

India-Venezuela Relations

India and Venezuela share a history of warm relations. There is a similarity of views on major international, political and economic issues. This strong partnership extends beyond bilateral cooperation, as both nations actively collaborate in multilateral forums. The two countries marked the 66th Anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations in 2025. Resident Embassies have been in Caracas and New Delhi for over four decades.

Political

2. A major thrust to the bilateral relationship was imparted by former President Hugo Chavez's State Visit to India on 4-7 March 2005. He held bilateral talks with former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. Six Agreements/MoUs were signed including on setting up of a Joint Commission and cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector.

3. At the invitation of Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal, Venezuelan Executive Vice President Dr. Delcy Rodriguez, accompanied by four other Ministers as well as a 25-member business delegation, visited India to participate in the *9th CII-LAC Conclave* from August 3-5, 2023. Venezuelan FM Yvan Gil met EAM on the sidelines of NAM Summit held at Kampala during 19-20 January 2024 and held discussions on issues of mutual interest.

4. Venezuela has participated in all the 3 rounds of *Voice of Global South Summits (VOGSS)*, in January 2023, in November 2023 as well as in August 2024. Former Minister of Industry and National Production, Tareck Al Aissami had attended the Energy Ministers Session of the VOGSS in January 2023. Benjamin Bustamante, Director General of Alternative Energy and National Representative in the International Solar Alliance took part in the 2nd VOGSS, and Hernán Gabriel Toro Hernández, Vice Minister of Environmental Management Service participated in the Environment Session of 3rd VOGSS.

5. Vice President Delcy Rodriguez visited Delhi on 25-26 October 2024. During the visit she held discussions with Uprashtraptiji, and the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and executives of Reliance Industries Limited.

6. Vice President Delcy Rodriguez, accompanied by an official delegation that included Coromoto Godoy, Minister of Foreign Trade and Daniela Cabello Contreras, Vice Minister of Export Promotion, visited Delhi on 11-14 February 2025 to participate in the *India Energy Week*. The delegation held discussions with Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Commerce & Industry Minister. Separately, Minister Coromoto Godoy held meetings with FICCI, NOIDA SEZ and private businesses.

7. At the invitation of CIM Shri Piyush Goyal, Venezuelan Minister of Foreign Trade, Coromoto Godoy accompanied by Tatiana Pugh, Vice Minister for Asia, Middle East and Oceania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, participated in the *10th CII-LAC Conclave* from 19-20 March 2025. During the visit, she held a meeting with MoS for Commerce & Industry.

8. A 2-member delegation led by Minister for Ecological Mining Development, Hector Silva visited India on 14-15 November 2025 to participate in the 30th CII Partnership Summit held in Visakhapatnam. He met CIM Shri Piyush Goyal and discussed about cooperation in the critical minerals sector.

9. Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi held a telephonic conversation with the Acting President Delcy Rodriguez on 30 January 2026 in which they discussed bilateral cooperation in the oil and critical minerals sectors. Delcy Rodriguez sought the support of India for their membership in BRICS. The leaders extended invitations to each other for bilateral visits to respective countries.

Commercial

10. Total bilateral trade between India and Venezuela in FY 2025-26 was US\$ 678.94 million with Indian exports of US\$ 210.02 million and Indian imports of US\$ 468.92 million. In 2024-25, Bilateral trade between India and Venezuela amounted to US\$ 1,863.70 million, out of which US\$ 216.99 mn constitute India's exports to Venezuela, and US\$ 1,646.71 mn is India's imports from Venezuela. An MOU on the establishment of an Indo-Venezuelan Joint Commission was signed during President Chavez's visit to India in 2005. Shri Rao Inderjit Singh, formerly Minister of State (Foreign Affairs), led the Indian delegation for the first session of the Joint Commission in August 2005 in Caracas.

11. Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, former MoS for Trade and Industry, together with a 20-member IIC business delegation, made an official visit to Venezuela on July 8-9, 2012. Bilateral talks were held with the Venezuelan Minister of Commerce, the Minister of Health, Deputy Foreign Minister and Vice President of PDVSA. Minister of State (independent charge) for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan met former Oil and Mining Minister Mr. Asdrúbal Chavez on June 4, 2015, in Vienna.

12. The main items of India's exports are mineral fuels and oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances, pharmaceutical products, cotton, nuclear reactors, boilers, etc. The main items of India's imports from Venezuela are mineral fuels and oils and products of their distillation, bituminous substances; mineral waxes, iron and steel, aluminium, etc.

13. ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) and Corporacion Venezolana del Petroleo (CVP) (subsidiary of PDVSA) have a joint venture called "Petroleralndovenezolana SA" for the production and exploration of oil in the San Cristóbal field, in which OVL has 40% stake, while PDVSA has 60% of the remaining stake. The OVL investment in the San Cristóbal project is approximately US\$ 200 million.

14. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has a 15-year crude supply contract with PDVSA. RIL had obtained OFAC license from US Treasury in February 2026 for crude imports from Venezuela.

15. India and Venezuela signed the MoU for the recognition of Indian Pharmacopoeia to strengthen cooperation in pharma sector on 17 March 2026.

Culture

16. There is a significant interest and appreciation for Indian art and culture in Venezuela. Ayurveda is gaining popularity and has been acknowledged as an alternative system of medical treatment in a health regulation issued by the Government of Venezuela in February 2001. The first AYUSH Information Cell of Venezuela was established in Gran Fraternidad Universal, Maracay in July 2017. The International Day of Yoga (IDY) has been celebrated in Venezuela annually since 2015.

17. Gandhi Hall was inaugurated in Maracay, Venezuela, on October 30, 2018, in a joint ceremony by the Mission and Gran Fraternidad Universal, Venezuela.

Capacity building

18. Based on a proposal recommended by the Mission and the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry to execute a community project in collaboration *El Sistema*, a social action music programme, the ministry conveyed its in-principle approval in Feb 2025 to offer a grant of US\$ 976,500 under the *India-UNDP Development Partnership Fund*. The project was formally inaugurated by Vice President Delcy Rodriguez on 22 September 2025.

19. In 2024-25, 29 of the 30 ITEC slots allotted to Venezuela were utilised. Also, 2 Venezuelan students have availed opportunities under *Atal Bihari Vajpayee General Scholarship Scheme* for doing PG degree courses at Delhi University. In 2025-26, despite efforts of the mission and good reception, the Mission could utilize only 17 ITEC slots due to disruption of air connectivity with Venezuela.

Global South Commitment

20. A consignment of approx 2.7 tonnes of life-saving vaccines from India arrived at Caracas on 16 Nov 2025.

Indian community

21. There are around 50 NRIs and 30 PIOs in Venezuela.

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(May 2026)