

India

Alberta Relations

PROFILE

Capital: New Delhi

Population: 1.36 billion (2018)

Languages: Hindi, English, Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Oriya, Punjabi, Assamese and Maithili among others. India is home to over 14 official languages.

Government: Federal Republic

Head of State: President Ram Nath Kovind (Since July 2017)

Head of Government: Prime Minister Narendra Modi (since May 2014)

Currency: C\$1 = 53.61 Indian Rupees (2018 average)

GDP: \$3.4 trillion (2017)

GDP (PPP): Int'l\$6.9 trillion (2017)

GDP per Capita (PPP): Int'l\$6,426 (2017)

GDP Growth Rate: 8.2 per cent (2018)

Inflation: 3.6 per cent (2017)

Key Industries: Textiles, chemicals, food processing, steel, transportation equipment, cement, mining, petroleum, machinery, software and pharmaceuticals.

Sources: *World Bank of Canada*

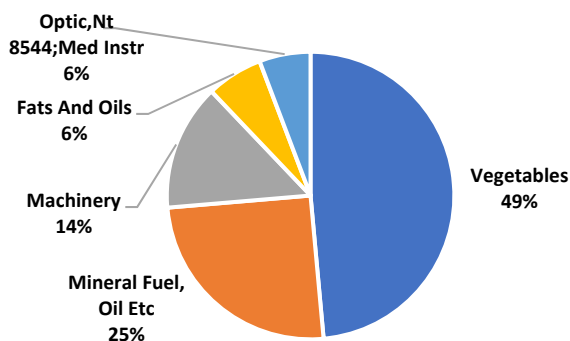
OVERVIEW

- India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country by 2022.
- Its economy is the seventh-largest in the world measured in nominal US dollars, but it is the third-largest when measured at purchasing power parity exchange rates.
- Indian middle class doubled in size over an eight year period from 300 million in 2004 to 600 million in 2012.
- The number of households with a disposable income of more than \$10,000 has leapt from around 2.5 million in 1990 to nearly 50 million in 2015.
- India is known as Bharat to its citizens.
- Bombay is now called Mumbai, Madras is called Chennai, and Calcutta is Kolkata.
- India is the birthplace of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism and is the adopted home for Zoroastrianism (Parsi).
- Six of the top twelve software development centers in the world are located in India.

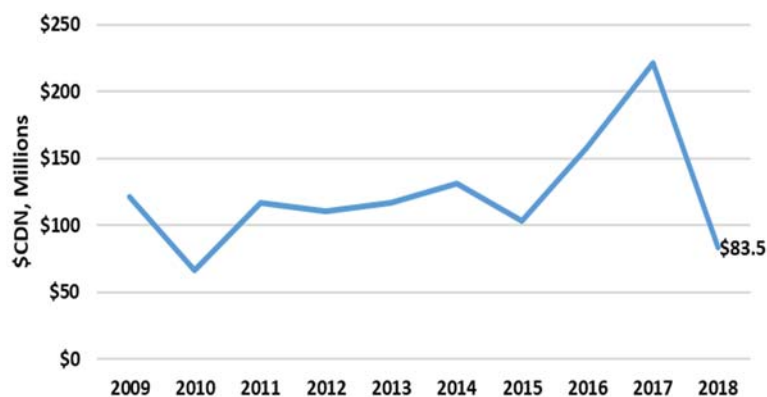
RELATIONSHIP

- In 1973, Calgary twinned with the Indian city of Jaipur.
- The Government of Alberta has provided matching grants for several humanitarian projects in India that include the provision of clean drinking water, building schools and support for education, medical assistance and the purchase of medical equipment. Relief funds were also provided for medical assistance to those fleeing Myanmar into India in 2018.
- India has grown as an export destination for Alberta; however, the level of trade is still below its potential.

Alberta's Merchandise Exports to India 2014 to 2018 (Total Average \$140 Million)



Alberta's Exports to India (2009-2018)



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Between 2014 and 2018, Alberta's exports to India averaged \$140 million per year. Primary exports included vegetables, fats and oils, mineral fuel, medical instruments and machinery.
- During the same time period, Alberta's direct imports from India averaged \$246 million per year. Major imports included iron and steel products, machinery and organic chemicals. Please note: this does not include goods sold in Alberta that arrived via distribution hubs in other provinces

AGRICULTURE

- In 2017, Canada's agri-food exports to India were valued at \$939 million. Dried peas (\$538 million) accounted for 57 percent of these exports and lentils 41 percent (\$389 million). India is Alberta's largest export market for dried peas.
- As many as 70 per cent of Alberta's pulse exports are routed through other provinces, meaning that actual exports from Alberta farms are significantly higher than officially reported.
- In addition to pulses, opportunities exist for Alberta companies in agricultural equipment and technology; biology; value-added agri-foods; canola oil; grain storage equipment; pork; soil health; swine genetics; healthcare products and supplements; oats; malting barley; pet food and food processing technology.
- Canada received market access to India for pork in 2016.
- In January 2014, the Alberta Premier led a trade mission to Delhi, Amritsar, Mumbai and Bangalore to promote trade in energy and agriculture. Two agricultural agreements were signed with Punjab and Meghalaya during this mission, along with the opening of an Alberta International Office in New Delhi.
- Over the past four years, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has conducted eight major trade missions to India, including participation in major events such as Agrotech, Agritech, Aahar and the Pulses Conclave.
- In February 2017, the Alberta Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry lead a trade mission to Mumbai and Delhi. The mission included engagement with federal and state governments, private businesses, and key stakeholders.

- In February 2018, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry visited Kolkata in the state of West Bengal and New Delhi. The mission focused on engaging key industry and government stakeholders on various agriculture-related trade matters. Minister delivered a keynote address at the 2018 Pulses Conclave. Alberta also concluded a new and expanded agreement with the state of Meghalaya on various agricultural matters of mutual interest.

ENERGY

- India is the third-largest consumer of oil and gas in the world. At the end of 2015, India's proven energy reserves included 87 billion tonnes of coal, 5.7 billion barrels of oil and 53 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of natural gas, according to IEA and USEIA.
- While India's oil production capacity remains relatively stable, demand continues to grow. In 2015, India was the fourth largest global oil consumer at 4.1 million barrels per day (mb/d)
- Although it is a net importer of crude oil at 3.9 mb/d, the country has become a net exporter of refined products by investing in export-targeted refineries thanks to the second-biggest refining capacity in Asia after China. However, the country is expected to be a net importer of refined product after 2020 due to rapid urbanization and population growth.
- In 2016, Russian Rosneft purchased the stakes in Essar Oil, the largest heavy oil refiner in India. The investment is expected to increase imports of Russian oil to India, allowing the oil producer to grow its market share in the refined product market.
- India increasingly relies on imported Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) because it has not been able to create sufficient natural gas infrastructure on a national level or to produce adequate domestic natural gas to meet domestic demand.
- Most of the natural gas demand in 2014 came from the power sector (23 per cent), the fertilizer industry (32 per cent), and the replacement of LPG in the residential sector (14 per cent). The government has labeled these as priority sectors for receiving new natural gas supplies. The fertilizer sector, which is highly price-sensitive, has been able to maintain low fuel costs by using natural gas.
- The Gas Authority of India accounts for over 50 per cent of the natural gas sold in India and 75 per cent pipeline transmitted natural gas in the country.

- On the electrical power side, India's generating capacity has reached over 300 Gigawatts (GW) in the early 2016, mostly from coal-fired power plants. India suffers from severe shortages of electricity, particularly during peak hours of demand, and a lack of access to electricity for the 240 million of population.
- India plans to add more than 118 GW of power capacity to the grid, with more than half of it composed of coal-fired generation capacity. By early 2016, about 87 per cent of this planned additional capacity had been brought online.
- India has the third-largest hard coal reserves in the world (roughly 12 per cent of the world total), equivalent to 140 years of current output; however, deposits are generally of low quality and India faces major obstacles to the development of its coal resources, resulting in coal imports.
- Assistant Deputy Minister Matthew Machielse (EDTT) led an Alberta delegation of 25 companies to Petrotech (biennial event) as well as Gujarat in February 2019. The mission resulted in several new trade deals and the expansion of existing relationships, leading to incremental revenue generation for Alberta companies.
- Concordia University signed an agreement of cooperation with a university in Punjab, which led to a visit to Alberta by Indian scholars in June 2018.
- UAlberta has 24 agreements with institutes and universities and one with the Government of India.
- In 2015, The University of Calgary extended its agreement with India's Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. The university has good ties with India, with nine institutional agreements, 29 faculty members who originate from India, and 31 faculty members with at least one degree obtained from an Indian university.
- Advanced Education hosted 155 Indian students as research interns from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2016 through the MITACS Globalink Program.
- Advanced Education has funded 166 Alberta students through the Campus Alberta Grant for International Learning.
- India remains a priority country for Advanced Education and Alberta's post-secondary institutions.
- Punjabi is offered as a Language and Cultural course in Alberta. Approximately 300 students were enrolled in the program in 2017/2018.

EDUCATION

- The University of Alberta (UAlberta) has awarded honorary doctorates to numerous distinguished Indians, including former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and renowned agriculturalist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.
- UAlberta has dozens of faculty members and over 400 students from India, with an active Indian Students' Association.
- UAlberta's Alberta School of Business has many ties with India such as training programs for the energy industry (through the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry) and student exchanges. Augustana Campus has a biannual tour to India focussing on the intersection of religion and development. The Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences had a joint project with MS Swaminathan Research Foundation focussed on poverty alleviation with a \$4.9 million grant from Global Affairs Canada and the International Development Research Center.
- In 2016, MacEwan University's Centre for Professional Nursing Education saw four cohorts of nurses from India make the journey to central Alberta to enhance their practice in the specialty field of palliative care and gerontology.
- UAlberta is a core member of IC-IMPACTS, the Canada-India Research Centre of Excellence, which was awarded \$13.8 million of federal government funding in 2012. IC-IMPACTS brings together a large international team to find solutions to key environmental, health, and infrastructure challenges that affect the quality of life of millions of Indians and Canadians. In 2017, the Canadian government extended IC-IMPACTS funding by \$8.4 million over three years, matched by the India government.
- Medicine Hat College hosts approximately 100 students from India each year in certificate, applied degree and diploma programs and has recently signed an agreement with Chitkara University to facilitate faculty and student exchange.
- Olds College welcomed its first cohort of students from India in October 2018.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

- India's economy has consistently ranked among the world's top fifteen in terms of GDP growth rate during the past decade, providing many areas of potential cooperation.
- Several Indian companies have considerable expertise in the petrochemical and refinery industry. Opportunities exist for Indian investment in this area as well as in research, value-added processing, education and training
- Areas of opportunity for Alberta companies include: oil and gas equipment and services; power equipment and engineering services; medical devices; telecommunications and information technology; environmental technologies and management; machinery and equipment; infrastructure development; building products and prefabricated home supplies; agricultural technology transfer and consulting services; and tourism.
- With 900 million subscribers, India is the world's second-largest mobile device market.

IMMIGRATION AND COMMUNITY

- Between 2014 and 2018, 34,642 citizens of India became Permanent Residents of Canada, with Alberta as their intended destination. Approximately 68% were economic immigrants, including applicants, spouses, and dependents.
- Between 2014 and 2018, 3,724 citizens of India had Temporary Foreign Worker Program LMIA work permits come into effect for Alberta.
- Between 2014 and 2018, 10,067 citizens of India had international study permits come into effect for Alberta.

RECENT VISITS

- May 2018: Official visit to Alberta of His Excellency Vikas Swarup, High Commissioner of India to Canada.
- February 2018: Minister of Agriculture and Forestry led a trade mission to India during the India Pulse Conclave in Delhi.
- February 2017: Minister of Agriculture and Forestry led a mission to Mumbai and Delhi.
- January 2014: Premier of Alberta met with business and government leaders and officially opened the Alberta New Delhi Office.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- His Excellency Vikas Swarup is High Commissioner for India in Canada, based in Ottawa.
- Mr. Nadir Patel is the High Commissioner for Canada to India based in New Delhi.
- There are offices of the Consulate General of Canada in Chandigarh, Mumbai and Bangalore as well as Consulate offices located in Chennai and Kolkata.