentinian investment in India stands at US\$ 120 million. TECHINT, which is one of the largest seamless steel tubes manufacturers in the world, has offices in Delhi employing about 200 people.

Sonalika Pvt. Ltd. has signed a joint venture with Argentine company Apache of Santa Fe for manufacturing tractors and Indian Bajaj motorbikes has signed a joint venture with Corven Argentina to produce and sell motorbikes in the local market. During 2014, IMPLATEC Argentina developed a strategic alliance with the Indian company APPASAMY ASSOCIATES, a global leader in the ophthalmological market and both companies have inaugurated the first producing plant of intraocular lenses in Argentina with a manufacturing capacity of 20,000 lenses monthly. Ishka Renewable Farms Private Lt from Kerala signed a joint venture with Cooperative Al Caparrasto cultivate 1000 acres of capers in the next 10 years in the province of Santiago del Estero Argentina.

Argentine Minister of Science, Technology and Innovative Production, Mr.Lino Barañao participated in the BIO ASIA in Hyderabad in Feb. 2014 and met his counterpart in Delhi. Governor of Santa Fe, Antonio Bonfatti led a Ministerial delegation for the BIOASIA 2014 International Fair in Hyderabad in Feb 2014 and had an interactive session with FICCI. He also called on Union Minister for Renewable Energy, Shri Farooq Abdullah. Mr. Hernan Lamberti, Secretary of Production of Almirante Brown, Province of Buenos Aires participated in the Buyer – Seller meet in Delhi from 12 to 22 Sept. 2014. They met representatives from various sectors such as jewelry, textiles among others and interacted with IMC, FIEO, EPC etc. An Argentine delegation participated in the India-LAC Investment Conclave held on 7 and 8 October 2015 in New Delhi. Two export promotion council delegations from India, Chemexcil and Pharmexcil visited Argentina in February and September 2015 to organize B2B exhibitions in Buenos Aires.

Important breakthroughs in India-Argentina Trade Relations:

India has been included in Annexure II of the Argentine Presidential Decree on Pharma products allowing imports of Indian pharmaceutical products in August 2014. Following resolution of phytosanitary issues, India has awarded approval for imports of apples, peas, quinces, citrus and horses from Argentina.

Regional Action Plan:

A unique Regional Action Plan was started in August 2012, to promote India's commercial and economic interests in Argentina. Governors and business delegations from various provinces including Corrientes, San Juan, Cordoba, Mendoza, San Luis, Neuquen, Catamarca, Salta, Santa Fe, Entre Rios etc. have visited India since the initiation of the plan.

Cultural Relations

The Embassy has been organizing cultural programmes and visits of Indian troupes from time to time in cities such as San Salvador de Jujuy, Almirante Brown, Tandil, Parana, Rio Cuarto and Buenos Aires. In 2015 several Indian classical dancers visited and performed in various parts of Argentina and conducted workshops. In addition India weeks and days were organized in Lanus and Corrientes in 2015.

The First International Day of Yoga was celebrated on 21 June 2015 in all the 23 provinces of Argentina and the capital city of Buenos Aires, in collaboration with the provincial and municipal governments, as well as 72 Universities and 200 yoga schools. The second International Yoga day was celebrated on June 20 in several provinces of Argentina. The event was attended by local dignitaries in Buenos Aires including the Secretary of Human Rights while the minister for Environment was present for the closing ceremony.

At the first World Indologists Conference in Delhi in 2015, 100 year old Indologist, Dr. Fernando Tola represented Argentina. Professor Carlos Moneta a renowned Argentine academic visited India under Indian Council of Cultural Relation's Academic Visitors Programme.

Four Argentine films participated in the International Film Festival of India, 2015. India tourism promotion activities were held in the capital city and provinces of Argentina in collaboration with India Tourism Office, New York.

An Indian food festival was organized on April 22 and 23 to showcase cuisine from various parts of the country and the event was well attended.

An Indian poetry festival was organized on June 10 with distinguished poet and translator Yuyutsu RD Sharma and diplomat Abhay Kumar reciting poems followed by performance by Odissi dancer Anandita Dasi. A feature film – Thinking of Him – is being jointly produced on the life of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. Presently the film is in post-production phase and is scheduled to be released in 2017.

Indian Community

There are around 2400 overseas Indians living in Argentina. Most of the Non Resident Indians live in the capital city of Buenos Aires, some having lived here for over thirty years. Majority of them are from the Sindhi community. Others are professionals working with fifteen Indian companies and multinational corporations like TCS, Cognizant Technologies etc. About 300 Sikhs from Punjab have settled down in Salta province in the course of the early and mid-twentieth century. They have become Argentine citizens and are well assimilated in the local population. Most of them are in

retail and wholesale trade. The first generation immigrants speak Punjabi. There is a Gurudwara in the town Rosario de la Frontera, where they celebrate Guru Nanak Day every year. President Giani Zail Singh had visited the Gurudwara in 1984.

9 December 2016

Useful Resources:

[Mission's Webpage](#)

[India in Argentina, Mission's Facebook Page](#)

[Mission's Youtube Channel](#)

[Mission's Twitter Page](#)

[Directory of Yoga Institutions and Schools in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay](#)

[A Guide to Do Business with Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay](#)