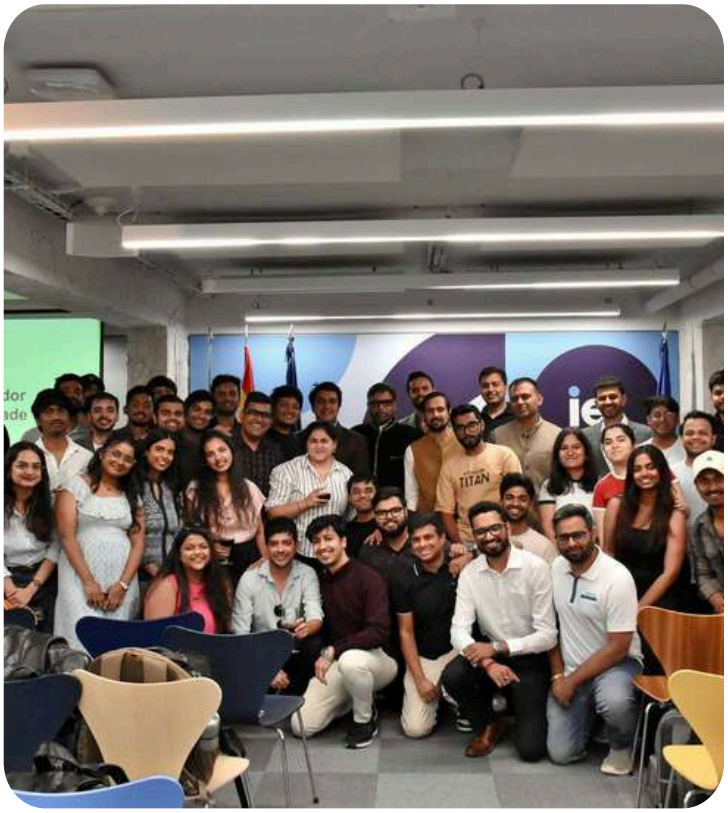
INDIA-SPAIN

NEWSLETTER
EMBASSY OF INDIA, MADRID
May 2026









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Advancing India–Spain Cooperation in Higher Education





The Ambassador met with Dr. Manuel Muñiz, Rector of IE University and Chair of the Board of IE New York College, for discussions on strengthening educational cooperation, academic exchange and innovation partnerships between India and Spain. The conversation focused on Indian students currently studying at IE, their placement and alumni network, and the scope for deeper collaboration in higher education. The engagement reflected the growing importance of academic ties as a pillar of the bilateral relationship, with education serving as a valuable bridge between the two countries and a foundation for lasting people-to-people connections.

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Yoga and Cultural Dialogue Come Together in Ávila





The Embassy of India participated in a yoga and cultural event at the Centro Internacional Teresiano Sanjuanista in Ávila, bringing together yoga practitioners and teachers from a range of traditions. The programme featured yoga sessions alongside cultural interactions, offering participants a space to engage with both the practice and the philosophy behind it. The event formed part of a wider series of yoga gatherings being held across Spain in the lead-up to the International Day of Yoga, aimed at promoting wellness and fostering cultural dialogue. As an enduring symbol of India's heritage and its message of harmony between body, mind and spirit, yoga continues to resonate with audiences across Spain, bringing communities together in a shared pursuit of wellbeing.

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Commemorating the First Anniversary of Operation Sindoor





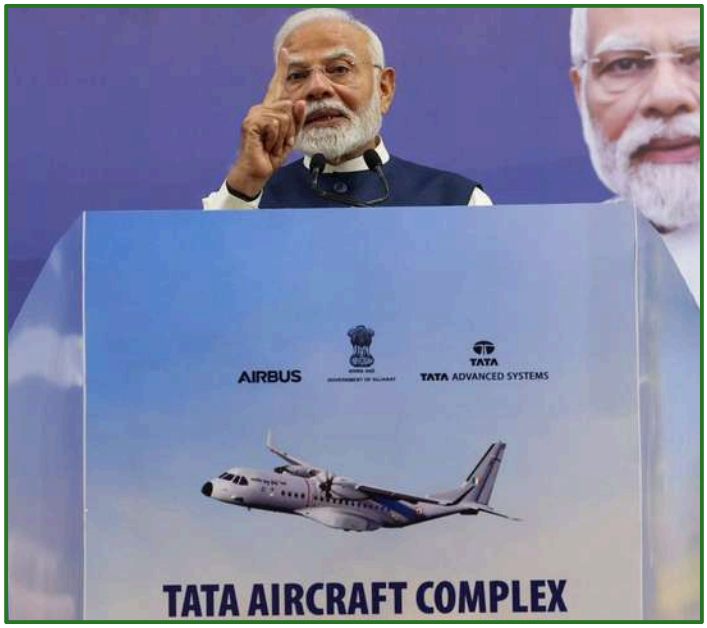




The Embassy organised a commemorative event to mark the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, a symbol of India's firm commitment to national security. The Ambassador reaffirmed India's resolute stance against international and cross-border terrorism, underlining the significance of Operation Sindoor. A short documentary on the operation, produced by the Ministry of Defence, was screened as a cinematic tribute to the country's brave armed forces. The event also featured a small exhibition showcasing key moments and notable achievements of Operation Sindoor, offering attendees a deeper appreciation of its significance and of the courage and dedication of those who serve the nation.

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First Made-in-India C-295 Aircraft Readies for Flight Testing







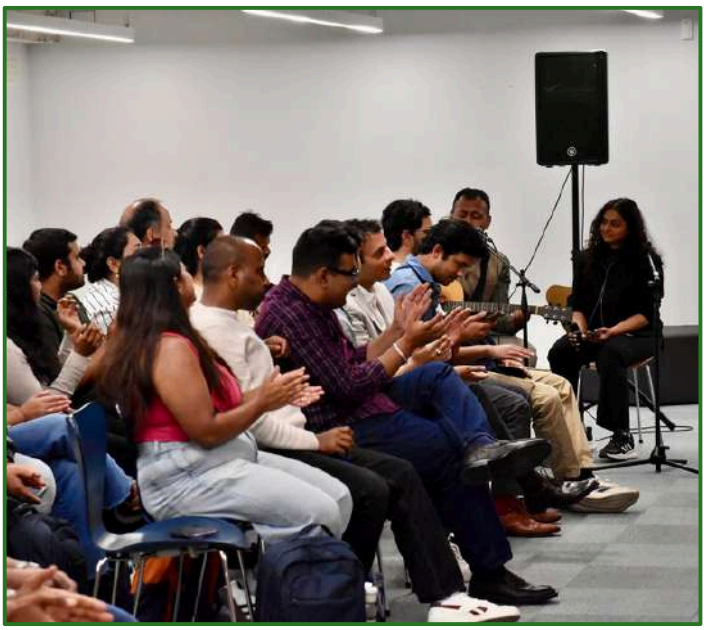


A major milestone has been reached in India–Spain defence cooperation and the 'Make in India' initiative, as the first domestically produced C-295 aircraft prepares for flight testing. The achievement marks a significant step towards Atmanirbhar Bharat and a turning point in India's defence manufacturing journey. It also reflects the deepening defence cooperation between India and Spain, underscoring how the partnership between the two countries is yielding tangible outcomes and laying the foundation for greater self-reliance and industrial collaboration in the years ahead.

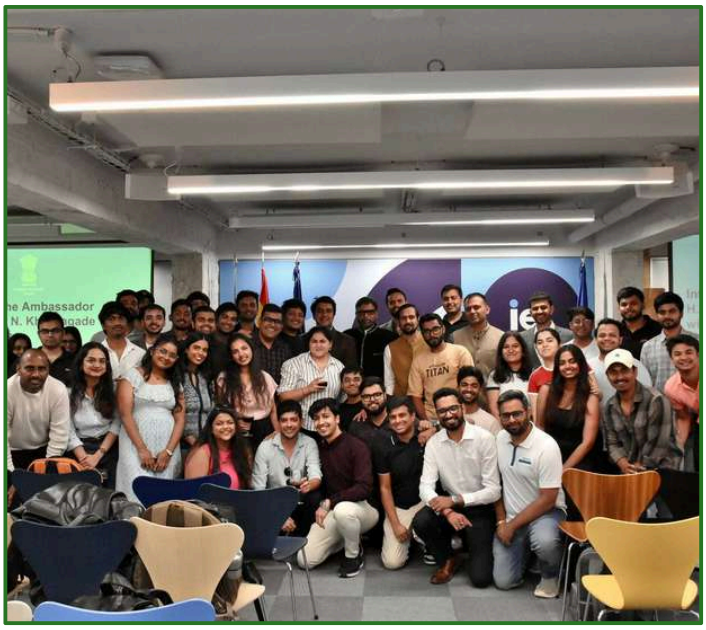
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Engaging the Viksit Bharat Generation at IE Business School









The Ambassador interacted with Indian students at the IE Business School, describing them as belonging to the "Viksit Bharat Generation" and encouraging them to become part of India's growth story by contributing to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat. The interaction also featured a discussion on the recently finalised landmark India–EU FTA, followed by an engaging Q&A session on the trade potential between India and Spain and on strengthening diaspora engagement. The exchange reflected the Embassy's continued efforts to connect with young Indians abroad, recognising the valuable role the diaspora and the next generation can play in shaping the country's progress and deepening its ties with Spain.

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Exploring Business Collaboration with Valladolid







The Ambassador met with the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Valladolid, Mr. Victor Caramanzana Rey, and held an interaction with the city's business community. The discussions centred on the considerable potential for business collaboration between India and Spain, with the Ambassador placing particular emphasis on how the India–EU FTA stands to strengthen commercial ties between the two countries. The engagement reflected the growing interest among Spanish regional business communities in deepening their links with India, pointing to promising avenues for trade and investment as the two economies move towards closer cooperation.

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Strengthening Cultural Ties through Casa de la India







The Ambassador took part in the Board Meeting of Casa de la India in Valladolid, chaired by the Mayor of Valladolid, Mr. Jesús Julio Carnero. Joined by the Director General of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the Rector of the University of Valladolid, along with other members, the meeting focused on expanding cultural cooperation and on the upcoming initiatives planned during the India–Spain Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and AI. The discussions reflected the shared commitment to deepening cultural engagement between the two countries and to making the most of the opportunities the special year presents for closer collaboration.

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Building Bridges between India and Spain through Strategic Dialogue





TThe Ambassador met with Mr. Miguel Álvarez de Eulate y Moreno, Director of FESEI (Fundación de Estudios Estratégicos e Internacionales), for a discussion on the potential for dialogue across strategic areas, academic exchanges, and bridging knowledge gaps through greater collaboration. The conversation explored avenues for closer engagement between think tanks, scholars and experts, as well as opportunities for student involvement. The meeting underscored the value of such intellectual and institutional partnerships in deepening mutual understanding and enriching the broader India–Spain relationship.

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Deepening India–Spain Cooperation in Agriculture and Food Systems









The Ambassador met H.E. Luis Planas, Spain's Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, for discussions on strengthening India–Spain cooperation in food systems, climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries and resilient food supply chains. Agriculture remains a sector of vital importance to both countries, underpinning rural livelihoods, food security and economic resilience, and the conversation reflected a shared recognition of the value of working together to address common challenges. The two sides explored the significant opportunities available to deepen collaboration across the agriculture and food sectors, from knowledge exchange and innovation to sustainable and climate-conscious practices that are increasingly central to the future of farming worldwide. They noted that the India–EU FTA will open broader avenues of engagement and give a strong fillip to bilateral agricultural trade, signalling a promising outlook for closer cooperation.

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Strengthening India–Spain Academic Partnership at the University of Salamanca

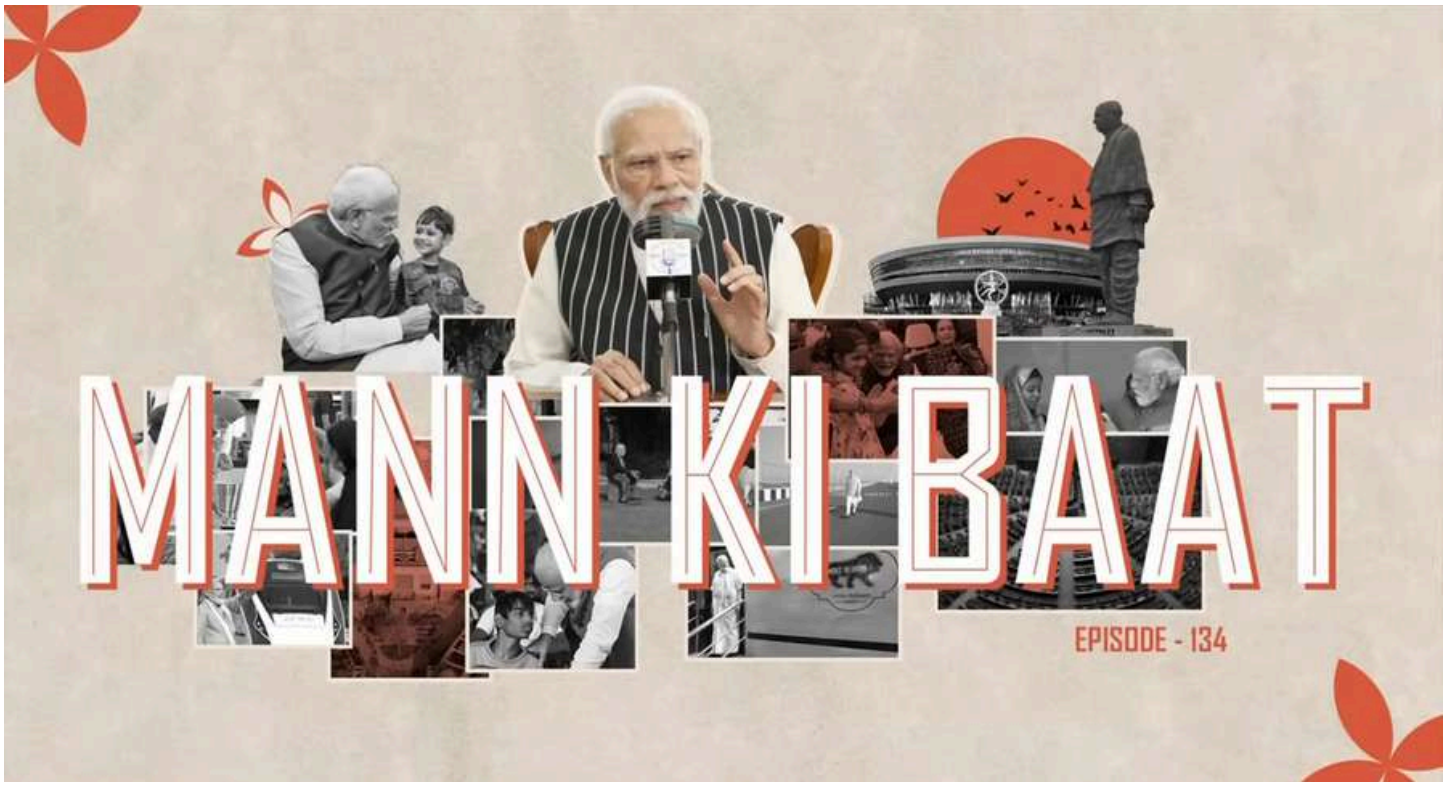




The Ambassador visited the University of Salamanca and met with the Vice-Rector for International Relations. The discussions focused, among other things, on strengthening the India–Spain academic partnership and on exploring new opportunities for collaboration under the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Salamanca and Nalanda University. The partnership carries a special resonance, bringing together two institutions steeped in history — the University of Salamanca, one of the oldest universities in the world and a venerable centre of European learning, and Nalanda University, which draws inspiration from the legacy of the ancient seat of knowledge that once drew scholars from across the world to India. The engagement reflected the growing depth of educational ties between the two countries, with collaborations between such storied institutions serving as a valuable foundation for academic exchange, shared research and enduring people-to-people connections.

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Mann Ki Baat: Highlights of the Prime Minister's May Address



In the latest episode of his monthly radio programme "Mann Ki Baat," Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi shared a series of inspiring stories from across the country, spanning sport, heritage, science, conservation and citizen-led initiative. He opened by celebrating India's achievements in athletics at the National Senior Athletics Federation Competition in Ranchi, Jharkhand, where four national records were broken, and held a conversation with sprinters Gurinder Veer Singh and Animesh Kujur, who repeatedly broke the men's 100-metre national record in a remarkable display of friendly rivalry and determination.

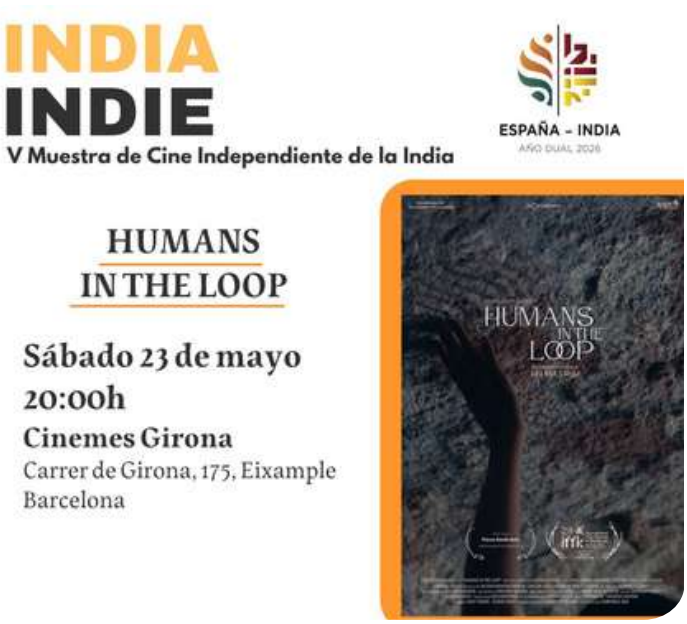
Turning to India's rich heritage, the Prime Minister spoke of the return from the Netherlands of ancient Chola-era copper plates relating to King Rajendra Chola I, a moment of pride for the Tamil community worldwide, and of the discovery of rare centuries-old copper plates in Malhar, Chhattisgarh, under the Gyan Bharatam Abhiyan. He also reflected on the country's long fascination with astronomy and the growing popularity of astronomy clubs among the youth, encouraging young people to take up the pursuit during the summer holidays.

The address celebrated several stories of conservation and community service — the dramatic rescue of a Gangetic dolphin aided by India's first dolphin rescue ambulance under the Namami Gange Abhiyan, the efforts of citizens like Akash Gupta in Basti to clean the Manorama River and Balkrishna Aiya in Goa to bring water to his community, and the swimming club run by Saji Valasheril in Aluva, Kerala, which has taught over 15,000 people to swim. The Prime Minister also paid tribute to Girija Amma of Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu, whose network of schools raised some 40 lakh rupees for the country's soldiers through small daily contributions by students. He rounded off the episode with a warm, seasonal reflection on India's traditional summer drinks and the country's beloved diversity of mangoes, celebrating the farmers whose produce is now reaching global markets.

To listen to the full address, please click here.

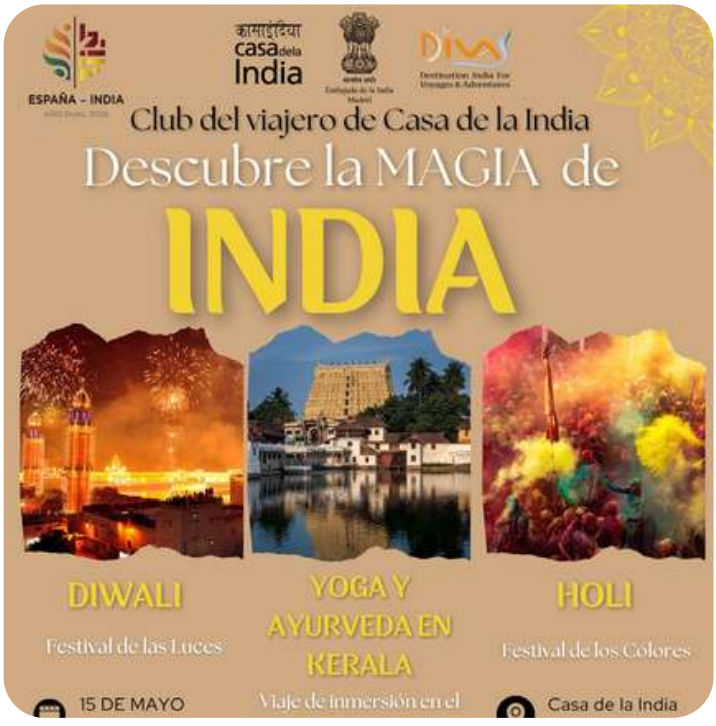
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Key Activities and Events Organised by Casa de la India in May 2026.











Europe Day Reception Marks a New Chapter in India–EU Relations









Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman attended and addressed the Europe Day celebrations in New Delhi, in the presence of the EU Ambassador to India, Mr. Hervé Delphin, and the Ambassadors of the EU member states. The occasion was a celebration of the values the European Union stands for, as well as of the deepening ties between India and the EU across commerce, culture and shared prosperity.

In her address, the Finance Minister observed that the 16th India–EU Summit, held in New Delhi in January 2026, has given decisive new momentum to the strategic partnership, taking it to a new level. She noted that the outcomes of the Summit mark a transformative phase in the engagement between the two sides — the successful conclusion of negotiations for the India–EU Free Trade Agreement, the signing of the Security and Defence Partnership, and the adoption of the Comprehensive Framework on Cooperation on Mobility together representing a new chapter in India–EU relations. She further highlighted that the joint roadmap adopted at the Summit, "Towards 2030: India–EU a Joint Comprehensive Strategic Agenda," provides a clear and ambitious vision for cooperation in the years ahead.

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