
Brief on India-Philippines Bilateral Relations

India and the Philippines share warm and multifaceted bilateral relations rooted in historical ties and shared democratic values. Cooperation spans various sectors, including defence, trade, investment, and cultural exchange. India and the Philippines formally established diplomatic relations on 26 November 1949, shortly after both countries gained independence. The two countries celebrated the 75 years of establishment of diplomatic relations from November 2024 to November 2025. They elevated their ties to comprehensive strategic partnership during the State Visit of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to India in August 2025.

2. There have been several high level visits between India and the Philippines. The Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi visited the Philippines in 1981; President R. Venkatraman in 1991; President Abdul Kalam in 2006, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in 2007; Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2017, and President Shri Ram Nath Kovind in 2019. From the Philippines to India - President Ferdinand E. Marcos visited India in 1976 (stop-over visit); President Fidel Ramos in 1997; President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in 2007, President Rodrigo Duterte in Jan 2018 and President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. in August 2025.

3. The President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. paid a State Visit to India from 04-08 August 2025 with a high-powered delegation comprising 14 key Secretaries, senior officials and a large business delegation. He called on Rashtrapati, and held restricted and delegation-level talks with the Prime Minister on 05 August. EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar and Shri J. P. Nadda, Minister of Health and Family Welfare called on the President. During the visit, India-Philippines relations were elevated to Strategic Partnership and a Plan of Action (2025-2029) to implement the Strategic Partnership was adopted. 12 other MoUs/Agreements/Treaties in various sectors, including defence, space, science & technology, trade, digital technologies, culture, tourism, mutual legal assistance in criminal matters & transfer of sentenced persons were concluded during the visit.

Earlier in October 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. met on the sidelines of 21st ASEAN-India Summit in Vientiane. They also met on the sidelines of the 20th ASEAN-India Summit in Jakarta in September 2023.

4. Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Pabitra Margherita visited the Philippines from 13-15 January 2025 and called on President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. and Secretary of Foreign Affairs (SFA) Enrique A. Manalo. EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar held a bilateral meeting with the SFA in New Delhi during the later's visit to India from 17-19 March 2025 to attend the 10th Raisina Dialogue. Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Pabitra Margherita met the SFA on 10 July 2025 in Kuala Lumpur where they co-chaired ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting. EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar met his counterpart SFA Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro in New York during the 80th UNGA on 22 September 2025. Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Pabitra Margherita met SFA Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro on the margins of ASEAN-Indian Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Malaysia on 10 July 2025. Dr. Ma. Teresa C. Iñigo, Director General, Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Healthcare participated in the 2nd WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in New Delhi from 17-19 December 2025.

5. During recent years, Mr. Nityanand Rai, Hon'ble Minister of State (Home) visited the Philippines to attend Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction [Oct 2024]; The Department of Transportation Secretary Mr. Jaime J. Bautista visited India to attend the 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference (APAC-MC) on Civil Aviation [Sep 2024, New Delhi]; EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar and SFA Enrique A. Manalo met on the sidelines of ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers Meeting [July 2024, Vientiane]; Secretary of Department of Health, Dr. Teodoro Herbosa addressed the Health Minister's Session of 3rd Voice of Global South Summit (VOGSS 3.0) through a video message [Aug 2024]; EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar visited the Philippines in March 2024; EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar and SFA Enrique A. Manalo had a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of NAM Summit [Jan 2024, Kampala].

6. India and the Philippines celebrated the 75th Anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations in 2024-2025. A number of activities were organized throughout the year to commemorate the occasion. EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar along with the Philippines Ambassador to India, Mr. Josel F. Ignacio, unveiled the official logo commemorating the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, at a reception in New Delhi on 13 November 2024. The visit of Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Pabitra Margherita to Philippines

from 13-15 January 2025 was a part of the celebration. The Embassy hosted a reception to celebrate the 75th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries on 27 January 2025 where SFA Manalo accompanied by his spouse and other Secretaries from the Philippines Government joined the celebration. The Embassy organised India-Philippines 75th Friendship Golf Tournament on 3 February 2025. This was followed by screening of 1000 Filipino women for breast and cervical cancer in collaboration with I-We. A bust of National Hero of the Philippines, Dr. José P. Rizal was unveiled in New Delhi on 19 March 2025 during the visit of Secretary of Foreign Affairs Enrique A. Manalo to India. A book on 75 years of India-Philippines relations was published by Indian Council of World Affairs to commemorate the occasion. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. jointly issued a commemorative stamp themed on the theme of national flowers of the two countries in August 2025 during the later's State Visit to India. The celebrations culminated with the Golden Peacock Award Ceremony for excellence in government service organised by FICCI – Philippine.

7. The umbrella bilateral mechanism between the two countries is the Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation (JCBC) co-chaired by EAM of India and SFA of the Philippines, which has met 5 times so far, in 2011, 2013, 2015, 2020 and on 29 June 2023 in New Delhi. Official level Policy Consultation Talks/Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) and Strategic Dialogues (SD) have been held regularly from 1994 and from 2004 respectively. The 14th FOC and 5th SD were held on 9 September 2024 in New Delhi.

8. Defence cooperation is one of the strong pillars of bilateral relations and a promising area for future collaboration between India and the Philippines. Marking a significant milestone in the India-Philippines relations, India delivered first batch of BrahMos Missile system to the Philippines on 19 April 2024, making it the first foreign nation to acquire the missile weapon system. In a historic move to strengthen interoperability, the two nations conducted their first-ever bilateral maritime exercise from 03-04 August 2025 in the South China Sea, focusing on tactical maneuvers and shared security challenges. The Embassy hosted India-Philippines Defence Seminar on 02 March 2026 with the participation of senior officials from the Department of National Defense of the Philippines, Philippine Coast Guard, Armed Forces, leading strategic think tanks, academic institutions and representatives from India's defence industry. Later, on 03 March 2026, the Secretary of National Defense Gilberto C. Teodoro Jr.

welcomed and interacted with the delegation of 30 Indian defence companies led by the Ambassador of India to the Philippines.

9. A Defence Cooperation Agreement was signed between the two countries in 2006. Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) at the Joint Secretary level was set up under this MoU, which has met five times so far. The 5th JDCC was held on 11 September 2024 in Manila at the Defence Secretary level for the first time. Along with the 5th JDCC, both sides also held the 3rd Service to Service (STS) Meeting in Manila. To further institutionalize these engagements, during President Marcos Jr.'s State Visit to India in August 2025, both countries signed the Terms of Reference (ToR) for Service-to-Service Staff Talks between their respective Army, Navy, and Air Force branches. Additionally, a specific ToR for the Implementing Arrangement (IA) was signed to enhance coordination and maritime cooperation between the Indian Coast Guard and the Philippine Coast Guard. Also, India extended invitation to the Philippines to participate in the Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) during the visit. The two countries signed an MoU on Defence Industry and Logistics cooperation in November 2017 and have also set up a separate Joint Defence Industry and Logistics Committee (JDILC) under the MoU. This mechanism has met thrice, the last meeting was held on 11 March 2022.

10. In November 2024, Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh met Secretary of National Defense, Mr. Gilbert Teodoro on the sidelines of the 18th ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and 11th ADMM Plus in Vientiane, Laos. Again, they interacted during the ASEAN-India Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting held on 30 October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur. Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Commandant, CG Admiral Artemio Abu visited India for the first time in August 2023 during which an MOU on Enhanced Maritime Cooperation and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to operationalize the MoU on exchange of White Shipping Information (2019) were signed. Earlier, Philippines Secretary of National Defense, Mr. Delfin Lorenzana visited India for the first ever bilateral Defence Ministerial visit in March 2018. Gen. Romeo Brawner Jr., Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) visited India from 17-19 March 2025 and from 05-07 March 2026 to participate in the 10th and 11th Raisina Dialogue respectively. During both the visits, Gen. Brawner met his Indian counterpart, General Anil Chauhan, Chief of Defence Staff.

11. Given the objective of expanding institutional maritime engagement, the Inaugural India-PH Track-1 Maritime Dialogue held in Manila in December 2024, during which both sides exchanged views on prevailing maritime challenges and discussed ways to enhance maritime cooperation between the two countries. Earlier, IN-PH Maritime Track 2 Dialogue, co-chaired by National Maritime Foundation and Stratbase ADR Institute of the Philippines, was held in September 2023 in Manila.

12. Indian Navy and Philippines Navy are also working on Hydrographic Cooperation. The first virtual conference in this regard was held on 31 May 2022. Implementing Arrangement on Hydrographic Cooperation between National Hydrographic Office (NHO), India and National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), Philippines is under consideration.

13. Indian Navy and Coast Guard ships regularly visit the Philippines and hold consultations with their counterparts. Reflecting the increased tempo of engagement, a total of 05 Indian Naval Ships visited the Philippines in 2025 as part of various deployments and the inaugural bilateral maritime exercise. This follows previous notable calls, including three Indian Navy (IN) Ships of the Eastern Fleet (INS Delhi, Shakti & Kiltan) in May 2024; ICG Samudra Paheredar in March 2024; INS Kadmatt in Dec 2023; INS Satpura in June 2022; INS Ranvijay and INS Kora in August 2021; INS Kiltan in Jul 2021; INS Sahyadri and INS Kiltan in Oct 2019 and ICGS Shaunak in Feb 2019.

14. High-level training visits remained a priority, in pursuance of which the delegations from the College of Defence Management of India visited the Philippines in October 2015 and October 2018. A 27-member delegation from the Indian Army War College, Mhow also visited Philippines in September 2019. NDC delegation visited the Philippines thrice in May 2016; June 2022 and June 2024. The participation of officers of the armed forces of both countries in various specialized training courses in each other's countries, has also intensified.

15. Trade and Commerce:

(a) Bilateral Trade

As per the official trade figures of Department of Commerce, GOI, bilateral trade between India and the Philippines (in terms of value) increased from USD 2.03 billion in 2020-

21 to \$3.34 billion in 2024-25. In the FY-2025-26, the total trade has been \$2.97 billion till December 2025.

Financial Year	India's Export to Philippines	India's Imports from Philippines	Trade with Philippines
2020-21	1457.30	572.47	2029.77
2021-22	2107.24	729.08	2836.32
2022-23	2094.15	959.59	3053.74
2023-24	2097.17	1,433.60	3530.77
2024-25	2162.43	1178.40	3340.83
2025-26 (Apr – Feb 2026)	2105.36	1445.41	3550.77

[in US\$ million]

The major items of export from India to the Philippines include petroleum products, drugs and pharmaceuticals, vaccines, bovine meat, cereals, oil seeds, frozen potatoes, tobacco, cocoa, engineering goods, iron and steel, automobile and aircraft parts/accessories, arms and ammunition, organic and inorganic chemicals, electronic goods, rice, groundnuts and others. As per trade statistics, the Indian Pharmaceutical products accounted for 17.90% of the total Philippine Pharmaceutical imports in 2025.

The major items of import from the Philippines include unwrought gold, pearls and precious stones, copper, aluminum, lead, animal/vegetable fat, organic and inorganic chemicals, electrical machinery, semiconductors, hearing aids, ores, slag and ashes, residue and waste from the food industry.

The leadership of the two countries committed for an exponential increase in bilateral trade from the level of USD 3.34 billion attained in 2024-25 during the State Visit of President Marcos to India. The Terms of Reference for negotiations on a bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement were agreed during the State Visit of the President of the Philippines in August 2025. The Indian side is presently finalizing the composition of its negotiating teams.

(b) Bilateral Investments:

Indian investment in the Philippines has over the years been mainly in the areas of IT-BPM & ITeS (BPO); pharmaceuticals and healthcare; yarn and textiles; infrastructure (airport); chemicals; automobiles; agriculture; biomass energy; FMCG and others. Some Indian firms in textiles and infrastructure have since divested, while new Indian investments are seen in IT-BPM, Fin-tech, Co-work spaces. The Indian private sector investment in the Philippines over the last decade and a half will estimate to about USD 1 billion.

Notable companies are Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Wipro, HCL Technologies, HGS in IT-BPM Sector; Madras Security Printers, PeopleStrong, Ramco Systems Ltd (ITeS); TVS, Bajaj, Mahindra, Tata Motors in automobile sector; Lupin, Torrent, ZydusCadilla, Sun pharma, Hetero Drug, Claris Life sciences etc. in pharmaceutical sector; Nephroplus in healthcare sector; Splash Corporation (Wipro) in FMCG sector; Prasad seeds, Advanta Seeds, Bioseeds (DCM Group), Agri Exim in agriculture; Thermax Instrumentation Ltd, ISGEC in biomass energy; Sun Source Energy in solar energy; UPL, RM Chemicals in chemical sector; Shri Ram Group (insurance) and others. GMR Group had partnered with Megawide to construct a new terminal at Mactan Cebu International Airport, and sold its stake to a Filipino company after completion of the project.

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Philippine investments in India have been modest in the past and mainly comprise of companies like V. Merida (processing of waste), Ayala's ACEN (Renewable energy, construction & ITES); SPI Technologies (ITES); Liwayway (Food processing); Atlantic Gulf & Pacific Company (AG&P); Lloyd Laboratories, IPI (Pharma). ACEN has invested in several renewable energy projects in India.

During his State Visit to India, President Marcos Jr. was accompanied by a large business delegation from the Philippines. He addressed a Philippines-India CEO Roundtable on 06 August 2025 in New Delhi, and Philippines-India Business Forum in Bengaluru on 07 August 2025 where he witnessed signing of 18 business agreements.

(c) Financial Sector Engagement and Development Cooperation:

Financial Technology (Fintech) is one of the focused sectors identified by the leaders of both the countries. MoU for constitution of JWG on Cooperation in Financial Technology was signed on 19 June 2023 which aims to facilitate partnership between India and the Philippines in the fields of digital payments, financial inclusion, fintech and related areas. 1st JWG meeting on Fintech was held on 12 September 2024 in New Delhi. The 2nd JWG meeting on Fintech is proposed during March – May 2026 at Manila.

An MOU on Cooperation in the field of digital technologies was signed between the two countries on 05 August 2025 during the Philippines President's State Visit to India.

India and the Philippines signed an agreement on Indian grant assistance for implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIP) in the Philippines on 7 Feb 2023, which for the first time opened a regular grant funding window for the Philippines. On 15 July 2024, the implementing agencies of the two countries (Embassy of India in Manila and Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) of the Philippines) signed individual MOAs for 6 QIPs valued at US\$50,000 each, in the sectors of Agriculture, Disaster Risk Reduction & Management, Healthcare and Livelihood Support. The progress of QIPs is monitored through a Joint Project Selection Committee mechanism between the Embassy and the DILG. Most of the QIPs are nearing completion. On 22 April 2026, the Ambassador of India to the Philippines, Shri Harsh Kumar Jain formally turned over the QIP Renovated and Equipped Primary Care Facility in Bacolod, Lanao del Norte – the first among the inaugural cycle of six QIPs. The second QIP – Livelihood Training Center at the Municipality of Bobon, Northern Samar is all set to be turned over formally on 05 May 2026.

(d) Agriculture:

Agriculture is another focused sector identified by the leaders of both the countries. Revised MoU on Cooperation in Agriculture and Related Fields between India-Philippines was signed on 13 November 2017. The 2nd meeting of the India-Philippines Joint Working Group (JWG) on Agriculture was held on 18 May 2018 at Manila. The 3rd meeting of the JWG on Agriculture is proposed to be held in 2026 at New Delhi.

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare met Mr. William Dar, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Philippines in New Delhi on 21 April 2022. On request of the Philippines side, training session on Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was organised for the officials of Department of Agriculture, Department of Finance and Philippine Crop Insurance Commission (PCIC) in May 2022.

In October 2023, first batch of ultra-low Glycemic Index (GI) rice samples developed by International Rice Research Institute's Regional Research Center in Varanasi was presented to the Philippines President Marcos Jr. during 6th International Rice Congress in Manila.

Minister of Agriculture of the Government of Karnataka state of India, visited Manila from 14-17 October 2025, and witnessed the signing of an MoU between University of Agricultural Sciences, Mandya, Bengaluru, India and IRRI, Los Banos, Philippines.

(e) Health and Medicine:

The Philippines recognizes India as a global leader in terms of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies. During the challenging times of COVID pandemic, the Philippines was the first ASEAN Member State to grant Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for India-based Bharat Biotech's Covaxin. India continues to be one of the largest suppliers of pharma products to the Philippines. An MOU on Cooperation in Traditional Medicine between the Philippines Institute of Traditional Medicine and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC) and National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur was signed on 19 April 2022.

Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda called on President Marcos Jr. on 05 August 2025 in New Delhi during the later's State Visit to India. The minister also met the Secretary, Department of Health, Mr. Teodoro J. Herbosa on the same day in New Delhi and discussed the issues of mutual interest in healthcare and medicine. The 4th meeting of JWG on Health was held on 28 November 2025 in New Delhi, under the overall framework of India-Philippines MoU in the field of Health and Medicine signed in New Delhi on 5 October 2007. The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), India and Director General, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health, Philippines.

The participation of a Philippine delegation led by the Director General, PITAHC, to the 2nd WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in New Delhi from 17-19 December 2025 was sponsored by the Ministry of AYUSH.

(f) Tourism

A bilateral MoU on Tourism Cooperation was signed on 18 October 2019 under which 1st meeting of India-Philippines JWG on Tourism was held on 8 October 2020. The 2nd JWG meeting held on 21 May, 2024 in Manila and the Indian side was led by Ms. Anita Baghel, Additional DG, Ministry of Tourism and Ms. Verna C. Buensuceso, OIC Undersecretary, Department of Tourism led the Philippine side. The year 2025 was declared as the ASEAN-India Year of Tourism. During the State Visit of the Philippines President in August 2025, an Implementation program on Tourism Cooperation for 2025-2028 outlining programs and projects to be facilitated and implemented in key areas to strengthen bilateral tourism ties, was signed.

The new Air Services Agreement (ASA) was signed on 27 Sept 2021 and ratified in June 2023 to facilitate direct air connectivity between India and Philippines. In Sept 2024, a Philippine delegation led by Department of Tourism Secretary Jaime J. Bautista visited New Delhi to attend 2nd Asia & Pacific Ministerial Conference for Civil Aviation. The Philippine side has sought Air services consultations in March 2026.

Tourism Minister of India Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat held bilateral meeting with Philippines Tourism Secretary Ms. Christina Garcia Frasco on the sidelines of the ASEAN-India Tourism Ministers Meeting (AITMM) in Malaysia (20 Jan 2025) which was focused on improving tourism potential and expanding connectivity. They co-chaired the 13th AITMM held on 30 January 2026 in Cebu where Shri Shekhawat participated virtually. The meeting focused on strengthening cultural ties, improving air connectivity, and reviewing the ASEAN-India Tourism Work Plan 2023-2027, enhancing people-to-people exchanges and sustainable tourism initiatives.

Air India commenced its direct flights connecting Delhi and Manila from 01 October 2025, and is currently operating daily flights in the sector. The Philippines announced 14 days

of visa free access for Indian tourists starting from 08 June 2025 and the Indian Government permitted a month long Gratis 'e-Tourist' visa for Filipino tourists from 01 August 2025.

(g) Science & Technology

A new bilateral Programme of Cooperation (POC) in the fields of S&T for the period 2025-2028 was signed between the two sides during the State Visit of the Philippines' President in August 2025. The POC focuses on eight areas, including agricultural biotechnology, artificial intelligence, additive manufacturing, energy storage systems, vaccine development and ocean and atmospheric sciences. Further, during the visit, the Indian Government announced to extend support on a pilot project for setting up of Philippines' Sovereign Data Cloud Infrastructure.

On 5 March 2024, the Embassy hosted the First India-Philippines Tech Summit (IPTS) in partnership with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and Department of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT) from Indian side and Philippine Department of Information & Communication Technology (DICT) and Philippines Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PCCI). The event showcased innovative digital products and solutions from India's vibrant digital ecosystem focusing on 3 key sectors: Agriculture, Finance, and Health. More than 300 Filipino representatives and 50 Indian companies participated in the 1st IPTS.

16. The Joint Consular Consultations Meeting (JCCM) has met four times so far, the 4th meeting held on 12 April, 2024 in Manila. Both countries have signed Extradition Treaty on 12 March 2004. Further, India and the Philippines signed Treaties on Transfer of Sentenced Persons (TTSP) and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (MLAT) on 05 August 2025, during the State Visit of President Marcos Jr. to India. The Philippines Government fully implemented e-VISA facility for the Indian nationals w.e.f. 28 October 2024. In addition, Philippines granted 14-days visa free entry to Indian nationals for tourism/ business purposes (effective 08 June 2025). Further Indian nationals holding valid American, Japanese, Australian, Canadian, Schengen, Singapore or United Kingdom (AJACSSUK) visas or residence permits may enter without a visa for a non-extendible period of 30 days (earlier limited to 14 days) for tourism/ business. In turn, India granted gratis e-tourist visas to the Philippine nationals upto 30 days with effect from 01 August 2025.

17. A new area of engagement is Space Cooperation which is progressing well with the participation of Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA)'s scientists in different training programmes in India. In June 2023, Department of Space/ISRO had a preliminary interaction with PhilSA to ascertain the areas of interest of the Philippines during which phase-wise space collaboration starting with capacity building courses based on the specific requirements of the Philippines was agreed. During the State Visit of President Marcos Jr. to India in August 2025, an SoI between ISRO and PhilSA was signed to further mutually beneficial collaborative activities in the field of space.

18. The Philippines is one of the beneficiaries of India's flagship capacity building programme—Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). To date, over 1300 Filipino professionals have availed of ITEC courses offered. Courses on Electoral Technology, Environmental Impact Assessment, Renewable Energy, Natural Resource Management, Public Health Management, Ayurveda and Human Rights were among the popular courses in the Philippines. ITEC Day is celebrated every year by the Embassy that brings together ITEC alumni across the Philippines. In the FY 2024-2025, 22 Filipinos participated in Civilian ITEC courses and 20 defence personnel participated in ITEC defence courses. In current FY 2025-26, 13 Civilian ITEC Courses and 41 Defence ITEC courses have been availed by the Filipino participants so far.

19. The Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) between the two countries was renewed for the period 2025-2030 during the State Visit of President of the Philippines to India on 05 August 2025. Indian cultural events are organised regularly in the Philippines in commemoration of Indian national days, Indian festivals and other important days such as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, Constitution Day, Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas, Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas etc. As part of the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and the Philippines, the Embassy organized several activities inter alia hosting a reception on 27 January 2025 marked by the presence of SFA Manalo accompanied by his spouse and other Secretaries from the Philippines Government, blood donation camp, free screening of 1000 Filipino women for breast and cervical cancer and India-Philippines @ 75 Friendship Golf Tournament. In November 2025, Embassy of India organized the "Viksit Bharat Run", which saw enthusiastic participation from Indian and Filipino nationals.

20. India has been offering humanitarian assistance to the Philippines from time to time, though at a modest level. Reinforcing its commitment as the first responder in the region, India dispatched 30 tons of humanitarian aid and disaster relief (HADR) material to the Philippines on 20 January 2026, aimed at supporting local communities following recent natural calamities. This continues a long history of support, including 28 tons of relief material in February 2006; \$250,000 for Typhoon Reming in December 2006; \$200,000 for Typhoon Pablo in 2012; \$100,000 for the Bohol earthquake in 2013; 15 tons of supplies for Super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013; and \$500,000 for Marawi City rehabilitation in 2017. In April 2020, the Embassy with support of Indian Community organisations handed over nearly US\$ 250,000 worth of face masks for COVID-19 frontliners.

21. Indian Diaspora is estimated to be more than 70,000 in the Philippines majority of which is concentrated in and around Metro Manila, City of Davao and Cebu. There has been a growing number of Indian professionals, estimated around 800, who are working in Indian and multinational corporations in the Philippines. The major Indian business associations in the Philippines are the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Philippines (FICCI-Philippines); Indian Business Forum (IBF) and Indian Women in Enterprise (I-WE) Philippines.

22. The total number of Indian students currently enrolled in the Philippines is around 9,800. Most of them are studying medicine but there are few others who are pursuing Management, Information Technology, Nursing, Christian Theology & Divinity, Church Music and Pilot training courses.

23. The Indian diaspora has established several places of religious worship [31 Gurudwaras (including Khalsa Diwan) and 8 Hindu temples] in the Philippines. There are cultural associations such as Filipino Indian Ladies Association (FILA), Bharati Indian Expats Women's Association, Indian Cultural Association of the Philippines (ICAP) and several spiritual organizations like Sri Satya Sai Organization, Art of Living, Brahma Kumaris, Siddhi Yoga, ISKCON which actively celebrate Indian festivals and engages closely with the Indian Embassy and Filipino Community in supporting social, cultural and welfare activities.

April 2026