
INDIA - MEXICO BILATERAL BRIEF

India and Mexico (officially called United Mexican States) have similarities in geo-climatic conditions, biodiversity, cultural and family values. Both are heirs to a great civilizational heritage and contacts between them go back to centuries. Gandhiji's statues and busts adorn some major Mexican cities like Mexico City, Guadalajara, Acapulco, Guanajuato, Cancun, and San Luis Potosi. The writings of Nobel-laureate and Indophile Octavio Paz, who was the Mexican Ambassador to India (26 April 1962 – 18 October 1968), on his long experiences in India, have a profound impact in Mexico. Mexican wheat varieties, especially the Sonora wheat variety and other hybrids developed by Indian scientists in collaboration with Mexican and international scientists including Norman Borlaug based in CIMMYT, Mexico, were instrumental in the success of Green Revolution in the 1960s and subsequent food self-sufficiency in India.

Diplomatic History

2. Mexico (*which gained independence from Spain in 1819*) was the first country in Latin America to establish diplomatic relations with independent India in 1950. The year 2025 marked the diamond jubilee (75 years) of bilateral diplomatic relations. Both countries actively consult and cooperate in international fora, including in the UN, G20 and the Global South.

3. Mexico, in addition to its Embassy in New Delhi, has a Consulate in Mumbai (*opened in 2023*) and Honorary Consulates in Kolkata, Chennai (*opened in September 2016*) and Goa. During the visit of former Mexican President Felipe Calderon's visit to India in 2007, a "Privileged Partnership" was established between the two countries.

VVIP Visit/meeting

4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mexican President Dr. Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo had their first bilateral meeting on 17 June 2025, on the sidelines of the 51st G7 Leaders' Summit, in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada. They discussed the strengthening of the relationship with Mexico based on investments aimed at scientific and technological development.

5. The last VVIP visit was when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Mexico City on 8 June 2016 during which he met the then Mexican President Pena Nieto. The two leaders agreed to work towards elevating the bilateral relationship to a ‘Strategic Partnership’. A return VVIP visit from the Mexican President to India in 2017 was canceled after a devastating earthquake affected Mexico City in September 2017.

Meetings/Calls between Foreign Ministers

6. EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar had a telephonic call with his Mexican counterpart Mr. Roberto Velasco Alvarez on 02 June 2026, their first interaction since the latter assumed charge in April 2026. They agreed to strengthen bilateral relations and work closely in multilateral forums. EAM met the former Foreign Minister, Dr. Juan Ramon de la Fuente on 11 November 2025 in Niagara, Canada, on the sidelines of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting; on 25 September 2025 on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York; and on 07 July 2025 on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. They discussed ways to take forward bilateral cooperation as envisioned by the leaders. EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Mexico from 26-28 September 2021 during which he underlined the Leaders' objective of elevating the relationship to a ‘Strategic Partnership’. He also called on the then Mexican President Lopez Obrador. The visit of an Indian EAM prior to this one, was by Shri PV Narasimha Rao in 1980. From the Mexican side, Former Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard (*who is currently the Minister of Economy*) visited India in March-April 2022 and reiterated the objective of working towards a ‘Strategic Partnership’. He visited India again in March 2023 for the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting. During the visit, he met Minister of Health & Family Welfare Shri Mansukh Mandaviya and Minister of State for Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh. EAM met his Mexican counterpart on the sidelines of UNGA in 2022 (*Marcelo Ebrard*), 2023 and 2024 (*Alicia Barcena*).

Visits by Ministers from India to Mexico

7. Shri Pabitra Margherita, MOS for External Affairs, visited Mexico from 30 September – 02 October 2024, to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the current President Dr. Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo, the first female president of Mexico in 200 years.

8. Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, led a business delegation to Mexico from 16-20 October 2024. During the visit, Smt. Sitharaman met her then counterpart, Mr. Rogelio Ramirez de la O, Minister of Finance and Public Credit

of Mexico; and met the members of the Mexican Parliament at the Senate. She also visited the city of Guadalajara and held meetings with Mexican and Indian businesses. An MoU was signed between CII of India and CCE (Business Coordination Council) of Mexico during India-Mexico Trade and Investment Summit held during the visit.

9. Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal held a virtual meeting with Mexico's Minister of Economy, Mr. Marcelo Ebrard, on 21 March 2026. The discussion focused on deepening economic ties between the two nations and unlocking new avenues for business opportunities.

Visits by Ministers from Mexico to India

10. The Head of Mexican Agency for Digital Transformation and Telecommunications Dr. José Antonio Peña Merino, visited India (New Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru) from 10 – 14 November 2025, with focus on understanding India's progress in digital governance, digital infrastructure development, telecommunications and space sectors. During his visit, he met with Mr. Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Prof. Dr. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, and senior officials of the Government of India.

Visit by Principal Scientific Advisor to Mexico

11. Dr. Ajay Kumar Sood, PSA to the Government of India visited Mexico from 19 - 21 May 2026 to participate in the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of CIMMYT. During his visit, he held bilateral meetings with Mr. Roberto Velasco Alvarez, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico and Dr. Jose Antonio Pena Merino, Head of the Mexican Agency of Digital Transformation and Communication. Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, had visited Mexico from 12 – 15 May in 2025 to participate in the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of CIMMYT. During the visit, he held bilateral meetings with Dr. Rosaura Ruiz Gutiérrez, Minister of Science, Technology, Innovation and Humanities of Mexico, Mr. Marcelo Ebrard, Minister of Economy of Mexico and with Dr. David Kershenobich Stalnikowitz, Minister of Health of Mexico. He also met Julio Antonio Berdegué Sacristán, the then Minister of Agriculture of Mexico, at CIMMYT.

Mexico at the G20 Summits

12. At the G20 Summit held in New Delhi: Ms. Raquel Buenrostro, the then Mexican Minister of Economy, led a delegation to India (8-10 September 2023) to attend the G20 Leaders' Summit held in New Delhi from 9-10 September 2023, under India's G20

Presidency. Former Mexican Foreign Minister Ms. Alicia Barcena participated in the virtual G20 Leaders' Summit held in November 2023.

13. Mexican President Dr. Claudia Sheinbaum attended the G20 Summit from 18-19 November 2024 in Rio de Janeiro.

Mexico in Voice of Global South Summits (VOGSS) hosted in virtual format by India

14. In the 3rd Voice of Global South Summit, Vice Minister of Energy Transition and Planning of Mexico, Mr. Heberto Castillo, participated in the Energy Ministers' Session while Vice Minister of Higher Education of Mexico, Mr. Luciano Concheiro Borquez participated in the Education Ministers' Session. Foreign Minister Barcena designated her Chief of Staff, Mr. Martin Borrego to participate in the Foreign Ministers' Session of the 2nd Voice of Global South virtual Summit in November 2023.

Other VIP/Parliamentary visits/Meetings

15. India and Mexico have exchanged regular visits by Parliamentarians over the years. The then Hon'ble Speaker of India (*Shri G. M. C. Balayogi*) during his visit to Mexico in May 2001 had proposed that a Parliamentary Friendship Group (PFG) be established by the two Parliaments. Accordingly, the first PFG was set up by Mexico in 2001. In India, the PFG with Mexico was first constituted in 2006 and later reconstituted in 2011, 2019 and 2021.

16. A delegation of 3 Women Members of Parliamentarians from Rajya Sabha (Smt. Phulo Devi Netam, Dr. Medha Vishram Kulkarni and Smt. Sunetra Ajit Pawar) visited Mexico City from 12-18 March 2025 to attend the 1st IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians.

17. Shri Om Birla Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, led a delegation to Mexico from 31 August – 2 September 2022. During his visit, he held a bilateral meeting with Mr. Santiago Creel, the President of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies, and also with Mr. Salvador Caro Cabrera, President of the India-Mexico Parliamentary Friendship Group. He also inaugurated an India-Mexico Organic Friendship Garden at the Chamber of Deputies, a bust of Dr. Pandurang Khankhoje (*at Chapingo University*) and a statue of Swami Vivekanand (*at Autonomous University of State of Hidalgo*) in Mexico.

18. Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, MoS Culture & Parliamentary Affairs, visited Mexico from 28 September – 2 October 2022 to participate in UNESCO's MONDIACULT. Mexico had previously organized the first MONDIACULT in 1982.

19. The then President of the Senate (equivalent to Rajya Sabha) Ms. Ana Lilia Rivera Rivera and the President of the Chamber of Deputies (equivalent to Lok Sabha) Ms. Marcela Guerra Castillo visited India from 12-14 October 2023 to participate in the 9th P20 Summit and held meetings with the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla. During the visit, Ms. Ana Lilia Rivera had tied a 'rakhi' to Prime Minister Modi.

20. An India-Mexico Parliamentary Group consisting of 13 Deputies has been established under the current 66th legislature of the Mexican Parliament with Deputy Zaria Aguilera Claro as the President.

Bilateral Institutional Mechanisms

21. The 6th Foreign Office Consultations were held on 29 June 2022 hosted by Mexico. The 2nd Consular Dialogue was hosted by India in virtual format on 12 November 2020.

Economic and Commercial

22. Economic and commercial cooperation, driven by increasing bilateral trade and investments, have been the major drivers of the relationship in the recent years, particularly in the context of near-shoring opportunities offered by Mexico w.r.t. US markets. Indian companies see Mexico as a major investment destination with access to USMCA region (previously NAFTA) and Latin America.

23. **Bilateral Trade:** India is Mexico's ninth largest trading partner with a bilateral trade of US\$ 11.090 billion in 2025, with Indian exports of US\$ 9.13 billion to Mexico and imports of US\$ 1.969 billion from Mexico. In 2024, bilateral trade was USD 11.7 billion with Indian imports of US\$ 2.8 billion and exports of US\$ 8.9 billion. Bilateral trade in 2023 was USD 10.57 billion. The most important items of exports from India are automobiles and auto parts, pharmaceuticals, engineering goods and chemical products. From Mexican side, the most important item is crude oil which occupies 75% its export basket. Other products of export from Mexico to India are gold and related jewellery, chemical compounds and telephone machinery.

24. The then President of Mexico's Business Coordinating Council (CCE), Mr. Francisco Cervantes, led a business delegation to India and participated in the FICCI LEADS Conference on 10-11 September 2025. An MoU was signed between FICCI and the CCE during the event. Mr. Cervantes also called on the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry of India, Shri Piyush Goyal, and explored new opportunities for mutual growth.

25. **Investments:** Several Indian companies have invested in Mexico in recent years to take advantage of the phenomenon of near-shoring. The three strongest performing areas for Indian investments in Mexico are information technology, pharmaceutical and automotive sectors. TCS, HCL, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, First Source, Cognizant, NIIT, Aptech, Hexaware, Wipro, BirlaSoft, Zoho etc. have operations in Mexico. Several Indian pharmaceutical firms such as Lupin, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, Zydus, Claris, Life Sciences, Hetero Drugs, Sun Pharma, MSN, and Solara have investments and operations in Mexico.

26. The Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA) of India visited Mexico (*Mexico City, Monterrey, Aguascalientes and Toluca*) in March 2024 to explore their business expansion options in Mexico. Hero Motocorp, the largest two-wheeler maker of India has a distribution agreement with Grupo Salinas since January 2021.

27. Indian plant bio-solutions company UPL Ltd made an investment of USD 11 million in a Research & Development Centre and a manufacturing plant in Saltillo, Mexico. Flex Americas, a subsidiary of U-FLEX Ltd. announced expansion of their operations in the north of Mexico. Overall, Indian investments in Mexico are far greater than the other way around. India's investments in Mexico up to 2024 are around US \$ 4 billion. Presently, over 250 Indian companies have presence in Mexico.

28. From the Mexican side, 17 major companies have presence in India. Leading Mexican companies like Nemak, Metalsa, Mexichem, Great Foods & Beverages, RuhrPumpen, Cinopolis and Kidzania have invested in India in recent times. Bimbo has acquired several Indian companies like Harvest Gold and others to become largest bread manufacturer of India. Mexican IT company Softtek became the first Latin American company to have a presence in India as service provider. Cinopolis has opened over 350 screens all over India, including in tier 2 cities. The total investment of Mexican companies in India is approximately USD 810 Million.

29. The Governor of the State of Aguascalientes, Ms Maria Teresa Jimenez paid a working visit to Chennai, India to deepen economic, technological, and academic ties focused on investment and global value-chain integration. She met Tamil Nadu's Minister of Higher Education Dr. Govi Chezhian and Minister of Industries Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa to explore cooperation. She held meetings with executives from RANE, LUCAS TVS, TAFE, and Simpson and highlighted Aguascalientes' advantages in infrastructure, skilled labour, and logistics. Mr. Esau Garza, Minister of Economy of the State of Aguascalientes, Mexico, who accompanied her to Chennai, also attended the CII Partnership Summit held at Vishakhapatnam from 14-15 November, 2025.

Science and Technology

30. During the March-April 2022 visit of the then Mexican Foreign Minister Ebrard to India, the Mexican side had proposed to create an Accelerator Fund for supporting Joint Science, Technology and Innovation Projects with India. In his next visit in March 2023, an MoU was signed between India's Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID).

Education and Technical Cooperation

31. ITEC program was extended to Mexico in 1991 and currently 35 training slots are available annually to Mexican participants. Separately, bilateral academic scholarships are for pursuing various undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes are available for Mexican students. Separately, Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service Institute (SSIFS) of the Ministry of External Affairs offers courses to Mexican diplomats, the last being the participation of 5 young Mexican diplomats at the Special Course for Pacific Alliance Countries held in July 2024.

Cultural, People-to-People Contacts

32. In March 2024, an MoU was signed to revive the Octavio Paz Chair of Indian Studies at the El Colegio de Mexico. A statue of Swami Vivekanand at the Autonomous University of the State of Hidalgo and a bust of freedom fighter and agricultural scientist, Dr. Pandurang Khankhoje at Chapingo University were unveiled by the Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha Shri Om Birla during his visit to Mexico in August-September 2022. The Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre has been functioning in Mexico since October

2010 and holds regular classes for Yoga, Indian classical dances, Sitar and Tabla at the Centre.

33. Mexico participated in the 2025 Bihar Museum Biennale, from 07 August to 07 October, 2025, at the Patna Museum, with an exhibition showcasing Mayan culture, featuring artworks, paintings, archaeological objects, and textiles, under the theme "Mesoamerica: Cradle of Flourishing Civilizations and Cultures".

34. The Embassy of India and Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre (GTICC), based in Mexico City, organised the Viksit Bharat Run 2025 on 29 September, 2025, from the Mahatma Gandhi monument in Chapultepec Park to the iconic monument of the Angel of Independence, in Mexico City. Hon'ble Minister of Environment of Mexico City, Ms. Julia Alvarez Icaza Ramirez flagged off the run. A sapling was presented to her under #EkPedMaaKeNaam campaign to reaffirm India's shared commitment to environment and sustainability.

Indian Community

35. The Indian community in Mexico is small, numbering around 12,000 with about one fifth of them in Mexico City, and the rest spread in the cities of Guadalajara, Monterrey, Cuernavaca, Queretaro, Cancun etc. The bulk is formed by IT professionals working for IT companies like TCS, Infosys and WIPRO. Others comprise executives of Indian and international companies, academicians, and businesspersons mostly in pharmaceuticals, textile and garment business. In 2016, an 'Indian Association of Mexico (IAM)' was registered in Mexico City. Mexico City has an ISKCON temple, a Sikh Gurudwara and a mosque. There is a Hanuman temple in Queretaro and a Ram temple is under construction.

Consular

36. The first bilateral Consular Dialogue was held in Mexico City on 17 October 2014. The 2nd Consular Dialogue was held virtually on 12 November 2020. Under a bilateral agreement signed in October 2005, diplomatic and official passport holders are exempted from visa for a stay of maximum of 90 days. Persons (of any nationality) holding valid visa of the USA, Canada or resident permit of UK and Schengen Area also do not require visa to enter Mexico for tourism, transit, and business purposes for up to 180 days. Mexico is included in the list of countries whose citizens are eligible for the online Electronic Tourist Visa (eTV). There exists an Extradition Treaty as well as an Agreement on Mutual

Legal Assistance Treaty on Criminal Matters between the two countries which were signed during the September 2007 visit of President Calderon to India.

(As on 15 July 2026)