

Brief on India–Republic of Congo Relations

India and the Republic of Congo [ROC] enjoy warm and friendly relations dating back to the pre-independence era of the ROC. ROC has supported India's candidature at various international forums. India opened its diplomatic Mission in Brazzaville, ROC, in November 2019.

In February 2023, the Republic of Congo joined the International Solar Alliance by signing the @isolaralliance Framework Agreement through their Ambassador in New Delhi.

Bilateral Visits/Meetings (including virtual)

From ROC to India

- **1983:** H.E. Mr Denis Sassou N'guesso, President of the Republic attended the Non-Alignment Summit in New Delhi
- **1987:** H.E. Mr Denis Sassou N'guesso, President of the Republic, in his capacity as Chairman of the African Union, visited India for the Creation of the African Fund
- **October 2005:** Mr Rodolphe Adada, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Commerce visited India.
- **February-March 2007:** Maj. Gen Jacques Yvon Ndolou, Defense Minister of the Republic of Congo visited India at the invitation of Raksha Mantri.
- **July 2007:** Mr Emile Ouosso, Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation visited India at the invitation of Railway Minister. In his capacity as Chairman of the African Transport Ministers Group [53 countries], he mooted a proposal for holding a summit of African Transport Ministers in India
- **March 2010:** Mr Basile Ikouebe, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Congo participated in the 6th CII EXIM Bank Conclave on India Africa Project Partnership held in New Delhi
- **27-29 March 2011:** Mr Alain Akouala Atipault, Minister in the Presidency, in charge of Special Economic Zone participated in the 7th CII EXIM Bank Conclave on India Africa Project Partnership held in New Delhi
- **2012:** Ms. Claudine Munari, Minister of Trade and Mr Basile Ikouebe, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Congo attended the 8th CII EXIM Bank Conclave in New Delhi.
- **2013:** Ms. Claudine Munari, Minister of Trade, Mr Alain Akouala Atipault, Minister of Special Economic Zones and Mr Anatole C. Makosso, Minister of Youth Affairs and Head of the African Union Commission for Youth Affairs visited India to attend the 9th CII EXIM Bank Conclave in New Delhi.
- **March 2014:** Senior Minister of Industrial Development and Private Sector Promotion Mr Mvouba Isidore, Ms. Claudine Munari, Minister of Trade, Mr Alain Akouala Atipault, Minister of Special Economic Zones and Anatole Collinet Makosso, Minister of Youth visited India to attend 10th CII EXIM Bank Conclave in New Delhi.
- **October 2015:** Mr Jean Claude Gakosso, Minister of Foreign Affairs visited India to attend India-Africa Forum Summit
- **September 2016:** Ms. Jacqueline Lydia Mikolo, Minister of Health and Population visited India to attend the 12th CII EXIM Bank Conclave in New Delhi.
- **March 2018:** Mr Rodrigue Ngonimba, Minister of Construction, Urbanism and Housing visited India to attend the 13th CII EXIM Bank Conclave in New Delhi.
- **January 2019:** Thomas Nicephore Fylla De Saint Eudes, Minister of Technical and Vocational Education and Skills Training visited India to Attend Global Summit, Africa Day in Gujarat

- **July 2022:** Mr Emile Ouosso, Minister of Special Economic Zones and Economic Diversification visited India to attend the 17th CII EXIM Bank Conclave in New Delhi.
- **October 2022:** Mr Raymond Zephirin MBOULOU, Minister of Security and Public Order, Republic of Congo headed the ROC delegation for the 90th INTERPOL General Assembly Session held in New Delhi from 18-21 October 2022.
- **January 2023:** Mr Denis Christel Sassou N'Guesso, Minister of International Cooperation and Promotion of Public-Private Partnership participated in the 9th Session on G-20 (Foreign Minister's Session on G-20) virtually on 13th January 2023 which EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar chaired as part of Voice of Global South Summit (VOGSS), convened by India as Head of G-20.
- **February 2023:** Mr Charles Richard MONDJO, Minister of National Defence, Republic of Congo headed the ROC delegation for the conclave of Defence Ministers, 2023 Edition, held on the sidelines of AERO INDIA 2023, in Bengaluru, from February 12 – 16, 2023.
- **June 2023:** Mr Thomas Nicephore FYLLA SAINT-EUDES, Minister of Industrial Development and Promotion of the Private Sector and Mr Jean Jacques Bouya, Minister of State for Territory Planning, Infrastructure and Road Maintenance, Republic of Congo participated in the 18th CII Africa Conclave on India Africa Growth Partnership, held in New Delhi from 14 – 16 June, 2023.
- **November 2023:** Mr Emile OUOSSO, Minister of Energy and Hydraulics participated in the Energy Minister's Session of the 2nd Voice of Global South Summit 2023 (VoGSS 2023) on 17th November 2023 by virtual mode.
- **February 2025:** A four-member delegation, led by Brigadier General Ambroise MOPENDZA, Director General of Equipment, visited Bengaluru from 09 - 13 February 2025 to participate in "Aero India 2025" and "BRIDGE". The delegation also included Air Force Brigadier General Jean Baptiste Philippe TCHICAYA, Air Force Chief of Staff.
- **January 2026:** Invited by Apollo Hospitals Professor Jean-Rosaire Ibara, Minister of Health and Population attended the 13th International Dialogue on Health in India from 30-31 January 2026 accompanied by senior Health Ministry officials. The event provided a platform for discussions on global health challenges and collaborative solutions.

From India to ROC

- **July 2015:** Shri Manoj Sinha, MoS Railways visited Brazzaville as Special Envoy of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to hand over an invitation to Mr Denis Sassou N'guesso, President of Republic of Congo for the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi.
- **March 2017:** Shri M.J. Akbar, Minister of State for External Affairs visited Brazzaville on the first bilateral visit by any Indian Minister to ROC. MOS called on the President of the Republic of Congo and met the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Congolese Abroad.
- **October 2023:** Shri V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External Affairs, participated in the 2nd Three Basins Summit hosted by the Republic of Congo in October 2023.
- **July 2024:** Shri P. Kumar, OSE (ER & DPA), represented Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President of India, at the First International Conference on Afforestation and Reforestation (CIAR1) organized by RoC in Brazzaville from July 2-5, 2024. OSD (ER&DPA) participated in the Ministerial Segment and the Summit of Heads of State and Government on July 4 and 5, respectively.

Agreements/MoUs

Signed:

- Agreement on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

- A Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations

India's Economic Assistance to ROC

Lines of Credit: The following Lines of Credit have been accorded to ROC: (i) US\$ 70 million LOC for the Rural Electrification Project; (ii) LOC of US\$ 89.9 million for the Development of an Urban Transportation System, in the capital city of Brazzaville and Pointe Noire; (iii) LOC of US\$ 55 million for a Greenfield 600 TPD Rotary Kiln based Cement Plant Project. {The LoCs at (i) and (ii) above have been closed.}

Grant/Assistance: (i) GOI donated medicines worth US\$ 2,00,000 in 2010 to the Government of ROC; (ii) GOI donated US\$ 500,000 as humanitarian assistance to ROC, in March 2012, in the aftermath of the ordnance depot blast, which claimed many lives; (iii) Tele-education, telemedicine and VVIP connectivity node were set up in Brazzaville under the Pan African e-Network Project; (iv) GOI donated US \$ 100,000 as humanitarian assistance for flood relief to the ROC in March, 2020; (v) GOI donated more than 6 tonnes of medical aid to ROC in June 2020 to fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

Capacity Building Programme

- Ten slots under ITEC have been allotted to ROC during 2026-27; and
- Two-slots under ICCR scholarship have been offered to ROC for the year 2026-27.

Familiarization Visit of Journalists to India

Under such a familiarization visit, foreign media persons are invited to India to gain insights into the country's media landscape, developments taking place in India, its culture and bilateral relations. Two Congolese journalists were part of this programme from 23-30 October 2024. Their visit was fully sponsored by the Embassy. Similarly one journalist went to India for a familiarization visit from 12-22 January 2026.

Trade and Commerce

Trade between India and ROC:

- Bilateral trade stood at USD 548.58 million during FY 2024-25; with export being USD 178.39 million and imports 370.19 USD million. The main items of export are rice, cereals, meat, pharmaceutical products, inorganic chemicals, vehicles and parts thereof, while imports are mainly petroleum oils & crude oils, which constituted more than 80% and metals. Bilateral trade figures (in USD millions) over the last few years are given below:

Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022 – 23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 Till Nov
Exports	124	113	110	162	178.5	176.03	178.39	135.34
Imports	403	587	246	1,309	2,026.19	122.39	370.19	361.58
Total Trade	527	700	356	1,471	2,204.69	298.42	548.58	496.92

- Bharti Airtel acquired Zain Communications Network, thereby telecom operations in the Republic of Congo in 2010.

Commercial Visits

- *Visit of a delegation by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII):* A 14-member delegation from the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) visited the Republic of Congo from 03-04 March, 2024. The delegation engaged in a productive meeting, including B2B discussions, on 03 March, hosted by the National Union of Economic Operators of Congo (UNOC). On 4 March, an interactive session and further B2B interactions took place at the Embassy. Approximately 80

Congolese businessmen from Agency for the Promotion of Investments (API) {an investment promotion agency under the Government}, UNOC, UNICONGO, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as well as local Indian businessmen, attended the event. Both CII and API delivered presentations - showcasing potential collaborations and avenues for mutual growth.

- A commercial delegation led by Shri Ramesh Chakra accompanied by Mr. Rohith Reddy and Mr. K Prithvi Reddy (M/s Coreopsis Infra Pvt. Ltd, Hyderabad) visited ROC from May 22-28, 2024 to explore possibilities for export of Rock Phosphate from ROC to India. The delegation met with Chambers of Commerce and Director of API, Congo. In addition, the delegation visited Sibiti town in this connection. They also visited Point Noir and met with Mr. Patric of Cominco Resources and also visited Hinda phosphate project (a US\$ 2 billion project) which is being developed by Cominco Resources. The Hinda project is the world's largest undeveloped phosphate deposit with a Movable Ore Reserve of 405 Mt, sufficient for over 24 years of production.
- KRIBHCO and developer's Delegation consisting of General Manager (Projects) Sanjay Kansal, Shri JK Mishra, GM (F&A), Shri Konduri Srinivas, Sr. Geologist and developer Shri S Ramesh Chakra, Director Coreopsis visited Republic of Congo from 22-25 September, 2024 in connection with visit to Phosphate exploration site. They had meeting with prospective mine owners and other ROC Officials and stakeholders.
- *Virtual Interactive Session on Business Opportunities in the Food and Allied Sector*: A Virtual Interactive Session on business opportunities in the food and allied sector in the Republic of Congo was conducted on 23 January 2026 in association with the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO). The session saw active participation from FIEO's Director and Deputy Director, alongside over 60 Indian buyers and exporters seeking to explore market potential in Congo. From the Embassy of India, the Ambassador and the Second Secretary (Head of Chancery and Commerce) attended. On the Congolese side, representatives from leading private sector companies, including the Regal Group and Burotec Group, joined the discussions. The interactive session provided a platform for Indian exporters to understand market demand, investment opportunities, and partnership prospects in Congo's food and allied sector. Direct exchanges with Congolese stakeholders allowed participants to explore collaboration avenues.

Naming of Street in Brazzaville

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on 02 October 2023, a prominent street in Brazzaville was named Mahatma Gandhi Marg. The street is approximately 1 kilometer long.

Cultural Activities

- All the important landmark dates and festivals are celebrated with vigour. Our Embassy in ROC organised several events to mark the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak, the 70th anniversary of the Constitution of India, Hindi Pakhwada, International Yoga Day, etc. The Mission also organized several activities under the framework of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) including the 'Walk for Health' event on 13th February 2022.
- National Days and International Yoga Day are celebrated with enthusiasm, featuring active participation from both the local community and the Indian diaspora.
- First time in the history of the Republic of Congo, a Gujarati Folk dance troupe KALAPATH SANSTHA from Bhavnagar (Gujarat), sponsored by ICCR, performed in

Brazzaville on 28 January 2023. Their performance was wholeheartedly appreciated by members of the Diplomatic Corps, local Congolese and the members of the Indian diaspora. The Congo TV and the local print media ADIAC Congo covered the event.

Indian Diaspora

There are approximately 1000 Indians based in the Republic of Congo, engaged mainly in the trade and service sector including supermarket chains, electronic stores, tours and travels, restaurants, trading, etc. The Indian community in the capital city Brazzaville and port city Pointe Noire donated edible items including rice, wheat flour, cooking oil, sugar and cereals worth US\$100,000 to local authorities in May 2020 to support vulnerable families affected from the pandemic COVID-19. The Embassy in association with the Association of Indians in ROC organised a chartered flight on 10 July 2020 from Brazzaville to Mumbai under the Vande Bharat Mission of GOI to evacuate 145 stranded Indian nationals to India.

09 April 2026