

India - Grenada Relations

The relationship between India and Grenada goes back to 01 May 1857 when the first ship '*Maidstone*' carrying 287 Indian indentured workers reached the shores of Grenada, then a British colony, from which it gained independence in 1974. A total of 3,200 Indians arrived in Grenada between 1857 and 1885. A total of 302 Indians choose to repatriate to India, after indentureship came to an end in 1890. The remaining stayed back in Grenada and assimilated into the society.

2. India enjoys traditionally cordial relations with Grenada. India established diplomatic relations with Grenada on 01 October 1975. Grenada is concurrently accredited to our Mission in Port of Spain. Mr. Pasupuleti Gita Kishore Kumar, has been appointed as Non-resident High Commissioner of Grenada to India.

Exchange of visits

3. Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh when he visited India in connection with the preparation for the Cricket World Cup 2007 in West Indies from 26-30 July 2006.

4. Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi interacted with Prime Minister of Grenada Dr. Keith Mitchell during the 1st India-CARICOM Summit on the margins of the UNGA in New York in September 2019. PM Mr. Dickon Mitchell, the Chair of CARICOM, co-chaired the 2nd India-CARICOM Summit, along with Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi in Georgetown, Guyana on 20 November 2024. Prime Minister Mr. Dickon Mitchell had a bilateral meeting with PM Shri. Narendra Modi, on the sidelines of the 2nd India-CARICOM Summit in Georgetown, Guyana. They discussed development cooperation in the areas of education, ICT, healthcare, food security, cricket, capacity building, and sustainable development.

5. External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar held tele-talks with Foreign Minister Mr. Peter David regarding Covid-19 pandemic, and discussed matters of health cooperation and development partnership (29 April 2020). External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar met with Mr. Joseph Andall, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade & Export Development on the sidelines of India-COFCOR Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Georgetown, Guyana (21 April 2023).

6. Minister of Foreign and Labour Mr. Peter David visited Gujarat and met Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Vijay Rupani (12 September 2019); MoS Health & Family Welfare Smt. Anupriya S. Patel called on the Governor General, Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell, Foreign Minister and Health Minister during her visit to Grenada from 13-14 May 2018; MoS Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri. Parshottam Rupala had a virtual meeting

with Grenada's Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Forestry Mr. Charles David (27 May 2021).

7. Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs and Textiles Shri Pabitra Margherita paid an Official Visit to Grenada from October 03-05, 2024. On 04 October, MoS witnessed the Ceremonial Opening of the 3rd Session of the 11th Parliament of Grenada. MoS had a meeting with Mr Dickon Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada at the Parliament and discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations in the areas of digital transformation, ICT, development partnership, capacity building, and pharmaceuticals, India-CARICOM relations, and other international issues of mutual interest. MoS interacted with Her Excellency Dame Cécile La Grenade, Governor-General of Grenada, Hon. Leo Cato, Speaker of House of Representatives and Senator the Honourable Dr Dessima D Williams, President of the Senate, and several other dignitaries at the Parliament. MoS held wide-ranging discussion with Hon. Mr. Joseph Andall, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Development of Grenada on 03 October. MoS interacted with the Indian Diaspora in Grenada at a function organized at the Grenada Trade Centre on 04 October 2024.

8. Bilateral exchanges have increased since 2023. Minister for Climate Resilience, Environment and Renewable Energy Ms. Kerryne Z. James led a two-member delegation to the 6th Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Meeting in New Delhi (30 October – 01 November 2023); Minister for Mobilization, Implementation and Transformation Mr. Andy Williams led a two-member delegation to the 9th CII India-LAC Conclave in New Delhi (3-5 August 2023); Minister for Health, Wellness and Religious Affairs Mr. Gayton Jonathan LaCrette participated in the Health Ministers' Virtual Session of the Voice of Global South Summit (VOGSS) 1.0 (13 January 2023); Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade & Export Development Mr. Joseph Andall, participated in the Foreign Ministers' Session at the Virtual Session of VOGSS 3.0 (17 August 2024); and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade & Export Development Mr. Joseph Andall, participated in the India-CARICOM Foreign Ministers Meeting co-chaired by Dominica's Foreign Minister Vince Henderson, on the sidelines of the 79th Session of UNGA in New York (27 Sep 2024).

Development partnership

9. **Grenada National Health Insurance Programme Support Project** under **IBSA Fund** at a cost of US\$ 627,633/- started in 2018, was completed in 2019.

10. **Quick Impact Projects:** At the request of the Government of Grenada, India has fully funded two infrastructure development projects in Grenada: **(i) Construction of Union Community Centre** in the Parish of St. Marks (at a cost of USD 610,075/-) was

opened to public in December 2021; (ii) **BelleVue Road Project** (at a cost of USD 291,723/-) was completed in 2017.

11. **ICT Centre for Excellence & Innovation in Grenada:** Following the signing of a MoU in October 2008, an ICT Centre for Excellence & Innovation ICT Center for Excellence and Innovation (ICEI) in Frequente, St. George's was set up at Industrial Development Corporation, an autonomous government body, in St. George's, at a cost of USD 0.8 million. The Centre was officially opened by the Prime Minister of Grenada Mr. Tillman Thomas on 15 April 2011. CDAC deputed 3 experts for training for 2 years till 2013 and then the Centre was handed over to the Government of Grenada. Later, it was shifted to T.A. Marryshow Community College in February 2016, and is running on a no-cost extension basis presently.

12. **India-UNDP Projects:** (i) **The Mt. Horne Child Development Centre** in the rural parish of St Andrew was constructed under India-UNDP Fund at a cost of US\$300,000 and technical support from UNICEF. The project began in 2018 and was completed in 2019. It opened in early 2020, however, the official opening ceremony was held in February 2023 due to delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centre aims to provide care, protection and educational services to infants and toddlers from low-income families in the Mount Horne and surrounding communities, in the rural parish of St Andrew; (ii) **New incinerator for the General hospital project:** The project, supported with a grant of US\$ 100,000 under India-UNDP Fund, aims to install an incinerator for disposal of bio-medical waste. This is part of PM's announcements on 25 September 2019 following his meeting with CARICOM leaders in New York. Major part of the project has been completed. The project has been running on no-cost extension basis presently.

13. **Capacity Building:** India has been contributing to the capacity building of Grenada under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (**ITEC**) Programme. In 2023, the number of annual training slots were increased from 10 to 15 in the fields of improving ICT skills, management and training in SMEs.

14. **Humanitarian assistance:** During Hurricane Ivan in 2004, India provided emergency relief including medical supplies and roofing material. Indian also donated medical aid including Covid-19 vaccines to Grenada during the pandemic in 2020.

Economic relations

15. For FY 2023-24, Indian exports amounted to USD 4.40 million, while imports stood at USD 1.91 million. Top items of Indian exports include vehicles; pharmaceuticals;

Iron and Steel; tobacco; apparels etc. Top items of Indian imports include coffee, tea, mate, spices; electrical machinery and equipment; Copper; Iron and Steel etc.

(Source: DGCIS, Kolkata)

(Value in USD millions)

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	April-Dec 2024
India's Exports to Grenada	2.79	2.87	3.96	3.89	4.40	2.21
India's Imports from Grenada	0.48	0.46	0.74	1.45	1.91	0.24
Total Trade	3.27	3.33	4.70	5.34	6.31	2.45

Cultural relations

16. Indian Arrival Day and Phagwa/Holi are celebrated widely in Grenada. On the 75th Foundation Day of ICCR, Mission organized a cultural event in Grenada on 02 April 2024, with performances by an ICCR-sponsored-folk Bhojpuri group led by Shri. Bholu Pandey in St. George's. ICCR Foundation Day was celebrated for the first time in Grenada. It was attended by Mr. Dickon Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada, Mr. Lennox J. Andrews, Minister of Economic Development, Planning, Tourism, ICT, Creative Economy, Agriculture and Lands, Fisheries & Cooperatives, also attended. For the first time, Mission organized International Day of Yoga at the Quarantine Point in Grenada on June 23, 2024.

17. A bust of Mahatma Gandhi was installed in MacDonald College in January 2013. The road leading to the site of the first Indians' arrival has been named as '*Maidstone Road*' after the first ship which brought Indian indentured workers to Grenada and a commemorative plaque has been raised at that site where Indians arrived - Irwin's Bay, St Patrick, northern part of the island of Grenada.

18. Mission, in collaboration with Indian diaspora, celebrated India's 78th Independence Day (15 Aug 2024) at Tempe Playing Field, Grenada. Foreign Minister Mr. Joseph Andall graced the occasion as the Chief Guest along with Minister of Health, Wellness & Religious Affairs Mr. Philip A. Telesford, and Senator Salim Rahaman. Mission organized the first ever celebration of Gandhi Jayanti in Grenada, at Grenada Trade Centre, St Georges' on 02 October 2024. Mission also celebrated the 76th Republic Day (26 Jan 2025) at Tempe Playing Field, Grenada graced by Senator Hon. Salim Rahaman and Amb. Aaron Moses.

Indian Community

19. There are over 12,000 Indo-Grenadians, which is around 11% of Grenada's total population. This includes people of Indian and Mixed-Indian descent who are businessmen, professionals, academics, and Indian American students. Around 700-800 Indian citizens reside in Grenada, comprising small-scale businessmen, professionals and academics who teach at the St. George's University (SGU) of Grenada.

Consular

20. Since May 2011, Grenada has waived visa requirement for Indian nationals visiting Grenada for tourism and business purposes for a period of three months. Since 2014, Government of India has approved e-Tourist Visa for citizens of Grenada for visits up to 90 days.

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