
India-Slovenia Bilateral Relations

Slovenia attained independence from erstwhile Yugoslavia in 1991. India recognized Slovenia on 11 May 1992. India opened its resident Mission in Ljubljana in February 2007. Slovenia opened its resident mission in New Delhi on 01 August 2002.

Political relations

High-level Visits

From India to Slovenia

Presidential Visit: President Ramnath Kovind, paid the first-ever State visit to Slovenia from 15-17 September 2019. His engagements included bilateral delegation level talks with Slovenian President and calls by President of National Assembly and Prime Minister. He also addressed the Indian community and Slovenia-India Business Forum. Four MOUs, one Agreement and three Programmes within earlier signed MOUs/Agreements were signed during visit.

Visit of EAM to Slovenia : As a maiden visit, EAM visited Slovenia to participate in the 16th annual Bled Strategic Forum (BSF) in Bled, Slovenia and to attend Gymnich lunch meeting of the EU Foreign Ministers from 02-03 September 2021.

MOS ML's visit to Slovenia : Ms. Meenakashi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture (MoS), paid an official visit to Slovenia from 17-19 April 2023. She met Minister for Foreign & European Affairs and President (Speaker) of the National Assembly besides meeting Chairperson of the Friendship Group of the Slovenian Parliament for India, and President of the Women Parliamentarian Club.

From Slovenia to India:

Prime Ministerial visits/meetings : Prime Minister of Slovenia Mr. Borut Pahor paid a State Visit to India from 13-16 June 2011.

Visit by Slovenian Ministers

- i. Dr. Anze Logar, Foreign Minister of Slovenia participated in 7th edition of Raisina dialogue in April 2022 and met EAM on the sidelines. He had participated virtually in the 6th Edition of Raisina Dialogue in April 2021. He also participated in the 6th edition of Global Technology Summit held in December 2021.
- ii. Ms. Tanja Fajon, Slovenia's Minister of Foreign and European Affairs paid visit to India to attend the Raisina Dialogue 2023 held from 02-04 March 2023. She also met EAM on the sidelines.
- iii. Mr. Igor Papic, Minister for Higher Education, Science and Innovation visited New Delhi in November 2023 for participation in the 8th Water Summit and 1st Climate Finance summit. He also met Minister for New and Renewable Energy. Minister Papic again visited India in December 2024 to participate in 9th India Water Impact Summit and 2nd Climate Investments and Technology Impact Summit. He also met Minister of Science and Technology and also Minister of New and Renewable Energy.
- iv. Ms. Tanja Fajon, Slovenia's Minister of Foreign and European Affairs visited India from 16-18 March 2025 to attend the Raisina Dialogue and held bilateral meeting with EAM.

Virtual meeting/other interactions on the sidelines by Ministers

- i. EAM, Dr. S. Jaishankar and Slovenian Foreign Minister Dr. Anze Logar met on the sidelines of the Munich Strategic Forum in February 2019 and held teleconversation on 17 June 2020. The two leaders met again on 18 February 2022.
2. Mr. Zdravko Počivalšek, Minister of Economic Development and Technology of Slovenia and Mr Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce and Industry of India held a virtual meeting on 29 June 2021.
3. EAM met Slovenian Foreign Minister Ms. Tanja Fajon in New York in September 2024 on the sidelines of UNGA.

Cooperation during the Covid-19 Pandemic

Slovenia recognised both Covishield (Astra Zeneca) vaccine produced by the Serum Institute of India and the Covaxin vaccine produced by Bharat Biotech Ltd.

Bilateral frameworks

Foreign Office Consultations (FOCs): Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations was signed in 1996. The 10th India-Slovenia FOCs were held on 06 May 2025 at New Delhi, co-chaired by Secretary (West), MEA and State Secretary for Political and Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia.

Joint Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation (JCTEC): Formed under the Agreement between Slovenia and India on Trade and Economic Cooperation signed in 1993, the 10th Session of the Indo-Slovenia Joint Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation (JCTEC) was held on 25 November 2025 at New Delhi. A 12 member Slovenian delegation visited India and held discussions with their counterparts in the Ministry of Commerce.

Science & Technology Cooperation: The bilateral S&T programmes between the two countries are being pursued under the bilateral Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. A Joint Working Group (JWG) on Scientific and Technological Cooperation has been set up to receive, review, select and award the scientific programmes under this Cooperation agreement.

India and Slovenia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on a Five-Year Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation (2025-2029) on 25 December 2025. The programme aims to enhance bilateral cooperation in areas such as health, biotechnology, new materials, ICT and digitalisation, renewable energy, smart cities, artificial intelligence, and other mutually agreed fields. It will also promote joint research, strengthen collaboration between scientists, and further deepen scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries.

Slovenian Parliamentary Friendship Group for India was established in February 2009. In Nov 2009, the then Chairman of the Friendship Group, Jozse Jerovsek, accompanied with two members of the group visited India. Slovenia's Parliamentary delegation led by Dr. Milan Brglez, then President of National Assembly paid visit to India in November 2015. Ms. Suzana Lep Simenko, the

current Chairperson was one of the members of the delegation. The group currently consists of 15 members.

From India, Ms. Meira Kumar, former Speaker of Lok Sabha, led a Parliamentary delegation to Slovenia in May 2013.

The all party Parliamentary delegation led by Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, Hon'ble MP with four other MPs Shri. Rajeev Kumar Rai, Captain Brijesh Chowta, Shri. Prem Chand Gupta and Shri Ashok Kumar Mittal visited Slovenia from 25-27 May 2025.

Important Agreements and MoUs signed between India and Slovenia include:

- ☐ Agreement on setting up Joint Committee on Bilateral Trade and Cooperation (1993)
- ☐ Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (1995)
- ☐ Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations (1996)
- ☐ Agreement for cooperation in the fields of culture, arts, education, sports and mass media (1996)
- ☐ Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (2003); Protocol Amending the Convention and the Protocol for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income (May 2016)
- ☐ Air Services Agreement (2004); Protocol amending the Air Services Agreement (2012)
- ☐ Agreement on Visa Waiver for Holders of Diplomatic Passports (2013)
- ☐ MoU on Cooperation in the field of Sport (Sept 2019)
- ☐ MoU between Invest India and SPIRIT Slovenia (Sept 2019)
- ☐ MoU between IIT Kanpur, India and VGB, Slovenia for Clean Ganga Operation (Sept 2019)
- ☐ MoU between IIT Kanpur, India and Space-SI, Slovenia for Clean Ganga Operation (Sept 2019)
- ☐ MOU between National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), India and SPIRIT Slovenia on co-operation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (August 2022)
- ☐ MoU between the Valley of Flowers National Park, Uttarakhand and Triglav National Park of Slovenia (February 2024)

- MoU on Scientific and Innovation cooperation between Research and Information System (RIS) and Slovenian Science Foundation (February 2024).
- MoU between ICCR and Nova University on the establishment of India Study Centre at Nova University (September 2024)
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- MoU between Survey of India and Surveying and Mapping Authority of Slovenia for enhanced cooperation in the field of geospatial technology (November 2025).
- Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Ministry of Science and technology, India and The Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Slovenia signed (December 2025).

Commercial and Economic relations

Bilateral Trade

The bilateral trade data figures are as under : -

Year	Indian Exports to Slovenia	Indian Imports from Slovenia	Bilateral Trade	Trade Balance for India
2019-20	332.55	248.43	580.98	84.12
2020-21	354.78	271.78	626.56	83.00
2021-22	494.42	303.23	797.65	191.19
2022-23	610.88	297.85	908.73	313.03
2023-24	586.98	308.25	895.23	298.13
2024-25	586.04	262.09	848.13	323.95
2025-26	765.17	298.84	1,064.01	466.33

(Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, US \$ Million)

The main items of exports from India in 2025-26 were i. Organic chemicals, ii. Pharmaceutical products, iii. Electrical machinery and equipment, iv. Vehicles other than railway, tramway, rolling stock, v. Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliance.

The main items of imports into India in 2025-26 were i. Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliance ii. Organic chemicals, iii. Electrical machinery and equipment, iv. Paper and paperboard, articles of paper. v. Optical, photographic, cinematographic measuring, checking precision, medical or surgical instruments.

Business delegation comprising members and representatives of three major chambers - ASSOCHAM, CII and IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry accompanied President Ramnath Kovind during his State visit to Slovenia in September 2019. Delegation participated at the India-Slovenia business forum President Kovind and President Borut Pahor jointly addressed the forum.

During the visit of EAM in September 2021, a Business Meet was organised where EAM addressed the businessmen and stake holders from Slovenia-India Business Forum.

India was a partner/focus country at the 61st International Fair of Agriculture and Food (AGRA) Fair 2023, held from 26 to 31 August 2023, in Gornja Radgona, Slovenia.

An India-Slovenia Business Meet was organized on 05 December 2023. The Indian delegation included representatives from logistics and construction, aviation, new and renewable energy, education, manpower & HR consultants, and hospitality sectors. Over 25 leading businesspersons of Slovenia participated in the meet.

A delegation of Slovenian logistics companies visited India between 19 and 25 November 2023 as part of a systemic promotion of Slovenia as a logistics platform towards Central and South East Europe for Asian markets. The delegation visited Mumbai, and Chennai and interacted with companies such as Vedanta, KEC, Cosco Shipping, Polyhose, and Breaks India.

India-Slovenia Business Council:

An India-Slovenia Business council was constituted in September 2013 under the ambit of Slovenian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIS) in Ljubljana. In 2016, the council disintegrated and started functioning as an informal group. During the visit of EAM in September 2021, announcement was made to re-establish it.

Major Slovenian companies present in Indian Market are: KRKA, Lek, Le Technika, Gostol, Litostroj, Bosio, BIA Separations, Rudis, Cablex, Adria, Iskraemeco, Mahle Letrika roots, etc. FDI Investment from Slovenia in India during April 2000 to December 2024 as per DPIIT figures is around USD 18.65 million.

The Mission launched a bi-monthly economic bulletin 'INDIJA' in Slovene language during the event held on 12 September 2025 in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Slovenia. The bulletin will focus on key highlights of the Indian economy and will play an important role in bringing the business community in Slovenia closer to India.

The First India-Slovenia Day of Science, Innovation, Smart Technologies and Economy was organised in collaboration with the Slovenian Science Foundation on 25-26 September 2025.

India Chapter of India-Slovenia Science, Innovation, Technology and Economy Network of India and Slovenian experts for Science and technology was launched on 09 April 2024. Slovenia Chapter was launched in June 2024.

Cultural Relations

India and Slovenia signed Cultural Exchange Agreement in year 1996 for cooperation in the fields of culture, arts, education, sports and mass media.

There is significant interest in Slovenia in the study of Indology, Indian languages, and Indian culture. Ms. Vlasta Pacheiner Klander, who passed away in 2025, made a substantial contribution to the promotion of the Hindi language and Vedic studies in Slovenia. In recognition of her efforts, she was conferred the World Sanskrit Award in 2023. Sanskrit has been taught continuously for the past 100 years at the Department of General and Comparative Linguistics, University of Ljubljana, since the university's establishment.

Mr. Evald Flisar, a prominent figure in contemporary Slovenian literature, has had his works translated into Bengali and Hindi.

Ayurveda in Slovenia is quite popular amongst Slovene people. The 5th International Ayurveda Congress, was hosted as a part of the 11th European Congress for Integrative Medicine from 21 to 23 September 2018 in Ljubljana.

Establishment of an India Study Centre was announced during the visit of EAM in September 2021. An MoU was signed between ICCR and Nova University in September 2024. The study centre will foster collaboration in the field of education by organising training programmes and exchange of academicians.

Slovenian population is also appreciative of India's performing arts, especially cinema as well as visual arts. Some of the Indian films, especially from South Indian industry have been shot in different locations of Slovenia.

In Slovenia, there are busts of – (i) Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore in Maribor; (ii) Mahatma Gandhi in Slovenje Gradec; and (iii) Jawarhar Lal Nehru in Gorinska Brda.

The Embassy organized a Bollywood Film Festival in Slovenia in 2026, featuring screenings of films Lagaan, Pyaasa, Queen, and Umrao Jaan. The festival was well received by local audiences and generated considerable appreciation among film enthusiasts.

Indian Community

There are approximately 3000 PIOs/Indian nationals in Slovenia, comprising mostly of researchers/students or working in hospitality industry with few of them also owning personal businesses. An Indian Association in Slovenia has been established.

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