

## **Brief on India-Canada Bilateral Relations**

India-Canada bilateral ties are underlined by shared democratic values, a steadfast commitment to the rule of law, and vibrant people-to-people ties.

### **Recent exchanges:**

2. Hon'ble PM of India and PM Mark Carney met on the sidelines of the G-20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg on 23 November, 2025 to review progress in the India-Canada partnership. The two leaders welcomed the adoption of Australia-Canada-India Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership on 22 November, 2025. The leaders discussed expanding cooperation across trade and investment, defence, education, space, science and technology, and energy. PM Carney supported India's plan to host the AI Summit in February 2026. The leaders agreed to launch negotiations on Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) to double bilateral trade to USD 50 billion by 2030. They reaffirmed civil nuclear cooperation including potential long-term uranium supply arrangements. Hon'ble PM also extended an invitation to PM Carney to visit India.

3. Hon'ble PM of India visited Calgary from 16-17 June, 2025 and took part in the session for outreach countries on 'Energy Security : diversification, technology and infrastructure to ensure access and affordability in a changing world' at the G7 Summit in Kananaskis on 17 June, 2025. On the sidelines of the G7 Summit, Hon'ble PM held a bilateral meeting with PM Mark Carney. This was the first in-person interaction between the two leaders since Prime Minister Mark Carney assumed office following Canada's federal elections in April 2025.

4. During their interaction, both sides agreed to take calibrated and constructive steps to restore stability in the relationship, beginning with the early return of High Commissioners to each other's capitals (the High Commissioners have since taken their positions from September, 2025). The two leaders also underscored the importance of restarting senior ministerial as well as working level engagements across various

domains to rebuild trust and bring momentum to the relationship and discussed opportunities for future collaboration in areas such as digital transformation, artificial intelligence, LNG, food security, critical minerals, higher education, mobility, and supply chain resilience etc. They also discussed the importance of restarting the stalled negotiations on the Early Progress Trade Agreement (EPTA), with a view to paving the way for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Both leaders acknowledged the important progress made at the G7 Summit and the shared willingness to work constructively together on global priorities such as climate action, inclusive growth, and sustainable development. They also underlined the deep people-to-people connections between the two countries and agreed to leverage this living bridge to the benefit of both countries.

5. On 6 June, 2025, PM Mark Carney called Hon'ble PM of India. Hon'ble PM congratulated PM Mark Carney on his recent election victory and thanked him for the invitation to the G7 Summit in Kananaskis in June, 2025.

6. On 29 April, 2025, Hon'ble PM of India posted congratulations to Mr. Mark Carney on his election as Prime Minister of Canada. On 13 May, 2025, Hon'ble EAM congratulated Ms. Anita Anand on her appointment as Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs.

7. Prior to the above, the then Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau had made a statement in the House of Commons of Canada (later also by then Canadian Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly to the media) on September 18, 2023 which were rejected by India on September 19. On September 20, an advisory for Indian nationals and Indian students in Canada was issued. On September 21, visa services for Canadian nationals were suspended. On October 26, paper visa services in four categories were resumed. On November 22, 2023 e-visas for Canadian nationals in certain categories were resumed.

8. On October 14, 2024, three Press Releases were issued by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, including which stated that India was withdrawing 6 of its diplomats due to their safety being endangered in Canada. Following Canadian responses, 6 Canadian diplomats were expelled from India. India

has also rejected all allegations made by the Government of Canada in the period including those made during proceedings of the Canadian House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security.

9. Other recent high-level exchanges since 2025 are at Annexure.

### **Parliamentary Exchanges**

10. Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla, alongwith a Parliamentary delegation comprising six Hon'ble MPs, visited Canada to attend 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference organised by Canada CPA Branch in Halifax from 20-26 August 2022. On the sidelines of 65th CPC, the Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha met, inter alia, then Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, Anthony Rota and then Speaker of Senate of Canada, George J. Furey.

### **Bilateral Mechanisms**

11. Both sides have official-level dialogue mechanisms such as Ministerial level-Strategic, Trade and Energy dialogues; Foreign Office Consultations; Joint Committee Meeting on Environment and other sector specific joint working groups (JWGs).

12. India-Canada Foreign Office Consultations were last held in Ottawa on April 11, 2023.

### **Security Cooperation**

13. There is engagement on counter terrorism issues particularly through the framework of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Counter Terrorism set up in 1997. The security cooperation was further enhanced with the Framework for Cooperation between India and Canada on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism signed in February, 2018.

### **Civil Nuclear Cooperation**

14. A Nuclear Cooperation Agreement (NCA) with Canada was signed in June 2010 and came into force in September 2013. Under the Agreement signed between India

and Canada for “Cooperation in Peaceful uses of Nuclear Energy” in 2010, a Joint Committee to oversee the implementation of the agreement was constituted. During Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Sh. Narendra Modi’s visit to Canada (April 2015), Department of Atomic Energy and M/s CAMECO Inc. signed an agreement for supply of uranium ore concentrate to India in 2015-2020.

### **Energy Cooperation**

15. An India and Canada Ministerial level Energy Dialogue was held in September, 2016. During the visit of then Canadian Prime Minister to India in February 2018, the scope of the Energy Dialogue was expanded to additionally include electricity, energy efficiency and renewables.

### **Space**

16. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Canadian Space Agency (CSA) signed two MoUs in the field of exploration and utilisation of outer space in October 1996 and March 2003, under which two Implementing Arrangements regarding satellite tracking and space astronomy were signed. ISRO and CSA signed an MoU on Space Cooperation in Ottawa on 15th April 2015. The MoU envisaged establishment of a joint team, drawing members from ISRO and CSA to work out the plan of action including examination and defining cooperative projects and also to provide opportunities for diverse research in the field of peaceful uses of space technologies. ANTRIX, the Commercial arm of ISRO, has launched several nanosatellites from Canada. ISRO in its 100th Satellite PSLV launched in January 2018, also flew Canadian first LEO satellite.

### **Economic Relations**

17. The trade and investment linkages between India and Canada form an integral component of the multi-faceted partnership between the two countries. India’s exports to Canada in 2024 were worth CAD 8.02 billion and imports from Canada were CAD 5.30 billion. Bilateral trade in goods between India and Canada was worth CAD 13.32 billion in 2024. In 2025 (January -September), total bilateral trade in goods stood at CAD 9.96 billion (Indian exports to Canada: CAD 7.17 billion, Indian imports from Canada: CAD 2.79 billion).

18. In 2024, India's bilateral services trade with Canada stood at CAD 19.61 billion, with India's exports worth CAD 3.49 billion and India's imports worth CAD 16.12 billion. In 2025 (January – September), total bilateral trade in services amounted to CAD 14.15 billion (India's exports: CAD 3.31 billion and India's imports: CAD 10.84 billion).

19. Portfolio investments from Canada into India stand at more than CAD 100 billion, underscoring the interest in India as a favourable investment destination. More than 600 Canadian companies have a presence in India, and more than 1,000 companies are actively pursuing business in the Indian market. Indian companies in Canada are active in various sectors, including IT (Information Technology), banking, pulp and fiber, natural resources, health science, and financial services, among others.

20. Major items of India's exports to Canada include pharmaceutical products, electronic goods, jewelry, gems & precious stones, seafood (shrimps), engineering goods and auto parts. India's major imports from Canada include minerals, pulses, potash, paper & paperboard, wood pulp, iron & aluminum scrap and gemstones.

### **Science and Technology**

21. Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India led a delegation to Ottawa for the 7th India-Canada Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC), which he co- chaired with Deputy Minister of International Trade at Global Affairs Canada in May 2022. On the sidelines of the JSTCC, an MoU on Cooperation in industrial research, Development & Innovation, between DST and the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) was signed.

22. Department of Earth Science, Government of India and Polar Canada started a programme for exchange of knowledge and scientific research on Cold Climate (Arctic) Studies. A Memorandum of Cooperation between NCPOR and POLAR Canada was signed in February 2020.

23. Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India under IC-IMPACTS program implements joint research projects in health care, agri-biotech and waste management. Under "Mission Innovation" program, India is collaborating with Canada in various activities in the areas of Sustainable Biofuels (IC4).

### **Education**

24. Education forms a vital pillar of India-Canada relations, significantly strengthening people-to-people ties. Both countries have long recognized the strategic significance of higher education and research in fostering innovation, sustainable development, and mutual understanding. Over time, this engagement has evolved into a multifaceted relationship encompassing institutional linkages, joint research programs, and academic mobility initiatives.

25. Indian students represent the largest group of international students in Canada, with an estimated 3,92,810 Indian students are studying in Canada as on 31st December, 2024. Bilateral cooperation in education is supported through various mechanisms such as Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), academic exchanges, and institutional partnerships. The MoU on Higher Education (2010) with Canada was renewed in February 2018. Under this MoU, there is a Joint Working Group that oversees the implementation of the MoU.

### **Consular Matters**

26. Both sides agreed to address consular issues of mutual concern through discussion during the then Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's visit to India in 2018. The India-Canada Consular Dialogue has been instituted under this (last meeting in November 2022).

27. The two countries have signed a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty in 1994 (operationalised in 1998) and an Extradition Treaty in 1987.

### **People-to-People and Cultural Relations**

28. With estimated 1.8 million Indo-Canadians and estimated 1 million non-resident Indians, Canada hosts one of the largest Indian Diaspora abroad. The diaspora, whose main concentration is in the Greater Toronto Area, the Greater Vancouver area, Montreal (Quebec), Calgary and Edmonton (Alberta), Ottawa National Capital Region (Ontario), Halifax (Nova Scotia) and Winnipeg (Manitoba) have contributed significantly to the Canadian economy & society.

29. There are numerous business and Diaspora organisations, supporting enhanced bilateral relations between the two countries.

30. There is an India - Canada Co-production Agreement in films. Canada Post and India Post joined hands to issue a commemorative stamp in 2020 and 2021.

31. ICCR chairs have been established at the following Universities :- McGill, Alberta, SFU, Calgary and Guelph.

32. This High Commission and Consulates General of India in Toronto and Vancouver organize a wide range of cultural events throughout Canada including festivals, exhibitions, film screenings, Yoga workshops, and academic seminars showcasing the depth and diversity of India's heritage. Some of the events organised include Panorama India Day Parade in Toronto, Namaste Canada in Vancouver, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Flavours of Bharat, International Day of Yoga events etc.

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**Jan 2026**

**Other High-level exchanges since 2025**

- i. Mr. Daryl Harrison, Minister of Agriculture, Saskatchewan Province, led a trade delegation to India from 12–15 February, 2025. During the visit, Minister Harrison participated in the Pulses Conclave held in New Delhi on 13 February, 2025.
- ii. Additional Secretary (Mines), Government of India led an Indian delegation to PDAC 2025 in Toronto from 2-5 March, 2025.
- iii. Hon'ble EAM and Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand held a telephonic conversation on 25 May, 2025.
- iv. Canadian NSIA Nathalie Drouin met NSA Shri Ajit Doval, KC in New Delhi on 18 September, 2025. On the sidelines of the visit of NSIA, on 19 September 2025, India and Canada held pre-Foreign Office Consultations(FOC) in New Delhi. The Indian delegation was led by Secretary (East) Shri P. Kumaran, while the Canadian side was led by Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. David Morrison. DFM Mr. Morrison also separately met with Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri.
- v. Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation (HMCA), Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu visited Montreal to attend the 42nd Annual ICAO Assembly from 24–25 September 2025. During the visit, Airports Authority of India and ICAO signed an MoU for conducting an ICAO led technical study to advise and recommend AAI in particular and Indian aviation in general.
- vi. Hon'ble External Affairs Minister (EAM) Dr. S.Jaishankar and FM Anita Anand met on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York on 29 September, 2025.



- vii. On October 11, 2025 Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal had a telephonic conversation with Canadian Minister for Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Maninder Sidhu, Minister of International Trade.
- viii. At the invitation of EAM, Dr. S. Jaishankar, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, Ms Anita Anand, undertook an official visit to India from 12-14 October 2025. During the visit, an India-Canada Joint Statement: Renewing momentum towards a stronger partnership was released on 13 October, 2025 announcing the New Roadmap for bilateral engagement. FM Anand also met Hon'ble PM Modi during the visit.
- ix. At the invitation of FM Anita Anand, EAM visited Niagara Region, Canada from 11-12 November 2025, to participate in the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Outreach Partners.
- x. At the invitation of Hon'ble Minister for Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal, Canadian Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Mr. Maninder Sidhu, undertook an official visit to India from 11-15 November 2025. During the visit, the two Ministers co-chaired the 7th India–Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment (MDTI) in New Delhi on 12 November 2025. Minister Sidhu also met Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Hardeep Singh Puri during the visit. He also attended the 30th Partnership Summit 2025 organized in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on 14-15 November 2025.
- xi. Ontario Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Minister Victor Fedeli led a trade and investment mission to New Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru from 23-28 November 2025. During the visit, he met Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal.
- xii. Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal and Canadian Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic

Development Mr. Maninder Sidhu met virtually on 3 December, 2025 to discuss preparations for launching negotiations on a new Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

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