

## Embassy of India, Guatemala City

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### India – Honduras Bilateral Relations

#### **Political:**

Indian Embassy in Guatemala is concurrently accredited to Honduras. India has an Honorary Consul General in Tegucigalpa, capital of Honduras. Honduras has requested for permission for opening its Embassy in New Delhi; India has duly accorded the permission. Honduras is now in the process of opening its Embassy in New Delhi. Ambassador Sajeev Babu Kurup presented credentials to Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado on June 9, 2016.

#### **Visits from India:**

April, 2015: Mr. R. Swaminathan, Special Secretary (AMS & CPV), led the Indian delegation to Honduras for the first Foreign Office Consultations.

#### **Visits from Honduras:**

April, 2008: Honduran Defence Minister Aristides Mejia Carranza and held meetings with officials of Exim Bank and companies supplying equipment under the LOC.

June, 2008: Vice Foreign Minister Eduardo Enrique Garcia Reina to attend the second India-SICA Foreign Ministers' meeting.

Jan. 2013: The Honduran Agriculture Minister Jacobo Regalado and met Shri Tariq Anwar, MoS (Agriculture), Shri Pinak Chakravarty, Secretary (ER), MEA, Dr. S. Ayyappan, Secretary (DARE) and visited IARI, Pusa.

Feb. 2013: Vice Defence Minister Carlos Robeto Funes to attend the AERO India 2013 in Bangalore.

Oct. 2014: Mr. Alten Rivera Montes, Minister of Economic Development to attend the VI India-LAC Investment Conclave.

#### **Bilateral Agreements:**

- Agreement for extending a Line of Credit worth US\$ 30 million between the Government of Honduras and the EXIM Bank of India signed in August 2006.
- MOU for setting up an IT Center in Tegucigalpa signed on January 2008.
- Agreement on waiver of visas for diplomatic and official passports
- MoU on Foreign Office Consultations were signed during the second India-SICA Foreign Ministers' meeting in Delhi in June 2008.

**Trade & other delegations from India:**

March, 2012: A 3-member Bharat Electronics Ltd.(BEL), Bangalore team led by General Manager, visited Honduras to successfully renew issues arising from maintenance and repairs of equipments supplied earlier under LOC by BEL.

March, 2013: Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONSIL) for BSM.

**Trade & other delegations from Honduras:**

April, 2006: Two prominent tour operators from Honduras participated in the Tourism Workshop for LAC region in New Delhi.

June, 2007: Two delegates from Honduras participated in the Pharma-LAC Conference in Hyderabad.

March, 2013: Five delegates from Honduran companies selected by Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) to participate at INDIASOFT 2013 at Kolkata under Hosted Buyers Programme of Department of Commerce.

**Trade and Economic:****Indo-Honduras Trade** (in million US \$)

Year ( April - March)	Imports from Honduras	Exports to Honduras	Total trade	% Growth
2010-2011	01.43	063.07	064.50	-08.99
2011-2012	07.77	091.66	099.43	54.15
2012-2013	17.82	109.99	127.82	28.55
2013-2014	22.59	107.90	130.49	02.09
2014-2015	25.31	187.56	212.87	63.14
2015-2016	15.91	155.05	170.96	-19.68
2016(April-September)	02.41	035.53	037.94	--

**Items of Export by India:** Tanning & dyeing extracts, rubber products, iron & steel, pharmaceuticals, cotton, etc.

**Items of Import by India:** Iron & steel, aluminium articles, etc.

An Indo-Canadian joint venture silk yarn knitting factory is functioning in the industrial city of San Pedro Sula since 2006.

A Trade Promotion Event was organized by the Embassy on 4<sup>th</sup> October, in the city of San Pedro Sula—the economic capital of Honduras, in association with the Honduran Chamber of Commerce and with the collaboration of a Guatemalan enterprise, Stratech, representing major Indian brands in Central America. The virtual meeting consisted participation from Indian companies representing sectors like IT, education, bicycles,

home appliances, textiles, pharma, jewellery, restaurants, etc. and around 50 local companies in Honduras.

### **India Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC)**

Government of India has offered 15 ITEC slots to Honduras for 2016-17. All the slots have been fully utilized before the mid-term.

**Line of Credit:** In 2014, India approved a US \$ 26.5 million Line of Credit for Jamastran River Valley Irrigation Project. The Agreement was signed in August, 2016 and the project is being executed by an Indian company, Apollo International. The preliminary work on the project has already started.

A Line of Credit worth US \$ 30 mn. was approved in 2006 for purchase of transport, communication and medical equipments. Most of the equipments have already been shipped. So far, US \$ 26.63 mn. has been used and the Honduran government's proposal for using the balance amount (US \$ 3.37 mn.) is under consideration.

### **Donations:**

- India donated medicines and medical supplies worth Rs.3.38 lakhs to Honduras in 1998.
- In the wake of a serious drought in Central America in 2005, GOI donated medicines worth US \$10,000 to Honduras in October 2005.
- GOI also donated 26 Bajaj three-wheelers in November 2005.
- Assistance to the tune of US \$ 83,905 was given in 2016 to the Honduran National Autonomous University in Tegucigalpa, under the Grant-in-Aid of the LAC Division, for buying new equipments for the IT Centre which was set up with GOI assistance in 2008.

### **IT Centre:**

As part of India's offer to set up IT Training Centers in SICA countries, an IT center has been set up at and handed over to the Honduran National Autonomous University in Tegucigalpa and training was provided by NIIT during 2008-2011. So far, more than 20,000 students have been trained in the Center.

### **Cultural linkages:**

September, 2004: The first ever dance performance by an Indian troupe took place when a Bharatanatyam dance troupe led by Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant performed in Honduras.

September, 2011: An ICCR-sponsored, 8-member dance troupe led by Dr. Sonal Mansingh performed "NAYIKAA" to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Nobel-laureate Dr. Rabindranath Tagore.

October, 2011: An ICCR-sponsored, 15-member Odissi dance group led by Ms. Sutapa Talukdar performed 'Shyama' at the most prestigious National Theatre.

Yoga is followed by many and there are a number of yoga schools in Honduras. The Embassy hosted the Second International Yoga Day in the city of San Pedro Sula, Honduras on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 and in the city of Tegucigalpa (capital) on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2016, in association with the municipality of the cities of San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa and various yoga schools. Honduran Vice Foreign Minister Maria del Carmen Nasser took part in the Yoga day events. Over 300 people participated in the Yoga Day events.

**Indian Community:**

There is hardly any Indian community; the number of Indians is about a dozen including a few Mother Teresa missionary nuns.

**Useful Resources:**

For more information and latest updates, please visit Embassy of India in Guatemala website: <http://www.indemguatemala.org>

Embassy of India, Guatemala Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/EmbajadaIndiaGuatemala>

Embassy of India, Guatemala Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/IndianEmbassyGT>

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