INDIA-SPAIN

NEWSLETTER

EMBASSY OF INDIA, MADRID

Special Issue: Visit of Foreign Minister of Spain H.E. Mr. José Manuel Albares' to India (20-21 January, 2026)





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Official Press Release

राष्ट्रपति भवन
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EUROPEAN UNION AND COOPERATION OF SPAIN CALLS ON THE PRESIDENT

H.E. Mr Jose Manuel Albares, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, called on the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (January 21, 2026).

2. Welcoming Mr Albares at Rashtrapati Bhavan, the President said that relations between India and Spain go back centuries, enriched by trade, culture and shared values of democracy and pluralism. She noted that this year is 70th anniversary of our diplomatic relations, which is being marked by celebrating the 'India-Spain Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and Artificial Intelligence'.

3. The President said that India and Spain have a steadily growing economic relationship, with expanding trade and investment. She said that Spain's strengths in engineering, railways, renewable energy, urban services, and defence aerospace complement India's development priorities. She expressed confidence that with the signing of India – EU FTA, the trade relationship between the two countries will further be strengthened.
The President said that as strong adherents to multilateralism, India and Spain must work together on multilateral platforms such as the UN and G-20 to further our shared goals of peace, prosperity and stability across the world.

4. The President underlined that India and Spain have a shared position on countering the menace of terrorism which remains a serious threat to global peace and stability. She said that we must pool our resources and capabilities to together fight terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
The President said that India's relationship with Europe and European Union is growing steadily, and that we are looking forward to welcoming the President of European Council and the President of European Commission as Chief Guests for our 77th Republic Day.

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Official Press Release

Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

Visit of Foreign Minister of Spain to India (January 21, 2026)

January 21, 2026

At the invitation of External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar, Mr. José Manuel Albares, Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain, visited India on 21 January 2026. During the visit, Minister Albares called on Hon'ble Rashtrapatiji.

2. EAM and FM Albares held delegation level talks, reviewing the entire gamut of India-Spain relationship, including trade and investment, defense and security, culture, tourism and people-to-people ties. In 2026, India and Spain mark the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, which is being commemorated as the India-Spain Dual Year of Culture, Tourism and Artificial Intelligence. The Ministers jointly launched the logo for the Dual Year celebrations.

3. The Minister expressed satisfaction at the regular political level interactions and the meetings of institutional bilateral mechanisms between the two countries. They looked forward to continuing this momentum into the future as well. The two leaders discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral trade and investment including in sectors of technology, renewable energy, defence industrial collaboration, urban infrastructure and railways.

4. The Ministers discussed recent developments in Europe and the Indo-Pacific, and exchanged views on other issues of shared interest. Both sides condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and emphasized the need for strengthening international cooperation to combat terrorism.

5. Minister Albares also handed over to EAM, a declaration of Spain's accession to the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.

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Social Media Highlights



Social Media Highlights

Dr. S. Jaishankar
@DrSJaishankar

Held wide-ranging discussions this morning with FM @jmalbares of Spain on our bilateral cooperation and world affairs.

Spoke about trade, investments, defence, technology, education and people to people ties. Reaffirmed our strong political dialogue.

Thank Spain for it's support for deeper India - EU ties across different domains.

Also welcome Spain joining the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.



Social Media Highlights



In his opening remarks on January 21, 2026, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar welcomed Spanish FM José Manuel Albares, beginning with condolences for the recent train accident in Cordoba. He highlighted that 2026 marks both the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations and the "Dual Year of Culture, Tourism, and Artificial Intelligence," an initiative celebrated by the joint launch of a new logo. Emphasizing a shared human-centric approach to technology, Jaishankar invited cooperation for the upcoming AI Impact Summit and noted the strength of a bilateral trade relationship exceeding USD 8 billion. Key industrial milestones include the Airbus–Tata C-295 defense project, with the first "Made in India" aircraft expected by September 2026. Beyond economic and defense ties, the Minister underscored the importance of people-to-people links through Yoga, Ayurveda, and education, while calling for global "zero tolerance" toward terrorism in an evolving world order.

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Social Media Highlights





Social Media Highlights





On January 21, 2026, Spanish Foreign Minister José Manuel Albares concluded a strategic visit to India, meeting with President Droupadi Murmu and External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar to discuss upgrading bilateral relations to a strategic partnership. Highlighting India's role as a global power in the new Asia-Pacific Strategy 2026-2029, Albares announced Spain's accession to the Indo-Pacific Ocean Initiative and the opening of a new Spanish consulate in Bangalore to expand diplomatic presence. Economically, the Minister celebrated a 50% growth in bilateral trade and expressed strong support for an EU-India free trade agreement, noting that Spanish exports have risen nearly 20% since 2024. A central feature of the visit was the launch of the Spain-India Dual Year logo, a joint initiative commemorating 70 years of diplomatic ties through cooperation in culture, tourism, and artificial intelligence. Planned milestones for the year include a major university rector summit in New Delhi in February and a large-scale meeting between Spanish and Indian Chambers of Commerce in May to better integrate small and medium-sized enterprises into the bilateral economic network.

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Media Coverage in India



21/01/26 | 4:01 pm

Spain's Foreign Minister Says India-EU On Cusp Of Trade Deal, Plan Stronger Defence Ties



India-EU trade deal set to conclude in next few days, Spanish minister says



INDIA

NEWS

EAM Jaishankar Meets Spanish Counterpart In His First Visit To Madrid As Foreign Minister, Highlights Strengthening Trade, Defense Ties





Spain's Pedro Sanchez to visit India soon, says country's foreign minister

Spain's foreign minister Jose Manuel Albares also expressed hope that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will also be able to visit Spain.

Media Coverage in India



FIRST INDIA

Friday, January, 23,2026

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Home / News / Jaishankar unveils India-Spain Dual Year logo with FM Albares, welcomes Spain into IPOI

Jaishankar unveils India-Spain Dual Year logo with FM Albares, welcomes Spain into IPOI

The Indian EXPRESS

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News / India / First 'Made in India' C-295 aircraft to roll out before September: EAM Jaishankar

First 'Made in India' C-295 aircraft to roll out before September: EAM Jaishankar

Jaishankar said India and Spain enjoy warm and friendly relations, rooted in shared democratic values and "respect for multilateralism and a rule-based order".

Edition IN English

THE TIMES OF INDIA

India Maharashtra Karnataka Telangana West Bengal Tamil Nadu Andhra Pradesh Uttar Prac

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World must show zero tolerance for terror, EAM tells Spain counterpart

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THE HINDU

First 'Made in India' C-295 aircraft expected to roll out of factory before September: Jaishankar

In his remarks at a meeting with Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares, Mr. Jaishankar asserted that the world must display "zero tolerance" towards terrorism

Published - January 22, 2026 09:53 am IST - New Delhi

Media Coverage in Spain

infobae

AGENCIES >

Albares travels to New Delhi to further strengthen the relationship and launch the Spain-India Dual Year

José Manuel Albares is in the Indian capital where he will hold key meetings to strengthen bilateral ties, promote new areas of collaboration, and officially present the logo for the new phase of cooperation between the two countries.

FUNDACIÓN CONSEJO ESPAÑA INDIA

Start Dual Year Foundation FCEI News Observatory Report News Leaders Prize Forum

ECONOMY SOCIETY POLICY

21.01.2026

The Foreign Minister travels to New Delhi to boost Spain-India relations

Demócrata

Present Policies Europe Analysis and Opinion

Albares travels to New Delhi to strengthen ties with India and launch the Spain-India Dual Year

Albares travels to New Delhi to launch the Spain-India Dual Year, strengthen bilateral relations and close new political, economic and cultural agreements.

2 MINUTES

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Albares calls for Spain-India relationship to be elevated to a "strategic partnership" in Delhi

The minister is confident that the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union will be finalized "in the coming days"

Media Coverage in Spain

ABC España

ABC → España

España estrecha relaciones con India en un momento en que Europa necesita "otros socios"

LA VANGUARDIA

Spain and India, an anniversary with strategic ambition

servimedia

LIDER EN INFORMACIÓN SOCIAL

Albares highlights the opportunity for Spanish companies presented by the EU-India free trade agreement

THEOBJECTIVE

Policy

Spain proposes to elevate its relationship with India to the level of countries like China or Brazil.

Albares emphasized that India is a "reliable country that believes in international law and multilateralism."

EFE:

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Spain strengthens ties with India at a time when Europe needs "other partners"

Media Coverage in Spain



Coverage of the Visit in Media in India and Spain highlights the following developments:

- Trade & Economics: India-EU FTA described as concluding "in the next few days," framed as measure against Trump's tariffs. Bilateral trade in goods has crossed $8 billion in recent years, with potential for expansion in manufacturing and infrastructure.
- Defense Cooperation: First "Made in India" C-295 aircraft expected to roll out before September this year. The Airbus-Tata partnership cited as the real example of collaboration both nations aim to foster.
- Indo-Pacific Engagement: Spain formally joined India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative, handing over the signed Declaration of Accession.
- Counter-Terrorism: Dr. Jaishankar emphasized the world must display "zero tolerance towards terrorism," highlighting both nations have been victims.

The visit focuses on deepening India-Spain ties through defense manufacturing (C-295 project), supporting the imminent India-EU trade agreement, and Spain's formal entry into India's Indo-Pacific initiative.

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