
INDIA - INDONESIA BILATERAL RELATIONS

India and Indonesia share two-millennia old close cultural and commercial contacts. Hindu, Buddhist and later Muslim faith traveled to Indonesia from the shores of India. Independent India and Indonesia became chief votaries of independence of Asian and African countries, the spirit of which led to historic Bandung Conference of 1955 and later formation of Non-Aligned Movement in 1961. Since the adoption of India's 'Look East Policy' in 1991, and its upgradation to 'Act East' in 2014, there has been a rapid development of bilateral relations in political, security, defence, commercial and cultural fields. India and Indonesia commemorated 75 years of establishment of diplomatic relations in 2024.

2. India-Indonesia relations got a fillip during the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Jakarta in 2018. Both countries signed Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and welcomed the adoption of the 'Shared Vision on Maritime Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific between India and Indonesia' which led to further deepening of the bilateral relations in defence sector.

3. At the invitation of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, President of Indonesia, H.E. Mr. Prabowo Subianto paid a State Visit to India from 23-26 January 2025. He also attended the celebrations of the 76th Republic Day of India as the Chief Guest. This was the first visit of President Prabowo to India in his current capacity as President and coincided with the 75th Anniversary of India-Indonesia Diplomatic Relations, a milestone that reflects the enduring friendship and deep-rooted historical ties between the two countries. A 352 member marching contingent of Indonesian Armed Forces took part in the Republic Day Parade 2026.

Recent High level Visits from India and Indonesia

4. Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Pabitra Margherita visited Jakarta as Special Envoy of the Prime Minister to attend the inauguration ceremony of President and Vice-President of Indonesia on 20 October 2024. A All-Party Parliamentary Delegation, led by Hon'ble MP Mr. Sanjay Kumar Jha, arrived in Jakarta (28-31 May 2025) as part of India's diplomatic outreach on Operation Sindoor. The delegation comprised of senior serving members of Parliament of India, senior political figures and former diplomats to various countries.

5. Mr. Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno, then Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy visited India to take part in the Raisina Dialogue on 23rd February 2024. On 27 August 2025, Human Rights Minister Natalius Pigai visited India to deepen cooperation and study its human rights practices. Culture Minister of Indonesia Mr. Fadli Zon took part in the WAVES 2025 Summit in India. Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin arrived in New Delhi for the Third India-Indonesia Defence Ministers' Dialogue (29 Nov), co-chaired with Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh. Mr. Nezar Patria, Vice Minister of Communication and Digital Affairs of Indonesia, visited India in February to attend the Global AI Summit 2026 in New Delhi. Foreign Minister Sugiono visited India from 13-15 May 2026 to participate in the BRICS FMM in New Delhi.

BILATERAL INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS

6. **Joint Commission Meeting:** Set up in 2001 at the level of the Foreign Ministers; 7th JCM was held on 17 June 2022 in New Delhi was co-chaired by EAM Dr. S Jaishankar and former Foreign Minister of Indonesia Ms. Retno Marsudi. EAM and FM, Sugiono co-chaired the 8th India–Indonesia Joint Commission Meeting in New Delhi on 7 June 2026.

7. **Foreign Office Consultations:** 8th FOC took place between the two countries on 26 September 2024 at New Delhi.

8. **India Indonesia Security Dialogue:** Shri Ajit Doval co-chaired the 2nd India-Indonesia Security Dialogue (IISD) with Dr. Mohammad Mahfud, former Coordinating Minister of Political, Legal and Security Affairs on 17 March 2022 in Indonesia. 3rd IISD is scheduled for 9-10 June 2026 in Jakarta.

9. **Defence Ministers' Dialogue:** Defence Minister **Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin visited India for the Third India–Indonesia Defence Ministers' Dialogue (29 Nov)**, co-chaired with Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh

10. **Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting** – Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane and Air Marshal Donny Ermawan Taufanto, Secretary General of the Ministry of Defence, Indonesia co-chaired the 7th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting in New Delhi on May 03, 2024.

11. A number of **important forums** exist between the two sides including 1. Biennial Trade Ministers' Forum (BTMF); 2. Energy Forum; 3. CEOs Forum; 4. India Indonesia Pharmaceutical and Health-care Industry Forum; 5. India Indonesia Infrastructure Forum; 6. India-Indonesia Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI)

12. Apart from above there exists a number of **JWG/Consulation/dialogue mechanisms** between the two countries in area of 1. Counter Terrorism; 2. Narcotics; 3. S&T cooperation; 4. Cooperation in Outer Space; 5. Oil and Gas; 6. New and Renewable Energy; 7. Agriculture; 8. Civil aviation; 9. Coal; 10. Andaman Aceh Connectivity; 11. Policy Planning Dialogue; 12. Consular Dialogue; 13. Inter-faith Dialogue; 14. India-Indonesia Track 1.5 Dialogue.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

13. Indonesia has emerged as the second largest trading partner of India in the ASEAN region. Bilateral trade has increased from US\$ 4.3 billion in 2005-06 to US\$ 38.84 billion in 2022-23 and US\$ 28.15 billion in 2024-25. India is the second largest buyer of coal and largest buyer of crude palm oil from Indonesia and imports minerals, rubber, pulp and paper and hydrocarbons reserves. India exports refined petroleum products, commercial vehicles, telecommunication equipment, agriculture commodities, bovine meat, steel products and plastics to Indonesia.

14. Growth of Bilateral Trade between India and Indonesia

2020-21 to 2025-26 (US\$ million)

Period	India's Exports	India's Imports	Total Trade
2020-21	5026.21	12470.17	17496.38
2021-22	8471.51	17702.83	26174.34

2022-23	10024.30	28820.41	38844.71
2023-24	5988.88	23410.67	29399.55
2024-25	5380.00	22778.45	28158.45
2025-26 (Apr 2025-Feb 2026)	4112.31	18610.71	22723.02

Source: Dept of Commerce, India

15. There are about 100 Indian investments / Joint Ventures in Indonesia. As per Indonesian authorities, Indian investment in Indonesia is USD 1.56 billion in 7292 projects during 2000-2024. Indonesia's investment in India is limited to about US\$ 668.37 million (January 2000 - September 2025) (Source: DPIIT, India)

16. There has been increase of frequencies of Air India from 7 times weekly to 10 times per week on the Delhi - Bali sector to cater to the growing demand for two way tourism between India and Indonesia. However, there is no connectivity between the Jakarta – Delhi. At present in January 2026, there are four (4) sectors b/w India & Indonesia, :- Jakarta- Mumbai; Bali-Bengaluru; Bali-Mumbai; Bali-Delhi. India emerged as second largest source of tourists to '**Bali**' in 2023, after Australia. Overall in 2024, in terms of tourists to Indonesia, India stood at fifth position (7.1 Lakhs tourists), behind Malaysia, Australia, Singapore, and China, however the tourist outflow from Indonesia to India only remains in thousands.

DEFENCE COOPERATION

17. Defence Relations between maritime neighbours, India and Indonesia, are a testament to the bilateral cooperation, collaboration and partnership. Established in 1951, formal agreement in Defence Cooperation was signed in 2001 and renewed in 2006. Both countries signed MoU on Defence Cooperation during the visit of PM Modi to Indonesia in 2018.

18. India and Indonesia cooperate in all facets of military engagements - Exercises/ Patrols, Training/ Courses, Bilateral & Multilateral Exercises, conclaves, symposiums & events, Subject Matter Experts Exchanges (SMEEs) and Defence Industry. Some of the cooperation activities are mentioned below:-

- Covid-19 response
- IND-INDO CORPAT
- Multilateral Naval Exercise Komodo
- Multilateral Naval Exercise Milan
- Bilateral Army Exercise 10th edition Garuda Shakti
- Bilateral Naval Exercise 5th edition Samudra Shakti
- Joint Defence Cooperation Committee
- Services Staff Talks
- Indian Coast Guard – Bakamla Cooperation
- Cross visits/ OTR of Warships and Aircraft
- Training Exchanges
- Subject Matter Experts Exchange
- ADMM Plus
- India-Indonesia Defence Industry Exhibition-cum-Seminar
- ASEAN Plus Cadet Sail

- Ex Elang Shakti
- Ex Super Garuda Shield 2025
- Hydrographic Cooperation
- Foreign Study Tour (16 member NDC delegation visited recently in 2025)
- Staff level intellex

19. Indonesian Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin later visited New Delhi for the Third India–Indonesia Defence Ministers’ Dialogue on 29 November, co-chaired with India’s Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. CNS, Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi visited Indonesia from 15-18 December 2024 and met with Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin, Chief of Indonesia Defence Forces General Agus Subiyanto and Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad. First ever "India-Indonesia Defence Industry Exhibition-cum-Seminar" was held on 30 April 2024 at Jakarta. Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan paid an official visit to Indonesia (26-31 October) aimed at further deepening defense cooperation under the India–Indonesia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

20. In 2026, INS Sunayna, indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel, made a goodwill port visit to Jakarta from April 22-24, 2026, as part of - Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) Mission, comprising participants/ crew from 16 nations. Prior to this the recent ship visits in 2025 include goodwill visit by indigenously built ASW Corvette INS Kadmatt at Surabaya and Makassar in Sept and Oct 2025, INS Sandhayak at Jakarta in July 2025, guided missile destroyer INS Mumbai at Jakarta in January 2025.

COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

21. On 19 March 2024, signing ceremony of Implementation Agreement on Transfer of Title of Integrated Biak Telemetry, Tracking and Command (TTC) Facilities and Implementing Arrangement on Operation, Maintenance and Utilisation of Integrated Biak Telemetry, Tracking and Command (TTC) Facilities for Satellites and Launch Vehicles between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) took place at Jakarta, Indonesia. The MoU on Scientific and Technological Cooperation was signed during the visit of Prime Minister of India to Indonesia in May 2018. On 19 March 2024, signing ceremony of Implementation Agreement on Transfer of Title of Integrated Biak Telemetry, Tracking and Command (TTC) Facilities and Implementing Arrangement on Operation, Maintenance and Utilisation of Integrated Biak Telemetry, Tracking and Command (TTC) Facilities for Satellites and Launch Vehicles between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) took place at Jakarta, Indonesia.

CULTURAL CENTRES

22. There are two Indian cultural centres in Indonesia. Jawahar Lal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre (JNICC) was established in 1989 and has been active in creating a cultural connectivity between India and Indonesia. Through JNICC’s outreach, collaborative events, presentations and in house training activities, it has brought together creative minds and extraordinary talents of the two culturally awakened nations. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Bali (formerly

Indian Cultural Centre, Bali) was inaugurated in October 2005 in the premises of Indian Consulate General.

23. On 9 December, on the sidelines of the UNESCO IGC Meeting in New Delhi, India's Ministry of Culture handed over a replica of the 9th-century Nalanda Copper Plate to Indonesia's Ministry of Culture, symbolizing historic Nalanda–Muarajambi ties. Indonesia marked its incorporation into the Muarajambi Museum at a commemorative event attended by Culture Minister Fadli Zon, reflecting strengthening India–Indonesia cultural relations.

COOPERATION IN EDUCATION & ITEC

24. Indonesia is a major recipient of ITEC & TCS of Colombo Plan scholarships. ICCR offers 20 scholarships every year to Indonesian students for pursuing higher studies in India. At present, three ICCR chairs exist in Indonesian universities. The MoU on cooperation in Higher Education between India and Indonesia is currently being discussed by the two sides. ITEC offers 100 slots to Indonesia every year. A 30 member delegation of Indonesian Judges visited India from 24-28 April 2026 to attend special training program at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal under ITEC Programme.

INDIAN COMMUNITY

25. Most of the Indonesians of Indian Origin had migrated to Indonesia during the Dutch/British rule in the 19th & 20th Centuries. There are close to 1,20,000 PIO population in Indonesia. Majority of the PIO community are from South India. A significant number of them are also from North India to include Sindhis (around 10,000), Sikhs (around 10,000), Gujaratis and others. There are around 15,000 Indian Nationals (NRI) living in Indonesia including entrepreneurs, engineers, chartered accountants, IT professionals, consultants, bankers, and other professions.

As on 17 June 2026