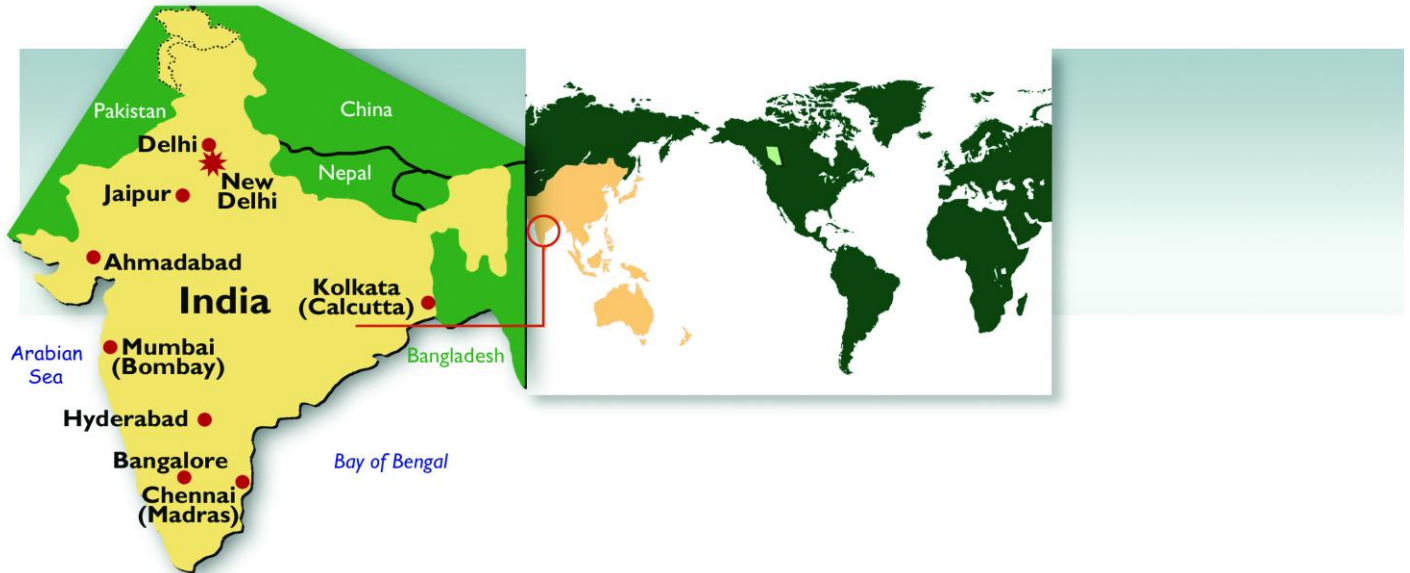


India – Alberta Relations

Government of Alberta
International and Intergovernmental Relations



PROFILE

Capital: New Delhi

Population: 1.17 billion (2009 est.)

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 Pratibha Patil (since July 2007)

Head of Government:
Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (since May 2004)

Currency: \$1 CDN = 45.2 Indian Rupees, 1 Indian Rupee = \$0.02 CDN (July 2010)

GDP: \$1.296 trillion US (2009 est.)

GDP (PPP): \$3.77 trillion US (2009 est.)

GDP Per Capita (PPP): \$3,230 US (2009)

GDP growth rate: 6.5% (2009 est.)

Inflation: 10.9% (2009 est.)

Unemployment: 10.7% (2009 est.)

Key Industries: Textiles, chemicals, food processing, steel, iron, apparel, transportation equipment, cement, mining, petroleum, machinery, software and precious stones.

Input was provided from the departments of: Advanced Education & Technology, Agriculture & Rural Development, Education and Energy

DID YOU KNOW?

- India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country by 2030.
- India's economy is the tenth-largest in the world measured in nominal US dollars, but rises to fourth-largest when measured at purchasing power parity exchange rates.
- Although one of the world's poorest countries, India also has a middle class of 250 million people who constitute a large consumer market.
- It is estimated that households with income of more than \$3,000 US per year will double by 2010.
- India is known as Bharat to its citizens.
- Bombay is now called Mumbai while Madras is called Chennai, and Calcutta is Kolkata.
- India is the birthplace of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and is the adopted home for Zoroastrianism (Parsi).
- Six of the top 12 software development centers in the world are located in India.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- In 1973, Calgary twinned with the Indian city of Jaipur.

- From 1998-2008, Alberta's former Wild Rose Foundation provided over \$2 million CDN for humanitarian and developmental projects in India. These funds match contributions raised by local Albertans to support projects aimed at improving the living conditions for people in underprivileged areas.
- Over the past three years, India has grown as an export destination for Alberta; however, the level of trade is still below its potential.

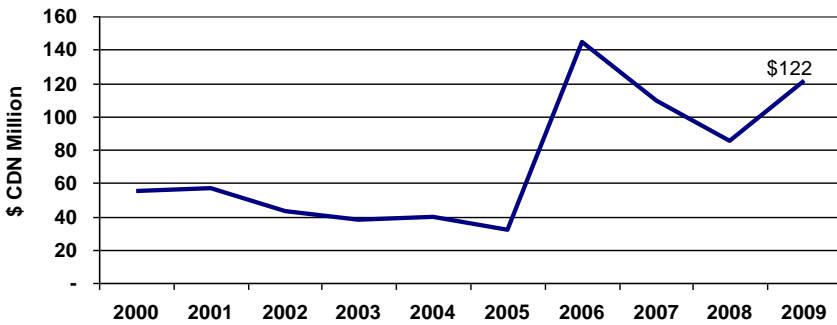
COMMUNITY

- There are over 72,000 Albertans of Indian descent in the province.
- There are approximately 45 Indo-Canadian organizations in Alberta.
- CKER-FM Radio currently broadcasts 5% of its program schedule in three East Indian languages (Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu).

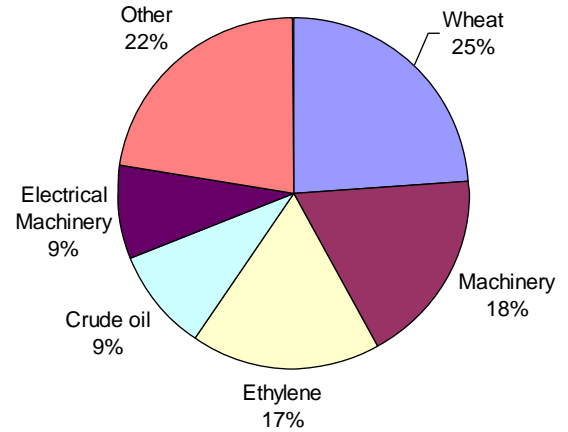
AGRICULTURE

- In January 2009, Canada signed a first ever Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with India to create a framework to increase agricultural trade between the two countries.
- Alberta aims to expand current trade in dried peas, canola oil, beef and livestock genetics.

Alberta's Merchandise Exports to India (2000 - 2009)



Alberta's Merchandise Exports to India 2005-2009 Average (Total = \$98.5 Million CDN)



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- Between 2005 and 2009, Alberta's exports to India averaged \$98.5 million CDN a year. Primary exports included wheat, machinery, ethylene, electrical equipment and crude oil products, organic chemicals, insecticides, linens and cement.
- Between 2005 and 2009, Alberta's direct imports from India averaged \$93.1 million CDN per year. Major imports included iron and steel. Please note, this does not include goods sold in Alberta that arrived via distribution hubs in other provinces.

ENERGY

- As of January 2009, India's energy reserves are 56.5 billion tonnes of coal, 5.6 billion barrels (bbl) of oil and 38 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of natural gas.
- While India's oil production capacity remains relatively stable, the country's demand continues to grow and it is the 6th largest global oil consumer at 2.67 million bbl/day (2009 est.)
- The Indian government introduced a New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in 1998 to encourage foreign involvement in oil and gas exploration. The program has had limited success with the majority of interest from domestic companies rather than foreign investors. India launched a new round of license bidding in March 2009.
- India's growing demand for energy provides ongoing opportunities for Alberta's companies in the areas of natural gas exploration and development, oil production, pipeline technology and construction, and coalbed methane.

- Calgary-based exploration and production companies Canoro Resources Ltd., Niko Resources Ltd. and Geoglobal Resources maintain offices in India.
- In April 2009, Niko Resources Ltd. and its Indian partner Reliance Industries Ltd. started production in the natural gas field located offshore in the eastern state of Andhra Pradesh.

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.
- Ongoing reforms to deregulate and privatize the economy are rapidly integrating India into the world trading system. This could lead to increased opportunities for business between India and Alberta.
- Alberta companies have over two decades of experience in the Indian oil and gas sector.
- As India attempts to limit its heavy dependence on oil imports, it will expand domestic exploration and the production of oil and gas, opening up the market to foreign investment.
- A key aspect of Alberta's hydrocarbon vision for 2020 is to upgrade oil sands resource in Alberta to manufacture goods such as refined petroleum products and petrochemicals. 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 products; environmental technologies and

management; industrial machinery and equipment; infrastructure development; building products and prefabricated home supplies; agricultural technology transfer and consulting services; and tourism.

EDUCATION

- The University of Calgary, the University of Alberta (U of A), the Athabasca University and the University of Lethbridge are members of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute. Founded in 1968 with a grant from the Indian government, the Institute focuses on encouraging teaching and research on India in the humanities and social sciences.
- As of 2010, The U of A has agreements with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, the Indore Indira School of Career Studies, the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, the IILM Institute for Higher Education, Petrotech Society, Tata Consultancy Services, and the University of Hyderabad.
- In 2006, the U of A created the Saroj and Prem Singhmar Chair in Classical Indian Polity and Society. This is the first chair at a Canadian university devoted to the study of ancient India.

RECENT VISITS

- November 2010: The Honourable Ed Stelmach, Premier of Alberta, met with business and government leaders in the cities of New Delhi and Amritsar and attended the Petrotech 2010 Conference, Asia's largest biennial Oil & Gas industry event.
- November 2010: The Government of Alberta entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Punjab, India, focusing on the areas of education and agriculture. The Memorandum was signed by Premier Ed Stelmach and the Punjab Deputy Chief Minister Mr. Sukhbir Singh Badal.

RECENT VISITS

- June 2010: The Honourable Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Republic of India visited Calgary to attend the 2010 Global Petroleum Show.
- August 2009: The Honourable Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Republic of India visited Calgary to attend India's New Exploration and Licensing Policy 8th Round Conference.
- January 2009: The Honourable Ron Stevens, Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations, met with business and government leaders in the cities of Bangalore, New Delhi and Mumbai and attended the Petrotech 2009 Conference, Asia's largest biennial Oil & Gas industry event.
- January 2008: The Honourable Dinsha Patel, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Republic of India visited Calgary to attend India's New Exploration and Licensing Policy 7th Round Conference.
- November 2006: The United States Energy Association (USEA) and its South Asian Regional Initiative for Energy Delegation, which included eight delegates from the electricity sector in India, visited Calgary.
- June 2006: Several of India's state ministers including the Honourable Tarun Gogoi, India's Chief Minister and Minister of Finance, for the State of Assam, visited Alberta.
- October 2005: An Alberta MLA led a mission to India to promote Alberta's International Governance Office and sign a MOU with the Indian Institute of Public Administration.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- His Excellency S.M. Gavai is the Indian High Commissioner in Ottawa.
- Mr. Stewart G. Beck is the Canadian High Commissioner to the Republic of India, based in New Delhi.
- There are Canadian Consulate General offices in Chandigarh and Mumbai, a Canadian Consulate office in Chennai, Canadian Government Trade Offices in Bangalore, Kolkata and Ahmedabad and an Honorary Consulate in Kolkata.
- Mr. Ashok Das is India's Consul General in Vancouver, with jurisdiction over Alberta.

