

Brief on India-Angola Relations

Political relations

Relations between India and Angola, one of the major oil producers in Africa, are underpinned by a vibrant energy partnership and date back to pre-independence era of Angola. In an act of solidarity, India supported Angolan freedom struggle against the Portuguese colonial rule till the country attained independence in 1975. Since then, Indian governments have been maintaining robust ties with the political leadership in Angola. India established formal diplomatic relations with Angola in 1985 with the first Indian Ambassador arriving in Luanda in November 1986.

Angola and India cooperate in various multilateral forums and have been supportive of each other's candidatures.

Visits from Angola

VVIP Visits/ Meetings

President of Angola José Eduardo dos Santos visited India in April 1987.

In October 2015, Vice President of Angola, Manuel Vicente visited India to participate in the 3rd India Africa Summit during which he held meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He was accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, Information Technology and Communications. While Angolan Agriculture Minister had meeting with his Indian counterpart, MoS PNG along with ONGC Videsh MD called on the Vice President to discuss cooperation in the field of energy.

During his visit to Johannesburg to attend the BRICS Summit, Angolan President Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco met PM Modi

on July 26, 2018 and discussed ways to enhance trade and investment between the two countries and also to deepen cooperation in sectors like energy, agriculture, food processing and pharmaceuticals.

Foreign Minister/ MOS Visits/ Meetings

Angolan Foreign Minister Joao Bernardo de Miranda visited India in May 2006 and his successor Georges R Chikoti visited India in February 2011 to attend India-LDC Ministerial Conference in New Delhi.

Other Ministerial / Secretary level / Important Visits

- General Cândido Pereira dos Santos Van-Dúnem, Minister for Former Combatants and Veterans of the Homeland visited India from 3-7 May 2016. During the visit, he had meetings with MoS for External Affairs Dr. (Gen) V.K. Singh, Minister for Food Processing and Secretary (EWS) in the Ministry of Defence.
- Mr. Pedro Canga, Minister of Agriculture, visited India from 24-30 May 2016. During the visit he met Minister of Agriculture Sh. Radha Mohan Singh, and discussed bilateral cooperation in agriculture. He visited the Indian Council of Agriculture Research, agriculture cooperative units as well as private entities.
- Mr. Abrahão Gourgel, Minister of Economy, accompanied by a high level delegation comprising Secretaries of State, visited India in June 2017.
- Mr. Janio da Rosa Correa Victor, Secretary of State for Geology and Mines, visited India from March 28-30, 2018 to discuss diamond trading.
- Dr. Silvia Lutucuta, Health Minister of Angola, visited India from 5-10 July, 2018. During the visit he met Health Minister of India and held discussions with CII and premier hospitals.

- Mr. Archer Mangureira, Finance Minister, paid a working visit to India on 02 Sep, 2019 during which he held discussions with the Exim Bank for various projects under LOCs/Buyers credit programme.
- Mr. José Paulino da Silva, Secretary of State for the Interior, participated in 90th Session of the General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) held in New Delhi from 18-21 Oct, 2022
- Ms. Silvia Lutucuta, Health Minister of Angola, participated in Pharma Live Expo & Summit 2023 held in Mumbai from 1-3 March 2023
- Mr. Rui Miguens de Oliveira, Minister of Industry & Commerce of Angola, participated in 19th CII India Africa Business Conclave in New Delhi, on 21 Aug, 2024

Visits from India

VVIP Visits/ Meetings

The first VVIP visit from India to Angola took place in May 1986 by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

PM Dr. Manmohan Singh met with President Jose Santos on the sidelines of the G-8 meeting at L'Aquila, Italy on July 10, 2009.

Foreign Minister/ MOS Visits/ Meetings

MOS (Anand Sharma) visited Angola in June 2007, during which he called on the President of Angola and held meetings with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Petroleum and Geology and Mines, and President of Endiama, the state-owned diamond company.

MoS (V.K. Singh) visited Luanda on 15 July 2015 as Special Envoy of PM to personally hand over invitation for the IAFS III. During the visit he called on Vice President Manuel Vicente.

MOS (M.J. Akbar) visited Angola on 15-16 March 2018 and held bilateral meeting with Domingos Custodio Viera Lopes, Secretary of State for International Cooperation and Angolan Communities on March 16, 2018. The MOU on ICT was signed during the visit.

EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar & Angolan FM Tete Antonio met on the sidelines of the NAM Ministerial meeting on January 18, 2024 in Kampala.

Other Ministerial / Secretary level / Important Visits

- Minister of State for Commerce Shri Jairam Ramesh visited Angola in March 2008 to discuss trade & investment..
- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Murli Deora visited Angola in January 2010 to discuss oil & energy cooperation.
- Secretary (Economic Relations) Shri Dammu Ravi attended the OACPS summit hosted by Angola from 8-10 December, 2022.
- Additional Secretary (C&WA) Shri Sevala Naik Mude led the Indian delegation for first Foreign Office Consultations from 9-12 August, 2023
- An Indian parliamentary delegation consisting of 6 MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha attended the 147th Inter Parliamentary Union Assembly meeting held at Luanda from 23-27 October, 2023.

Bilateral Mechanism

Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) - On January 30, 2017, India and Angola signed an Agreement for the establishment of the Joint Commission. EAM Dr S. Jaishankar and Foreign Minister of Angola Tête António co-chaired the First India-Angola Joint Commission Meeting virtually on September 07, 2020.

Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) - A Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations was signed during the visit Angolan Foreign Minister Joao Bernardo de Miranda to India on May 10, 2006. Subsequently,

1st round of Foreign Office Consultations were held on 11.08.2023 in Luanda led by AS (C&WA) from Indian side & Secretary of State for External Relations from Angolan side.

Economic and Commercial Relations

India has been among the top 3 trading partners of Angola for some years and currently it is 2nd after China sharing about 10% of Angola’s external trade. The balance of trade is in Angola’s favour, with India being the 2nd largest oil importer of Angola, which accounts for 90% of bilateral trade. In 2022-23, bilateral trade amounted to US\$ 4.2 billion with Indian exports to Angola valued at US\$ 622 million. During 2023-24, it was US\$ 4.19 billion with Indian exports reaching record US\$ 698 million.

India’s Imports/Exports From/To Angola

Figures in USD Million				
Year	Exports to Angola	Imports from Angola	Total Trade	Balance of Trade
2019-20	285	3649	3934	-3364
2020-21	260	1880	2140	-1620
2021-22	452	2725	3177	-2273
2022-23	622	3599	4221	-2977
2023-24	698	3495	4193	-2797
2024-25 (Apr-Dec)	393	3340	3733	-2947

Development Partnership

ICCR/ITEC

Under ITEC, 12 slots were allocated in 2022-23 and 30 ICCR Scholarships were granted in 2022-23. Six officials from the Angolan government participated in the Special PCFD course in FSI from May 06-18, 2019 and one official attended PCFD course in FSI in March 2023. 57 Officials from MiREX attended a specially designed IT and Cyber Security course organized by MEA (DPA Division) through C-DAC. During academic year 2024-25, ICCR scholarships were granted to 29 Angolan students. One senior Angolan official attended the 1st ITEC Executive Course on Data for Development in New Delhi in October 2024. Another senior Angolan Official attended training course on ICT Policy Planning for Good Governance at National Communications Academy, Ghaziabad, in February 2025.

Cultural Relations

A 15 member cultural troupe from Angola namely Kuenda participated in the 35th Surajkund Arts & Crafts Festival in Faridabad from March 21-April 04, 2022. Angolan VindJomba Cultural troupe participated in the Lusophone Cultural Week held in December 2022 in Goa.

To commemorate 75 Years of India's Independence, Embassy of India in Angola organized an Indian Cultural and Food Festival 'Namaste India' from 4 -11November, 2022. An Indian troupe named 'A to Z Dance Group' from New Delhi also performed during the event, besides cultural performances by local Angolan artists.

3 Angolan journalists from prominent print and visual media, namely TPA, TV Zimbo an Jornal de Angola, attended the familiarization programme in India from 23 to 30 October, 2024.

Indian Community

According to Angolan government's data, Indian community in Angola numbers around 7000, mainly consisting of business persons, professionals and workers in the establishments of Indian owners. It is estimated that around 200 Indian companies operate in Angola particularly in retail, hospitality, agriculture, plastics, metal, pharmaceuticals, diamonds & automobile sectors.

March 2025