

Brief on India-Senegal Relations

Political Relations

Diplomatic relations between the two countries were established in 1961, with the opening of a resident Indian Mission in Dakar. Senegal opened a resident Embassy in New Delhi in 1974. Both countries enjoy warm and friendly relations sharing common values of democracy, development and secularism. They are both members of the Non-Aligned Movement and G-15.

Visits from Senegal

President of Senegal, Macky Sall visited India to participate in IAFS-III in October 2015 and again in May 2017 to participate in the 52nd Annual Meeting of African Development Bank in Gandhinagar. He and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met at G20 Summit in Bali in Nov 2022 and previously in July 2017 on the sidelines of G20 Summit in Hamburg as well as on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Biarritz (France) on 24 August 2019.

President Macky Sall participated in the Inaugural Leaders' Session of the Voice of Global South Summit 1.0 held on 12 January 2023.

Foreign Minister Mr. Ismaila Madior Fall participated in the Foreign Ministers' Session of the Global Voice of South Summit 2.0 held on 17 November 2023.

Mr. Alioune Sall, Minister of Communication, Telecommunications and Digital Economy participated in the AI IMPACT seminar in New Delhi in February 2026.

Visits from India

Vice President of India Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu visited Senegal in June 2022, the first State visit from India to Senegal in 60 years. During the visit, three MOUs i.e. MoU on cooperation in Youth Affairs, Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) and Visa waiver Agreement for diplomats/officials – were signed. Announcement was also made with respect to the launch of the Phase-II upgradation of Entrepreneurship Development and Technology Centre (CEDT) in Dakar, built with Indian grant assistance (inaugurated on 18 Dec 2023); a Special ITEC English proficiency course for Senegalese public servants and also offer of a special training programme for a batch of 15 Senegalese diplomats at Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Services .

Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri V. Muraleedharan visited Senegal to participate in 8th Dakar International Peace and Security Forum from 24-25 October 2022, as also his visit from 3-5 November 2021 to co-chair the Third India-Senegal Joint Commission meeting. During the latter visit (i) MoU for cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine; and (ii) MoU for training of diplomats, were signed.

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Jal Shakti visited Senegal from 21-22 March 2022 to participate in the 9th World Water Forum. Besides attending the Water Forum, he met with

Senegalese Foreign Minister Aisata Tall Sall and Minister of Economy Amadou Hott; and, interacted with the Indian community and Senegalese business community.

On July 7th, 2022, EAM met his Senegalese counterpart, Mrs. Aissata Tall Sall on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Indonesia.

Bilateral Institutional Mechanisms

Joint Commission Meeting JCM: The Agreement to form a bilateral Joint Commission was signed in 1997. The first Joint Commission meeting was held in the same year, 1997, in Dakar. The second meeting of the JCM was held in New Delhi in March 2010. The 3rd Joint Commission Meeting was held in Dakar in November 2021.

India-Senegal Joint Trade Committee meeting took place on 5 May 2022 in virtual mode.

Economic and Commercial Relations

The trade between India and Senegal has been the pivot of the strong relationship between the two countries. India has contributed significantly to the food security of Senegal being the largest supplier of rice. Almost 90% percent of the broken rice imported by Senegal is from India.

Bilateral Trade between India and Senegal . (Value in US \$ Million)

SENEGAL	India's Export	India's Import	Total Trade	Balance of Trade
2023-24	938.57	633.92	1010.61	304.65
2024-25	1001.10	739.48	1740.58	261.62
2025-2026 (Apr- Dec 2025)	817.73	700.66	1518.39	117.07

Source: Export Import Database, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India

Bilateral trade trade between India and Senegal is on the rise. Major items of export from India include cereals, cotton & textiles, pharmaceuticals, plastics and its products, machinery. Major items of import from Senegal are phosphoric acid, iron scrap and raw cashew. A favourable recent trend observed in India's exports to Senegal is the growing diversification of the export basket to include engineering/machinery exports and other products, in comparison to the rather skewed export product portfolio seen earlier (which had predominance of cereals((rice) and textiles).

Investments

India's investment (including diaspora) is mainly in construction, tourism, retail, trading, phosphates, pharmaceuticals etc. The largest investment in Senegal is in Industries Chimique du Senegal (ICS), which is a leading company in Senegal and is in the business of manufacturing phosphoric acid from the rock phosphate available in plenty in Senegal. It is the largest producer of phosphate fertilizer products in sub-Saharan Africa, with the majority of phosphoric acid being

exported to India, while the fertilizer products being exported to other West-African countries. In 2014, ICS was acquired by Indorama Group.

Indian companies viz. Tata Group (Tata Motors), Kirloskar Bros, NIIT, SenegIndia, (construction, farming), Ajanta Pharma, Sun Pharma, Shapoorji Pallonji, Kalpataru Power Transmission, KEC Ltd., Promac (Engg), Gravita (metals), Solance (batteries), Hercules etc are present in Senegal. Many Indian SME's have in recent times started exploring the Senegalese market for opportunities.

Coromandel International, India's leading phosphatic fertiliser player, has also acquired an equity stake in Baobab Mining and Chemicals Corporation (BMCC), a rock phosphate mining company based in Senegal, Africa at an outlay of US\$ 19.6 million.

Development Partnership

LOCs

India has offered a total of 16 Lines of Credit amounting to USD 350 million and Buyer's Credit of about US\$ 305 mn to Senegal so far in the sectors of agriculture and irrigation, transport, rural electrification, fisheries, women poverty alleviation, IT training and equipment, medical, railways etc.

Buyer's Credit

Export Import Bank of India (Exim Bank of India) extended credit worth **US \$ 235 million** under the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) to Senegal for transmission line/substations/distribution network in Senegal.

The projects executed by Kalpataru Power include the US\$ 200 million 225 KV transmission line project linking Tambacounda-Kolda-Ziguinchor alongwith extension/rehabilitation of networks. The project has been completed. The second project is for US\$ 35 million, comprising of two Lots - Lot I consisting of construction and installation of 225 kV overhead Transmission Line from Tanaff-Ziguinchor (92 km) and Lot II- requiring bay extensions at Tanaff and Ziguinchor substations. Both the Lots have been completed and are operational.

Another buyers' credit project of **USD 69.75 million** for supply of vehicles (475 buses), spares and related services by Ashoka Leyland, awarded in 2015, has been completed.

Grants

India supplied **250 e-Rickshaws (Solar powered tri-cycles)** with lithium-ion batteries on grant basis to Senegal, responding to the request of President Macky Sall of Senegal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in January 2019.

Under Indian grant assistance, HMT had set up an **Entrepreneurial Training & Development Centre (CEDT)** in Dakar in 2002. So far the Center has trained around 6000 students and over

3000 have been employed in various sectors. GoI offered grant assistance of Indian Rs. 22.95 crore for upgradation and modernisation of CEDT. Phase 1 of the project has been completed at a cost of Rs 13.66 crore. This was inaugurated on 25 June 2019. Implementation of Phase-II of the project, announced during the visit of HVPI, was completed in Dec 2023.

Government of India has also financed the **development of garden namely 'India Tiranga Park'** in the famous Renaissance Monument in Dakar.

India gave a grant of Euros 50000/- in 2017 for rehabilitating 200 handicapped Senegalese by fitting prosthetic limbs provided by Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS-**Jaipur Foot**). In May 2019, Government of India had set up a 42 days artificial limbs fitment camp in Senegal by BMVSS for 500 Senegalese handicapped persons.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, India has donated a large quantity of essential medicines, including Hydroxychloroquine to the Republic of Senegal in August 2020. India also donated 25,000 doses of **Made-in-India Covid-19 vaccine** in March 2021. In addition, 3,24,000 doses of India-made Covid-19 vaccines have reached Senegal under the COVAX facility.

On the request of the Government of Senegal, the Government of India in March 2023 has agreed to extend a grant support of US\$ 1 Million from the India-UN Development Partnership Fund for the "Demining for Development in Casamance" project of National Mine Action Centre of Senegal. The funding assistance will be utilized to undertake technical surveys of locations, acquisition of advanced equipment and to accomplish de-mining activities in area of 69,596 sq. mtr. in the Bignona and Oussouye districts of Senegal which have unexploded mines which were laid during the internal armed conflict in the 1980s - early 2000s. Project inaugurated on 20 May 2025

TEAM-9

Senegal being the leading Francophone country in West Africa, played a significant role in the creation of TEAM-9 and is also a prominent beneficiary under the programme.

ITEC and other training programmes

A Special Yoga Training Programme was organized in February 2019 under ITEC, in which 16 Senegalese nationals participated. Six Senegalese scientists were selected for the CV Raman International Fellowship for African Researchers in 2016 and 4 have availed of the scholarship.

India regularly supports capacity building initiatives of Senegal through civilian and defence courses under ITEC, SSIFS and ICCR programmes.

Cultural Cooperation and People to People Contact

The Indian community numbers around 2500. Indian culture is admired by the people of Senegal. There are a number of Indo-Senegalese Cultural Friendship associations in Senegal which are promoting bollywood dance and music.

ICCR sponsored Bollywood Dance Smith visited Senegal in January-February 2020. Cultural troupe from Senegal have regularly participated in the Surajkund Int'l Crafts Mela in Mar 2022, March 2024 and January/February 2026. Taal India, a percussionist group, on a private visit to Senegal from 3-9 May 2022, gave a number of performances in association with a local Senegalese percussionist group.

Six delegates from Senegal participated in the 6th Gen-next Democracy Programme organized by ICCR from 10-15 October 2022.

(April 2026)