INDIA-SPAIN

NEWSLETTER
EMBASSY OF INDIA, MADRID
July 2026









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Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal Visits Spain









Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, undertook an official visit to Spain, arriving in Madrid for a programme of high-level engagements aimed at deepening trade, investment and economic cooperation between the two countries. The visit came in a landmark year, as India and Spain mark 70 years of diplomatic relations and celebrate 2026 as the Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and Artificial Intelligence.

The Minister held bilateral discussions with H.E. Mr. Carlos Cuerpo, First Vice President of the Government of Spain and Minister of Economy, Trade and Business, on strengthening the India–Spain economic partnership through greater trade, investment and technology collaboration, with a focus on renewable energy, green hydrogen, advanced manufacturing, digital technologies, infrastructure and innovation. He also met H.E. Mr. Jordi Hereu, Minister of Industry and Tourism, to explore new opportunities across manufacturing, innovation, tourism and other future-ready sectors, and to reaffirm the shared commitment to building resilient supply chains and deepening economic cooperation. In both meetings, the two sides exchanged views on the India–EU Free Trade Agreement and ways to expand India's commercial engagement with Spain.

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Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal Addresses the India–Spain Business Forum







Hon'ble Minister Shri Piyush Goyal delivered the keynote address at the India–Spain Business Forum, held at the Chamber of Commerce of Spain and jointly organised with CEOE and ICEX on the Spanish side and FICCI and CII on the Indian side, alongside a large accompanying Indian business delegation. In his address, the Minister articulated a "10 by 10 by 10" vision, aiming for a tenfold increase in bilateral trade, two-way tourism and mutual investment over the next decade, and highlighted the opportunities arising from the conclusion of the India–EU Free Trade Agreement. He put forward four suggestions to realise this goal: investing deeper and wider into each other's future, leveraging the opportunities opening up with the India–EU FTA, connecting tourism and talent, and further strengthening government-to-government relations.

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India–Spain Defence Industry Workshop in Madrid









The Embassy of India, in collaboration with the Spanish Confederation of Business Organisations (CEOE), organised the workshop "The Indian Defence Industry II: Opportunities for Spanish Companies" at CEOE headquarters on 9 July 2026. It brought together senior representatives of the Government of Spain, Spanish defence enterprises, along with a twelve-member delegation of the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM), while several Indian companies also took part independently, reflecting the strong industry interest on both sides.. In his remarks, the Ambassador outlined India's transition from a leading importer of defence equipment to a growing manufacturing base under Make in India, citing the C-295 programme as the clearest demonstration of what India and Spain can build together and inviting Spanish companies to extend that model to land, naval and electronic systems. Across four sessions, participants explored India–Spain defence cooperation, new-age and dual-use technologies, the central role of MSMEs and start-ups, and the opportunities at the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, with a closing panel featuring Airbus Defence and Space, Indra, ITUS Group and Aqila Technologies. The workshop underscored a shared conviction that the relationship is now substantial and strategic rather than transactional, with co-production and co-development as the agreed way forward, in the spirit of the India–Spain Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and AI 2026.

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Bharatanatyam Shines at Spain's Iconic Cultural Festivals





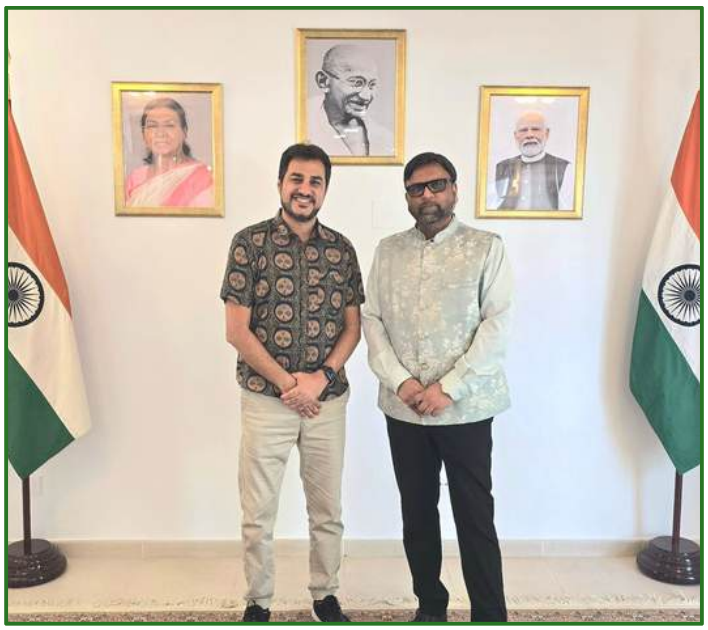




The Embassy of India in Madrid presented acclaimed Bharatanatyam exponent Ms. Malavika Sarukkai in a series of performances in Granada, Madrid and Valladolid. Her celebrated production "Beeja" (Seed) emerged as a highlight of the prestigious Veranos de la Villa festival, blending the timeless beauty of Bharatanatyam with a compelling call to protect Mother Earth. Presented in collaboration with the ICCR, Veranos de la Villa and Casa de la India, the performances formed part of the vibrant India–Spain Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and AI celebrations, strengthening the ties between the two countries through the universal language of art.

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A New India–Spain Film Collaboration Takes Shape





The Ambassador met with Mr. Rakesh Narwani, Director and Co-screenwriter of the upcoming film My Fathers' Great Bazaar, scheduled to be filmed in the first quarter of 2027. Supported by the Ministry of Culture of Spain, the Regional Government of Andalusia and Netflix Spain, the Spanish–Indian feature film is being co-produced by Pecado Films, Suculenta Producciones and Bazar Films. The discussions centred on expanding India–Spain ties in the audiovisual sector, further contributing to the spirit of the India–Spain Dual Year 2026.

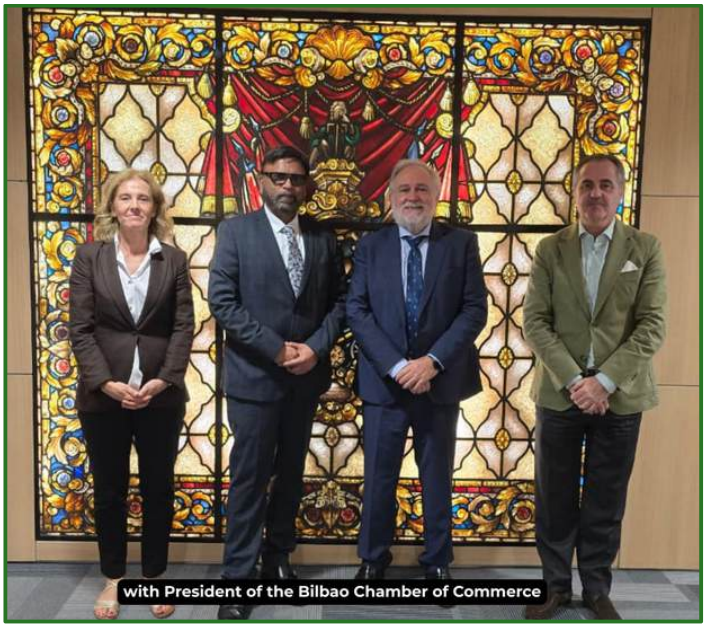
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Deepening India–Basque Country Industrial and Academic Ties









The Ambassador paid an official visit to the Basque Country, where he called on the Mayor of Bilbao, Mr. Juan Mari Aburto, to discuss avenues for strengthening cooperation, and exchanged views with the President of the Basque Nationalist Party (EAJ-PNV), Mr. Aitor Esteban, on issues of mutual interest. The visit included discussions on trade and investment with the President of the Bilbao Chamber of Commerce, Mr. José Ignacio Zudaire Arana, and an interaction on industrial collaboration with the President of Mondragon International, Mr. Oskar Goitia, focusing on Mondragon's presence in India. The Ambassador also visited Mondragon University to explore further avenues of academic cooperation between India and Spain. With a commercial representative already based in India, the Basque Country is deeply engaged in industrial collaboration, investment and innovation with the country, and the visit underscored the strong potential to deepen these ties further.

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A Productive Exchange with the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Spain





The Ambassador met with members of the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Spain (ICC), along with business leaders, entrepreneurs and representatives of Indian and Spanish companies, for a productive exchange at the Embassy. The conversation centred on expanding the Chamber's membership and profile, as well as advancing its calendar of activities for 2026 in key areas including defence, artificial intelligence, the India–EU Free Trade Agreement, and Indian fashion and culture. The meeting reflected the growing momentum in business ties between India and Spain and reaffirmed the shared vision of the India–Spain Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and AI 2026.

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A Meeting with the Brahma Kumaris in Madrid







The Ambassador met with Mr. Guillermo Simó, Vice President of the Brahma Kumaris Association in Madrid, Mr. Enrique Simó, and Sister Dipti Naran, Senior Raja Yoga Meditation Teacher. The meeting explored the work of the Brahma Kumaris in Spain and their role in promoting meditation and universal human values. Sister Dipti tied a Rakhi on the Ambassador as a symbol of protection and universal fellowship, and conveyed her blessings of peace and good health with the offering of a handcrafted Prasad.

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



IIn the latest episode of his monthly radio programme "Mann Ki Baat," Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi opened on a note of national pride, marking Kargil Vijay Diwas on 26 July with a tribute to the courage and sacrifice of India's soldiers, and noting the "Shaurya Vijay Yatra" motorcycle rally from the National War Memorial in Delhi to the Kargil War Memorial in Dras. He linked this to India's growing self-reliance in defence, citing the induction of the indigenously built INS Mahendragiri, the successful testing of the Pinaka Long-Range Guided Rocket and the Kusha missile by the DRDO, and rising global confidence in Indian defence technology. Turning to sport and science, he celebrated a series of achievements, including P.V. Sindhu becoming the first Indian to win the Japan Open badminton title, the Indian women's cricket team's historic first Test victory at Lord's, the successful launch of "Vikram-1," India's first privately developed rocket, and the outstanding performance of Indian students at the international Science Olympiads.

The Prime Minister also highlighted a range of grassroots efforts and cultural initiatives from across the country. He spoke of renewed momentum in the "Catch the Rain" and "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaigns, noting the planting of over 35 crore saplings in Uttar Pradesh in a single day and a Guinness World Record set in Ahmedabad, alongside "Waste to Wealth" initiatives such as the plastic-recycled benches of Sitamarhi, Bihar. He celebrated efforts to revive traditional crafts and livelihoods, from Kashmir's eco-friendly "Vagu" mats and a women's Self-Help Group's herbal tea in Uttar Pradesh to Tripura's "Chongpreng" musical instrument, and drew pride from astrophysicist Dr. Ronaldo Laishram of Manipur, who named a newly discovered galaxy cluster the "Loktak Proto-cluster" after a lake in his home state. He closed by paying tribute to Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam ahead of his death anniversary, marking Guru Purnima, and calling on citizens to celebrate National Handloom Day, support Khadi and handloom, and carry forward the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign ahead of Independence Day.
To listen to the full address, please click here.

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





Casa de la India in Spain @casaindiavll · Jul 30

Horario de apertura al público: de lunes a viernes, de 9:00 a 14:00 h.
Te esperamos en C/Puente Colgante 13, 47007 Valladolid.

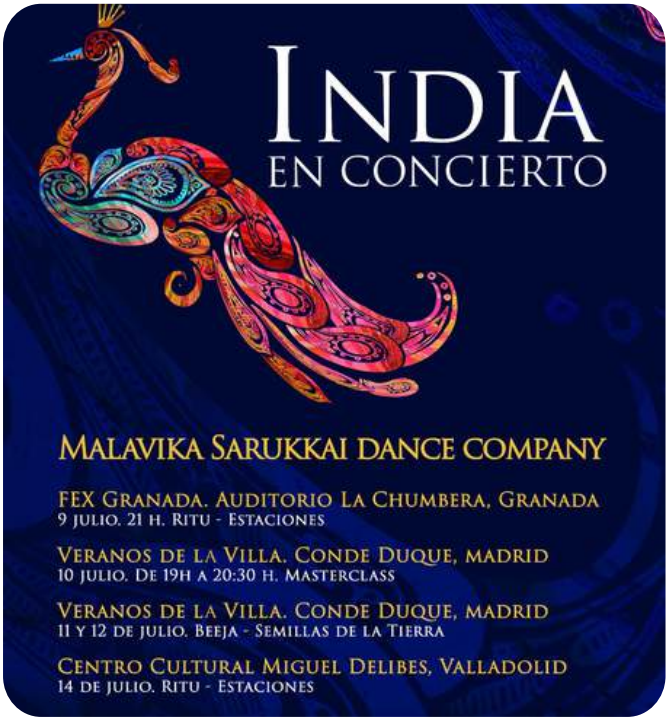
¡Ven a visitarnos y conoce la riqueza cultural de la India!

#DualYear #AñoDualEspañaIndia









EU–India Cooperation on Sustainable Mine Closure





An Implementation Agreement for Technical Cooperation on Closed Coal Mines was signed between India's Ministry of Coal and GIZ during the unveiling of AAROH, the Annual Report on Mine Closure. Co-financed by the European Union, the agreement marks a step forward in the shared green vision of restoring the environment, using resources sustainably and empowering communities to thrive beyond mining. Delivering a special address, Dr. Ewa Suwara, Deputy Head of the European Union Delegation to India, reaffirmed the Union's commitment to sustainable mine closure, with the support of all 27 EU member states, emphasising that it must go beyond environmental restoration to include inclusive policies, community participation and a just transition for workers. A technical session bringing together experts from the EU, Germany, GIZ and KfW India reaffirmed the commitment of the European Union and Germany to continue their partnership with India through knowledge exchange and technical cooperation, describing the collaboration as the beginning of a new chapter for scientific mine closure, ecological restoration and sustainable post-mining livelihoods.

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Greening India's Textile Sector: The EU-Backed STEP Initiative





Nearly a year into its work, the EU-backed STEP initiative (Sustainable Transition and Efficient Production of Textile and Apparel Value Chain) is beginning to show results in the effort to green India's textile industry. Funded under the European Union's SWITCH-Asia programme, STEP combines technical assistance, capacity building and access to green finance to help decarbonise a sector that contributes 2.3% of India's GDP and employs more than 45 million people, some 60% of them women, much of it through MSMEs with limited capital and technical support. Focused on two of India's major textile hubs, in Perundurai (Tamil Nadu) and Surat's Kadodara, the programme has trained over 400 manufacturers through its workshop series and is helping bring forward shared infrastructure projects in areas such as green steam and textile-to-textile recycling, with a deliberate push to reach women-led enterprises. The initiative marks a shift from assessment and planning towards active implementation, pointing to a promising model for sustainable, lower-carbon manufacturing.

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