

India-Nicaragua Bilateral Relations

Bilateral relations between India and Nicaragua are warm and friendly. Diplomatic relations between India and Nicaragua were established in March 1983. The Indian Embassy in Panama is concurrently accredited to Nicaragua. Nicaragua earlier had an Embassy in India, which was closed in 1990. Recently, Nicaragua has appointed an Ambassador in India.

Bilateral Visits

The current President, H.E. Mr. Daniel Ortega Saavedra had visited India twice, in 1983 and 1986, during his earlier term as President. Ms. Sonia Castro Gonzalez (SCG), Minister of Health accompanied by Ms. Maria De Los Angeles Boedeker Herrera, Director of Cooperation, Ministry of Health met Minister of Health and Family Welfare in July 2019 in New Delhi. Mr. Denis Moncada Colindres, Foreign Minister of Nicaragua visited New Delhi in October 2019 and met External Affairs Minister. In April 2023, EAM met the then Foreign Minister Denis Menconda during the India-SICA Foreign Ministers meeting in Panama. In September 2024 on the sidelines of the 79th UN General Assembly session, EAM met Nicaragua's Foreign Minister, Valdrack Jaentschke. During 6-8 March 2025, Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Pabitra Margherita visited Nicaragua. It was the first ever Ministerial level visit to Nicaragua from Ministry of External Affairs. In September 2025, Nicaraguan FM Mr. Denis Moncada met the EAM on

the sidelines of UNGA.

Bilateral Agreements

An Agreement on Visa Waiver for Diplomatic and Official Passports was signed in 2008. An MoU on setting up an IT Training Centre in Managua was signed in 2008.

Several agreements in areas such as Cultural Cooperation, Government to Government credit, and Economic Cooperation have been signed with Nicaragua.

In May 2019, Nicaragua forwarded four new MoUs for cooperation in the field of Education, Health, Energy and Agriculture and they are under MEA's consideration.

In February 2024 India and Nicaragua signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Pharmacopoeia Cooperation in the regulation of medicines. Nicaragua became the first Spanish-speaking country to recognize the India Pharmacopoeia. The MoU will help improve access to affordable medicines, boost exports, and reduce healthcare costs in Nicaragua.

In December 2024 an umbrella agreement for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) was signed between India and Nicaragua. The agreement targets tangible benefits for local communities in areas such as infrastructure, education, healthcare, and

sanitation.

International Solar Alliance: The Government of Nicaragua has signed and ratified the ISA Framework Agreement, and is a member of ISA alliance.

Nicaragua has also signed the Framework Agreement on the establishment of International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).

Development Partnership Initiatives:

India accords importance to deepening of Development Partnership ties with Nicaragua. This is evidenced by establishment of an IT training Center in Managua and extension of three LoCs of US\$ 10 million in 2013 (The project was completed in June, 2019), US\$ 26.24 million in August 2014 (under execution) and US\$ 31.29 million LoC in 2016 (under execution) for various projects in power sector. The projects undertaken under LoCs are well appreciated by the Government of Nicaragua. Govt. of India has also approved two more LoCs to Nicaragua in the Health sector. Under India's Lines of Credit for power infrastructure, there was a recent inauguration of substation and transmission line projects.

India has made donation of medicines worth approximately US\$ 2 million over the years to Nicaragua. Government of India donated 1530 Kgs of medicines

worth Indian Rupees 8,52,185/- to Nicaragua to combat dengue in April 2014, under the GoI Development Partnership Initiative. India donated medicines worth US\$ 50,000 to Nicaragua in 2018, and the consignment of medicines was delivered to the Ministry of Health of Nicaragua. In 2020 too, India donated medical aid package for Covid-19 related medical assistance consisting of 3,10,000 HCQL tablets and other medicines and medical supplies.

During September-October 2025, India partnered with Nicaragua in organizing an on-site Jaipur Foot Camp to benefit around 500 persons. The successful completion of the camp stands as a testament to India's commitment to humanitarian outreach and its enduring partnership with Nicaragua.

Technical and Economic Cooperation:

As part of India's offer to SICA countries to establish IT Training Centers in each capital, an IT Centre was set up in the Nicaraguan capital, Managua and was handed over to the host government in 2011. Mr. Guillermo Gonzales, Renewable Energy Analyst of the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Nicaragua participated in the Advanced Orientation Program in Solar Energy Technologies for the focal points of the International Renewable Energy Agency in the first half of April, 2017 at the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), NCR.

India annually allocates 25 ITEC training slots to Nicaragua for skill development

and capacity building.

In August 2024, two officials from Nicaragua's Ministry of Health participated in a policymaker and regulatory expert visit to India. The programme aimed to enhance regulatory standards and deepen collaboration in the healthcare sector.

India-Nicaragua Trade in US \$ million:

Total Bilateral Trade: US\$ 183 million (2024-25).

Exports from India: US\$ 159.33 million.

Imports by India: US\$ 23.98 million

India's main exports include pharmaceuticals, cotton, automobiles and accessories, iron & steel, rubber & rubber products, etc., whereas, India's main imports consist of wood & wooden articles, nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and appliances, Iron and Steel, etc.

Gravitas Nicaragua is company operating in the recycling sector. A few years ago, Praj Industries of Pune had set up an ethanol production plant for Nicaragua Sugar Estates Limited. Bajaj Industries sells auto-taxis, locally called Mototaxi, and 3 wheelers regularly every year under an agency arrangement. TVS, Bajaj, Hero motorcycles, Mahindra Jeep are available through local distributors. Pharmaceutical companies like Hetero and Caplin Point are also present in Nicaragua.

Cultural:

From time to time, performances by Indian cultural troupes have been held in Nicaragua. The celebration of the International Day of Yoga is organized every year in cooperation with several local Yoga institutes and the Indian Community and has evoked popular responses. Mr. Oscar Perez visited India and participated in Kumbh Mela in Feb, 2019 at the invitation of the Government of India.

In June 2025, the International Day of Yoga was celebrated in Nicaragua in collaboration with →Yoga Urbano Managua."

Indian Community: Indian community in Nicaragua is close to 50.

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