

Bilateral Brief on India-Liberia Relations

Political Relations

India and Liberia share long-standing friendly relations. Liberia has supported India's candidature at various United Nations (UN) fora. The Government of India (GOI) opened a resident Mission in capital Monrovia in May, 2021. Opening of the new resident Mission has generated a lot of goodwill and scope for strengthening the already existing friendly relations. Prior to the opening of the Mission, Ambassador of India to Cote d'Ivoire was concurrently accredited to Liberia with residence in Abidjan. Liberia does not have a resident Mission in New Delhi.

Mr. Joseph Nyumah Boakai, Sr., assumed office as the 26th President of Liberia on 22 January, 2024 succeeding Dr. George Manneh Weah by securing a narrow victory in the runoff Presidential elections. Former President of Liberia, Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, was conferred Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for the year 2012.

Liberia signed the MoU for cooperation in the field of Pharmacopoeia and recognised the Indian Pharmacopoeia in Liberia on 11 December 2025.

Liberia joined International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) with the ratification/approval of the Framework Agreement on the Establishment of IBCA on 8 January 2025.

Liberia has signed the Framework Agreement in International Solar Alliance (ISA). The process of ratification by the Liberian Parliament is also underway.

Liberia has joined as non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council on 1st January 2026 for the year 2026-2027.

Visits from Liberia

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf paid a successful State visit to India in September 2013 when the following four Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) were signed:
 - i) Agreement on Establishment of Joint Commission between India and Liberia.
 - ii) MoU between Foreign Service Institutes of India and Liberia.
 - iii) MoU on Cooperation in the field of Oil and Gas between India and Liberia.
 - iv) Agreement between EXIM Bank and Government of Liberia for a Line of Credit of US\$ 144 million for funding a power transmission and distribution project in Liberia. (*The LoC was later cancelled at Liberia's request*).

- The present President Mr. Joseph Nyuma Boakai visited India in 2013 in his capacity as Vice President, leading the Liberian delegation including the Minister for Public Works, to the 9th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave held in New Delhi from March 17-19, 2013.
- Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung visited India to participate in the 19th CII India Africa Business Conclave held in New Delhi from August 20-23, 2024.

3rd IAFS Participation: President Sirleaf led a high-level delegation on her second visit to India in October 2015 to participate at the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi. She held bilateral talks with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on October 30, 2015. The Liberian Foreign Minister also had a bilateral meeting with the then EAM on 28 October, 2015.

Participation in CII-India Africa Business Conclaves: Dr. Richard Tolbert, Chairman of the National Investment Commission of Liberia and Dr. Frederick Norkey, Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry attended the 5th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership in Delhi in March 2009. Commerce Minister, Ms. Miata Beysolow visited India to participate in the 8th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave and the 2nd India-Africa Trade Ministers' Conference in March 2012. Ms. Martha C Morris, Deputy Minister for Administration and Mr. Malayah Tamba Chieyoe, Deputy Minister for Planning and Policy from Ministry of Health participated in the 19th CII India Africa Business Conclave held in New Delhi from August 20-23, 2024.

Other Ministerial visits

- A 3 member Liberian delegation led by Cllr. Jeddi Mowbray Armah, Deputy Minister for Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) visited India for the India-UN Consultations on 29-30 December 2025.
- Minister of Commerce and Industry of Liberia, Ms. Magdalene Dagoseh, attended the second edition of Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue, in Mumbai, India, from October 27 to 29, 2025.
- Mr. Charles Umehai, Deputy Minister for Energy accompanied by Mr. Samuel Bocay Nagbe, the Executive Director for Rural Renewable Energy Agency (RREA) of Liberia attended the 8th session of the ISA Assembly held in New Delhi from 27 to 30 October 2025.
- Dr. Teyah Sackie Moore, Assistant Minister for Curative Services, Ministry of Health of Liberia attended 2nd WHO Global Conference on Traditional Medicine held in New Delhi on 17-19 December 2025.

- Minister of Internal Affairs of Liberia, Francis Sakila Nyumalin, led a 3-member delegation to India to participate in the 21st General Session of the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) Conference, held in New Delhi from 21-24 February 2025.
- Minister of Mines and Energy, Mr. Wilmot J. M. Paye visited India to attend the 7th Session of the Assembly of International Solar Alliance held at New Delhi from 3-6 November 2024.
- Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr. Sekou M. Kromah, visited India to attend Global Standards Symposium (GSS) / World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024 held at New Delhi from 14-15 October 2024.
- Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Gbehzohngar M. Findley visited India to attend First International Solar Alliance Summit from March 10-11, 2018.

Other visits

- A group of 30 Liberian mining officers, geologists and mining engineers attended a specialized ITEC training programme on Occupational Health, Safety, and Inspection for Mining and Exploration at IICM Ranchi from 2 to 13 February 2026.
- Mr. Emmanuel Nyuma Bawoh, Peace & Security Officer, office of the Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited India to participate in 6th D&ISA fellowship program organized at SSIFS, New Delhi from 12-30 January 2026.
- Mr. Bai Sama G. Best, Managing Director of the Daily Observer Newspaper and Ms. Christiana W. Jimmy, Managing Editor of The Inquirer Newspaper, visited India to participate in a familiarization programme in India organized by XP Division for Editors / Journalists from Africa, Papua New Guinea and Pacific Islands to Visit India from 13-22 January, 2026.
- Mr. Wilson W. Boe, Coordinator of Joint Security at Liberia's Ministry of Justice, represented Liberia at the International Conference held on 1-2 December 2025 on "50 Years of BWC: Strengthening Bio-security for the Global South."
- Ms. Moses Gbanyan, Deputy Minister for Extension, Ministry of Agriculture visited India to attend World Food India 2024 held at Delhi from 19-22 September 2024.
- The former First Lady of Liberia, Mrs. Clar Marie Weah visited India to attend the 10th Edition of the Merck Foundation Africa Asia Luminary Conference and Merck

Foundation First Ladies Initiative Summit organized by the Merck Foundation in Mumbai on October 18-19, 2023.

- Former Deputy Minister of Defence for Operations, Mr. Prince Kollie Vincent, visited India to participate in the DefExpo and India Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD) 2022 held in Gandhinagar from 18-22 October 2022. He again led a high-level Defence delegation to India to participate in the Aero India 2023 and SPEED- Defence Ministers' Conclave-2023 held in Bengaluru from 13-16 February 2023.

Visits from India to Liberia

Ministerial level visits

- Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri M. J. Akbar visited Liberia from March 1-2, 2018.
- Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Shri G. M. Siddeshwara visited Monrovia from September 10-11, 2015 to personally hand over to the Liberian President, Prime Minister's invitation for the 3rd India Africa Forum Summit at New Delhi.
- Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs, Shri Vayalar Ravi, visited Liberia in February 2010.
- Minister of State for External Affairs, Dr. Shashi Tharoor visited Liberia from September 16-19, 2009, accompanied by a CII business delegation. It was the first visit by an Indian Foreign Minister since Sardar Swaran Singh's visit to the country in 1971. President Sirleaf characterized the visit of Dr. Tharoor as "a landmark visit".

Other visits

- A 9-member All-Party Delegation from India, led by Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde, Member of Parliament, visited Liberia from May 31- June 2, 2025. The objective of the visit, which took place in aftermath of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22, 2025 in which 26 tourists were killed, was to strengthen global consensus on zero tolerance for terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. During the visit, the delegation met with President, Foreign Minister, President Pro Tempore of the Senate (Upper House), Speaker of the House of Representatives (Lower House), and other dignitaries.
- The First ever Foreign Office Consultation (FOC) between India and Liberia took place in Monrovia on 17 December 2024. The FOC was Co-Chaired by Shri Sevala Naik Mude, Additional Secretary (C&WA), MEA, and Mrs. Sara Beysolow

Nyanti, Foreign Minister of Liberia. During the FOC, both sides undertook a comprehensive review of the entire gamut of India-Liberia bilateral relations including trade, investment, mining, agriculture, health & pharmaceuticals, education, capacity building and people to people exchanges. During his visit, Shri Mude also met with the President, Vice President, Ministers of Health, Commerce & Industry, and Agriculture of Liberia and discussed various issues of mutual interest.

- Deployment of Indian Army's contingent under United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) during 2007-16 was well appreciated by Liberia. The first-ever all women contingent in the history of UN peacekeeping - the Female Formed Police Unit of the CRPF to the UNMIL was deployed in Liberia during 2007-16. This contingent generated enormous goodwill for India during its long deployment and has also been a source of inspiration for the Liberian women and public in general.

Voice of Global South Summit (VOGSS)

VOGSS 3.0: Dr. Catherine T. Cooper, Deputy Minister for Health Services and Chief Medical Officer of Liberia, Ministry of Health & Social Welfare of Liberia and Mrs. Tanneh G. Brunson, Deputy Minister for Budget and Development Planning, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning of Liberia, participated in the Health Ministers' Session and Finance Ministers' Session of Voice of the Global South Summit [VOGSS 3.0] respectively - organised virtually by India on August 17, 2024.

VOGSS 1.0 & 2.0: Dr. Wilhemina S. Jallah, Health Minister of Liberia and Mrs. Tanneh G. Brunson, Deputy Minister for Budget and Development Planning, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning of Liberia, participated in the Voice of the Global South Summit [VOGSS] - Health Ministers' Session, and VOGSS 2.0 – Finance Ministers' Session organised virtually by India on January 13, 2023 and November 17, 2023 respectively.

Economic and Commercial Relations

Bilateral trade between India and Liberia has seen steady growth, with India being one of Liberia's key trading partners. Bilateral trade stood at US\$397 Million in 2024-25, largely driven by India's export to Liberia, with a significant growth of 55% y-o-y basis. During 2024-25, the bilateral trade figure was US\$ 397 million. There is a potential for significant increase in the bilateral trade.

The bilateral trade figures during the last five years are as follows:

(Figures in US\$ million US\$)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total	Trade Balance
2019-20	219.52	7.75	227.27	211.77
2020-21	225.65	6.95	232.60	218.70
2021-22	247.05	21.20	268.25	225.85

2022-23	257.15	26.80	283.95	230.35
2023-24	243.29*	12.46	255.75	230.83
2024-25	376.33	20.39	396.72	355.94
2025-26 (Apr-Jan)	282.17	30.31	312.48	251.86

Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

The main items of **export from India** are food stuff particularly rice, engineering goods, pharmaceuticals products, Ceramic products, two and three wheelers, transport equipment, articles of steel, iron and aluminium, and plastic and rubber products. **Imports from Liberia** mainly include animals and vegetable fats and oils, metals scrap, wood and articles of wood and natural rubber.

An important feature of bilateral trade relationship is Liberia's inclusion in India's Duty-Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme in 2012, which helps boost Liberian export like timber, vegetable oil, and rubber. The DFTP provides zero duty and preferential market access to LDCs on more than 98% of India's tariff lines.

India is a preferred destination for higher education and medical treatment among the Liberians.

Arcelor Mittal, a PIO company invested in mining started exporting iron ore from Liminco mine since July 2011.

Sesa Goa (a subsidiary of Vedanta Resources), has invested in Liberia by acquiring the \$1.6 billion-Western Cluster iron ore project, known to be one of the largest deposits in Africa. The integrated project site consists of three iron ore deposits namely Mano River, the western portion of the Bomi Hills and the never exploited Bea Mountain.

Hyderabad based L. V. Prasad Eye Institute Collaborative Center is a modern eye clinic inaugurated by former Liberian President on 24 July, 2017 at JFK Memorial Hospital in Monrovia.

AFCONS Infrastructure Limited (part of the Shapoorji Pallonji (SP) Group) operates in Liberia as sub-contractor under Arcelor Mittal undertaking the infrastructure components of the company.

Star Cement Company and Sethi Ferro Fabrik Inc. are 100% Indian owned cement and steel manufacturing plants respectively owned by Sethi Brothers, one of the leading business groups in Liberia. Star Cement is the only second cement factory after CEMENCO, a German company, in Liberia. The Sethi Brothers also own Plastic factories, Bottling, and Recycling plants in Liberia.

Jeety Rubber Liberia Limited Corporation (JRLLC), a 100% Indian owned rubber processing plant, owned by Mr. Upjit Singh Sachdeva, a leading Indian businessman in Liberia, is located at Weala, Margibi County. The Plant has recently started its production activities. In its initial stage, the company has planned to produce processed rubber only

for exportation purposes. In later stages, the company is expected to produce tyres and other rubber products like hand gloves, rain boots, and rubber bands, among others. In August 2024, JRLLC, took over Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC), a subsidiary of Socfinaf S.A., a Belgian-French agricultural conglomerate, and one of the largest rubber plantations in Liberia.

Development Partnership

The EXIM Bank of India has extended a GOI supported LOC worth US\$50 Mn to ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) for construction of 50 km long Barclayville – Sasstown - Klowne Road in Grad Kru County of Liberia. Consultancy services for the project are being provided by the Consulting Engineers Group Ltd.(CEG). Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been approved and go ahead has been given to EBID by the EXIM Bank. An EPC contractor has been selected and work is expected to start during this year.

Government of India (GOI) contributed SDR 11.15 million towards the IMF's Financial Package for Liberia's Debt Relief in October 2007. India provided agricultural assistance package consisting of pesticides and sprayers to the Liberian government in 2009 to help combat emergency situation caused by caterpillar infestation. In order to improve the non-existent transport system of Liberia, India gifted 25 buses in 2010 which has been a visible example of India's assistance to improve daily lives of thousands of Liberians. Liberia was severely affected by Ebola during 2014-15. It was declared Ebola free by WHO on 9 May 2015. GOI stood by Liberia during these difficult times and extended bilateral assistance of over US\$ 50,000 to Liberia to fight Ebola. In addition, GOI provided cash assistance of US\$ 500,000 to the WHO as well as contribution of US\$ 10 million to the UN Fund for Ebola and additional US\$ 2 million for purchase of protective gear to tackle Ebola for the 3 Ebola affected countries of West Africa including Liberia (Agreement on contribution of US\$12 Million was signed on December 9, 2014). In August 2014, the Indian Community in Liberia also donated assorted anti-Ebola related material worth more than US\$ 200,000 to the National Task Force on Ebola. The donation was received by President Sirleaf personally. In December 2014, India again gifted 15 buses to Liberia which were formally received by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan in the presence of former President Sirleaf. GOI also contributed US\$ 2 million as grant for construction of the 14th Military Hospital in Liberia in August 2019. The Hospital was inaugurated by the then Liberian President, Dr. George Manneh Weah on September 1, 2021. GOI also supplied 45 passenger buses and 5 fire-trucks to Liberia in December, 2019 on grant basis. In March 2021, GOI supplied 96,000 Covid-19 vaccines to Liberia through the COVAX facility under its Vaccine Maitry programme. Various grants and cash assistances by GOI have been well-appreciated by the Liberian top leadership and public in general.

Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme

India has been contributing towards human resource development, capacity building and skills up-gradation of Liberians. Liberia has been a beneficiary country of the PAN African

e-network project. India has been offering 70 ITEC training slots annually to Liberia. During 2025-26, 70 additional slots were added taking total to 140. For 2026-27 also, 140 slots have been allotted to Liberia. In addition, Liberian Defence personnel have also been allotted 7-8 slots for various defence courses/training under ITEC programme every year. Liberians have also been benefiting from other capacity building training programmes in India under the IAFS, Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats conducted by Ministry of External Affairs as well as under the US-Liberia-India trilateral cooperation programme.

Cultural Relations

India has been offering 4 ICCR scholarships for under graduate / post-graduate studies annually to Liberia. For the AY 2025-26, the slots were increased to 9 and for the AY 2026-27, the slots have been further increased to 20.

The International Day of Yoga is organized by the Mission every year which see enthusiastic participation by the Indian as well as other communities in Liberia. The celebration of the 11th International Day of Yoga was graced by the Acting Minister of Health of Liberia Hon. Dr. Catherine T. Cooper, as the Chief Guest.

Three Study in India educational fairs with involvement of Indian universities were held in February 2024, February 2025 and February 2026 which saw the participation by a significant number of enthusiastic Liberian students.

A 15-member Liberian troupe led by Art and Culture Ambassador of Liberia Mr. Kekura M. Kamara participated in the Surajkund International Arts and Crafts Mela from 31 Jan to 15 Feb 2026.

Indian Community

There are about 3500 Indian nationals and PIOs residing in Liberia. The Indian Community is mainly engaged in trading and providing services. A few of them have now started manufacturing ventures too. Indians have major share in pharmaceuticals and construction material sectors. There is a Hindu Temple, Sikh Gurudwara and also a cremation ground in Liberia. There are two Indian Schools in Liberia, which cater to the educational needs of not only Indians but also Liberians and other nationals. Embassy organized a seminar on "India-Liberia: Indian Diaspora's Role in Trade, Investment, and Development" in October 23, 2025, with participation of Indian diaspora, Liberian scholars, chamber of commerce, think-tanks and government officials. Liberian Government recognizes Indian community's substantial contribution to the Liberian economy.

As on 09 April 2026

