

INDIA in MEXICO

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IN FOCUS: Visit of Foreign Minister of Mexico H.E. Mr. Marcelo Ebrard to India





Ambassador of India
Mr. Pankaj Sharma

I am happy to connect with fellow readers through this important medium of our monthly newsletter. I came to Mexico as Ambassador of India only two months ago, but this time has been sufficient for me to feel the warmth of its people and to realize the great similarities between India and Mexico, starting from our rich civilizational heritages, vibrant culture and traditions, along with the vast potential of collaboration and cooperation that our countries hold.

With more than 1.3 billion people today, India, the second most populous country is the sixth largest economy in the world with a great business environment for facilitating businesses and investments as well as supporting innovation and startups.

India remembers Mexico for its help with the green revolution as well as for some of the Mexico's finest diplomats, like Mr. Octavio Paz, who warmly wrote about India and introduced India to Mexicans. India and Mexico share a close and cordial relationship based on respect and mutual understanding. It is heartening to see Indian culture, art, philosophy, spirituality, yoga and Bollywood, highly appreciated by Mexicans. The ongoing Festival of India at CENART is being well received attracting huge crowds.

Our bilateral relations have gone from strength to strength with every passing year, which is reflected in the visits by both our Foreign Ministers within a span of six months. Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Mexico in September 2021 and we had the honor of receiving Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Mexico Mr. Marcelo Ebrard in India from 30 March 2022-01 April 2022.

Even as our privileged partnership grows further, we are exploring new avenues for enhancing this to a strategic partnership, as agreed by our leadership at the highest level. We are now working on a road map to define the strategic partnership. We are looking at new and exciting areas of cooperation such as, co-production of vaccines and medicines, cooperation in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine, higher education, science and technology, including project accelerators, research and development, innovation and outer space etc.

Mexico has become our second largest trading partner in the entire Latin American region and in fact the third in all of the Americas. In 2021, the bilateral trade between India and Mexico crossed US \$ 10 Billion. However, there is huge untapped potential and we at the Embassy are striving to enhance trade and investments between India and Mexico.

Our two countries enjoy strong institutional foundation cemented through several cooperation agreements in numerous areas like culture, tourism promotion, agriculture, education, space cooperation, technologies, small scale industries, renewable energy, air services, customs, just to name a few, and there are many more in the pipeline. In the international context likewise, our countries have similar positions on most of the global challenges and issues.

We continue to enjoy each other's support in international forums and are working together at the United Nations Security Council as non-permanent members since 1st of January, 2021. India knows that it has a good friend in Mexico. Similarly Mexico also finds a a close and reliable partner in India.

India currently hosts the third largest ecosystem for new companies worldwide, with the plans of Startup India and Make in India, as well as the India Innovation Growth Program 2.0. There are many opportunities, that I would encourage the Mexican investors and businesses to take advantage of.

We fondly remember Mexico for being the first country in Latin America to establish diplomatic relations with India, soon after attaining its independence in August 1947, and today after 71 years, this friendship has only deepened and strengthened.

We look forward to working together with our friends in Mexico in taking forward this important relationship.

(Pankaj Sharma)
(Ambassador of India to Mexico)

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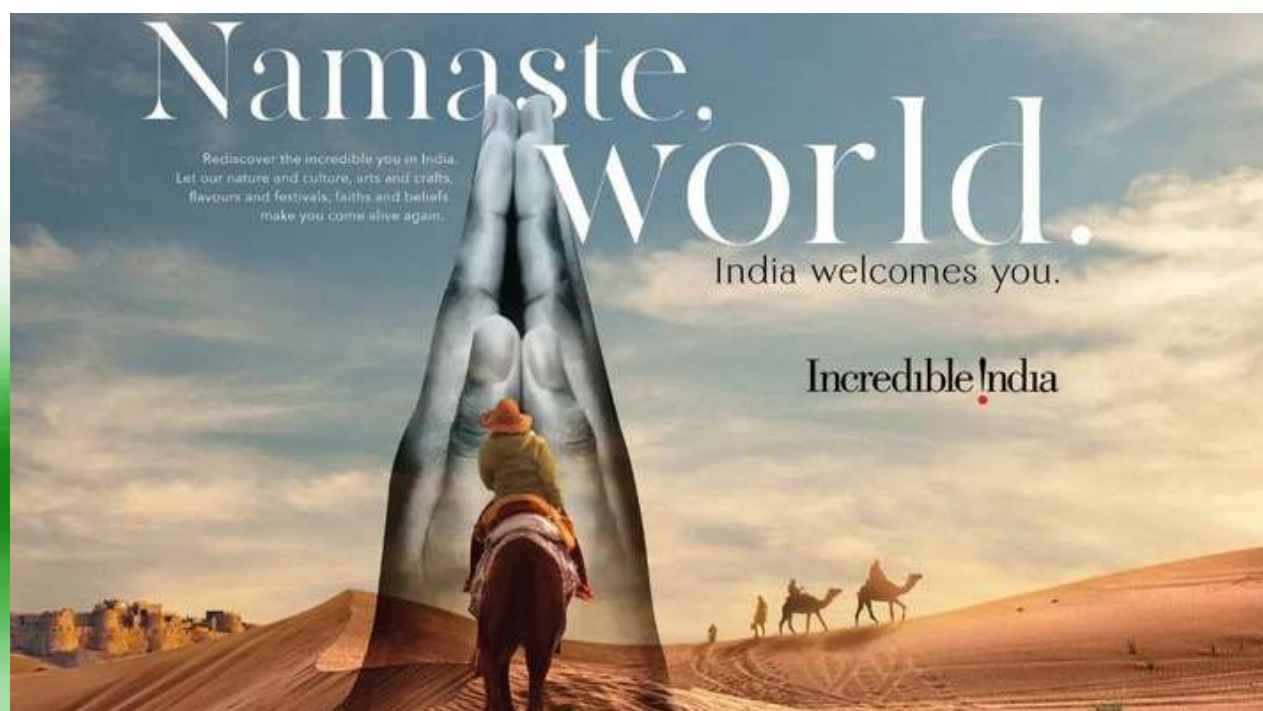
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Our heartiest congratulations to the family of the Late Dr. Sanjaya Rajaram, who has been conferred with Padma Bhushan by the Hon'ble President of India, H.E. Shri Ram Nath Kovind in the field of Science & Engineering, for developing 510+ high-yielding & disease-resistant wheat varieties.

Foreign Minister of Mexico H.E. Mr. Marcelo Ebrard visits India 30 March-01 April 2022

Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de México S.E. Sr. Marcelo Ebrard visito la India el 30 de Marzo-01 de Abril 2022

External Affairs Minister of India H.E. Dr. S. Jaishankar welcomed Foreign Minister of Mexico H.E. Mr. Marcelo Ebrard to India and had productive discussions with him in various fields of cooperation.

Among others, the discussions focused on growing trade and investment, health, science & technology and space sector cooperation between India and Mexico. (30 March 2022)





delegation, met with Honorable Minister of State for Science & Technology H.E. Dr. Jitendra Singh.

They discussed ways to further strengthening existing cooperation and extending it to new areas like digital health, genomics, biotechnology, green revolution, and space cooperation etc. (30 March 2022)

FM Marcelo Ebrard met with Honorable Minister of Health & Family Welfare H.E. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya

The focus of the discussions was enhancing bilateral cooperation and exploring new areas like digitalization of medical information and procurement of medicines. (30 March 2022)





FM Marcelo Ebrard met with the Honorable Minister of Ayush H.E. Shri. Sarbananda Sonowal .

The two sides discussed strengthening of bilateral ties and increased collaboration in traditional medicine systems. India will provide scholarships for students from Mexico to study traditional medicines in India. In addition, chairs of traditional Indian medicine are planned to be established in Mexican universities. (30 March 2022)

FM Marcelo Ebrard met Honorable Minister of Commerce and Industry of India H.E. Mr. Piyush Goyal who is also India's G-20 Sherpa.

Boosting investments and trade opportunities and cooperation in the framework of G-20 were the main themes of discussions. (30 March 2022)





FM Marcelo Ebrard, during his official visit to India, met Mr. Somanath S., Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)/Secretary, Department of Space and discussed the ongoing interactions between ISRO and the Mexican Space Agency (AEM).

They looked at the opportunities for enhancing India – Mexico space collaboration, beyond the space agency level.

(31 March 2022)

FM Ebrard held a meeting with Mr. Parag Deshmukh from the Serum Institute of India which supplied Covishield vaccine to Mexico. It was agreed to jointly work on vaccine production and supplies in future.



FM Ebrard also met Mr. Krishna Ella, Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Biotech which produced India's first indigenous vaccine Covaxin against Covid 19. They agreed to explore further opportunities for cooperation.



FM Ebrard discussed possible future cooperation with Biological E pharmaceutical company. (31 March 2022)





FM Ebrard met officials from the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India and Invest India to explore further areas of cooperation in business and trade.

(31 March 2022)

FM Marcelo Ebrard along with a high level delegation on his visit to India met with executives from the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)

They discussed possibilities of cooperation in field of robotics, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. (31 March 2022)



In Mumbai, FM Ebrard met with pharma executives of Cipla company, leader in treatments against Cancer, HIV and respiratory diseases .

(01 April 2022)

FM Marcelo Ebrard met Mr. Anand Mahindra, Chairman of Mahindra Group .

They discussed the possibilities of cooperation with the Mahindra Group for electromobility and value chains in Mexico within the T-MEC. (01 April 2022)





In Mumbai, FM Ebrard led a meeting with CEOs of companies from both countries that could be part of the India-Mexico CEO Forum.

They agreed to launch the India-Mexico Business Council. FM Ebrard also announced plans to establish a Mexican Consulate in Mumbai. (01 April 2022)

FM Marcelo Ebrard met Rajesh Gopinathan, CEO & MD, Tata Consultancy Services during his visit to Tata Consultancy Services office in Mumbai.

The Minister acknowledged TCS for its investments and creating more than 10,000 employment opportunities in Mexico. (01 April 2022)



A delegation led by Mr. Alejandro Svarch, Head of COFEPRIS Mexico visited the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and interacted with the Director General and scientists of the ICMR .

This was an exploratory visit wherein both sides exchanged ideas on potential areas of collaboration in health research.

Political Connect



Embassy officers led by Ambassador Pankaj Sharma, met with the delegation from the Mexican Space Agency, led by Prof. Rosa Ramirez & comprising Mr. Julio Castillo & Mr. Jesús Romero.

Discussions focussed on strengthening & enhancing bilateral cooperation between India's ISRO & Mexican Space Agency (AEM). The discussions also included the possibilities of collaboration with the Latin American & Caribbean Space Agency (ALCE). (01 March 2022)



Members of India's Space Research Organisation ISRO & Mexico's Agencia Espacial Mexicana (AEM), along with Ambassador Pankaj Sharma & Embassy officer Ms Vallari Gaikwad met virtually to discuss the details of a new MoU aimed at further strengthening the existing collaboration between India & Mexico in the field of space cooperation. (08 March 2022)



The Indian flag flew high during inauguration of the new Avenue of Nations at Municipality of Teotihuacan, State of Mexico.

Ambassador Pankaj Sharma expressed gratitude to Mayor of Teotihuacan, H.E. Mr. Mario Paredesv for honoring India in Mexico. This further strengthens bond of our friendship & cultural ties. (12 March 2022)



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma called on México's Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Ms. Carmen Moreno Toscano at SRE .

The meeting focused on the visit of Mexico's Foreign Minister, H.E. Mr.Marcelo Ebrard to India (30March-1April) & the ways to strengthen bilateral relationship between India and Mexico. (14 March 2022)



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma presented his credentials to President of Mexico
H.E. Andrés Manuel López Obrador on 16th March, 2022



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma and Second Secretary (Economic and Commerce) Vallari Gaikwad attended the National meeting of the fibre, textile, clothing & footwear, organized by the National Chamber of the Textile Industry of México Camara Nacional de la Industria Textil, CANAINTEX

Ambassador was also honored to meet the Hon'ble Minister of Economy Secretaría de Economía H.E. Ms. Tatiana Clouthier at the event (16 March 2022)





Ambassador Pankaj Sharma and Second Secretary (Economic and Commerce) Vallari Gaikwad met with the Director General's of Agencia Mexicana de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo Mr. Carlos Castillo (Planning & Evaluation) & Dr. Javier Dávila (Cooperation Policy) & reviewed the areas of bilateral cooperation in the context of the visit of México's Foreign Minister H.E. Marcelo Ebrard to India from 30 March to 1 April.



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma, at the inauguration of the new Felipe Ángeles International Airport by the Hon'ble President of Mexico H.E. Andrés Manuel López Obrador (21 March 2022)



In the context of Foreign Minister H.E. Marcelo Ebrard's visit to India, Ambassador Pankaj Sharma met with some of the members of the Mexican delegation comprising Director General of the Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Médicas y Nutrición "Salvador Zubirán", Dr. David Kershenobich; Director of Institute of Biotechnology UNAM Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Dr. Palomares; Researcher Dr. Brenda & DG of Cooperation Policy Agencia Mexicana de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo Dr.



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma along with Embassy officials met with the Director General of National Polytechnic Institute of México (IPN) Dr. Arturo Reyes Sandoval & discussed cooperation in the field of academics & non-traditional medicines especially Ayurveda amongst others. (30 March 2022)

India Successfully Concludes **OPERATION GANGA**

- Commenced on Feb 24 to rescue Indian citizens stranded in Ukraine
- India's evacuation has been the most active amongst all nations
- Over 90 flights were arranged
- Over 22,500 Indians nationals have returned home safely
- Brought home 600 Indian students stuck in Sumy
- Also evacuated stranded foreign nationals of Bangladesh, Nepal & other countries

Political In Focus-Establishment of India-Mexico Parliamentary Friendship Group



The Mexico-Republic of India Friendship Group was officially inaugurated on 23 March, 2022 at the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico. The occasion saw the presence of Ambassador of India to Mexico Dr. Pankaj Sharma, President of the Parliamentary Friendship Group, Deputy H.E. Salvador Caro Cabrera; the two Vice-Presidents of the Parliamentary Friendship Group, Deputy H.E. Ms. Lidia Perez Barcenas and Deputy H.E. Mr. Manuel Guillermo Chapman Moreno and other Hon'ble Members of the Friendship Group.



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma also called on the Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies, H.E. Ms. Karla Almazan. Ms. Almazán congratulated India on the launching of the México-India Parliamentary Friendship Group & extended support of the Chamber of Deputies to the Group. (25 March 2022)

Ambassador Pankaj Sharma in his remarks noted that parliamentary ties between India and Mexico are a cornerstone of the deep and wide-ranging Privileged Partnership between the two countries, which complement several other regular institutional engagements at the higher political levels. He mentioned that the signing of the Constitutive act of the Parliamentary Friendship Group between India and Mexico was taking place at a time when the relations between the two Governments and people are at their best. While referring to the upcoming visit of Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Mexico H.E. Marcelo Ebrard to India, Ambassador Sharma remarked that the visit would help in taking our bilateral relations forward with a renewed vigour.

President of the Friendship Group Mr. Cabrera affirmed that there is strong interest in strengthening ties of friendship between both countries as well as desire to receive Parliamentarians from India for further strengthening of bilateral relations.

Vice-President of the Friendship Group, Deputy H.E. Ms. Lidia Perez Barcenas and Deputy H.E. Mr. Manuel Guillermo Chapman Moreno highlighted the strong ties that both nations share and touched upon the continuing engagements in culture, education, trade, commerce, health, science and technology. They also underscored the importance of this Friendship Group mechanism in deepening political dialogue and the bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

The Friendship Groups in the Lower House (Chamber of Deputies) in Mexico are legislative committees whose purpose is to draw attention and provide follow-up on bilateral agendas with Legislative Assemblies, Congresses, Parliaments and other bodies of popular representation of countries with which Mexico maintains diplomatic relations.



Commercial Connect



Mr. Jagdish Nainwal, Director, Regional LATAM UPL-Ltd & Mr.Sanjay Singh, Global Chief Human Resources Officer held a meeting with the Economic & Commercial Wing of the Indian Embassy in Mexico. (08 March 2022)

Business In Focus- UPL Ltd



UPL entered in Mexican market by formalizing UPL Mexico S.A. in 1994 and today it is a market Leader in Mexican market. They have been able to serve Mexican market with innovative technology as well as one of the important contributors in the growth of Mexican agriculture.

Brief Information about UPL Mexico

- **Employment provided ~ 500 (99% Mexican and 1 % other Latin American nationalities).**
- **Distribution ~ Pan Mexico 350 served directly by 65+ sales team & 60+ promoters ~ working with farmers in most of the crops.**
- **Products registered ~ 350.**
- **Group companies - UPL for Crop Protection, Advanta for Seeds & Decco for Post-Harvest**
- **R & D Centre in Saltio and field station in Guanajuato states.**
- **3 Manufacturing plants – – Exporting to 50 countries.**

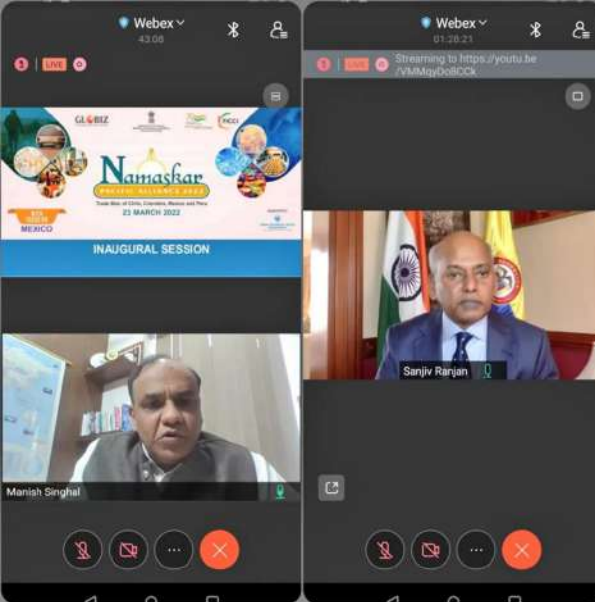
• **CSR: Across the different countries UPL has been part of various working with Government the poor children, forestation and multiple initiatives for the internal UPL employees:**

- **ESR recognition since 2013**
- **UPL was awarded as a Great Place to Work – Dec 2021**
- **Children Project ~Different joint activities with Duanis Association to support its objectives, school supplies, clothing, tablets to children in Piedra Blanca -50 etc.**
- **Donations to Mexico City and Coahuila States: COVID-19 ~ sanitizers; food pantries; medical protection utensils and ventilators.**



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma along with officers from the Indian Embassy visited the Indian Pavilion at Plastimagen in Mexico & interacted with the delegation from The Plastics Export Promotion Council - Plexconcil & Indian Companies. Ambassador assured Embassy's support in promoting India's Plastic & Polymer exports to Mexico. (10 March 2022)





Ambassador Pankaj Sharma participated in FICCI's Namaskar Pacific Alliance 2022 & reiterated India's commitment to enhancing trade & investment with Pacific Alliance countries, particularly in sectors of pharmaceuticals, information technology, non-traditional medicines etc., as well as the possibility of a Free Trade Agreement with México. (23 March 2022)



Consular, Culture and Diaspora connect



A welcome reception was hosted by the Indian Association of Mexico (IAM) for Ambassador of India to Mexico, H.E. Dr. Pankaj Sharma.

IAM wished Ambassador a successful and fruitful tenure. Ambassador Sharma praised the work done by IAM in Mexico and urged the diaspora members to work together with Embassy officials to further strengthen the bilateral Relationship between India and Mexico. (06 March 2022)



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma; Director ICCR in Mexico, Dr Shrimati Das and team, Second Secretary (Economic and Commercial) Vallari Gaikwad visited Autonomous University of Hidalgo to discuss possibilities of enhancing academic collaboration including student and faculty exchange programs. (11 March 2022)

Culture In Focus-Inauguration of Indian Festival at CENART



Ambassador Pankaj Sharma and Director of ICCR in Mexico Dr. Shrimati Das at the inaugural ceremony of the Indian Festival at Centro Nacional de las Artes México (CENART)

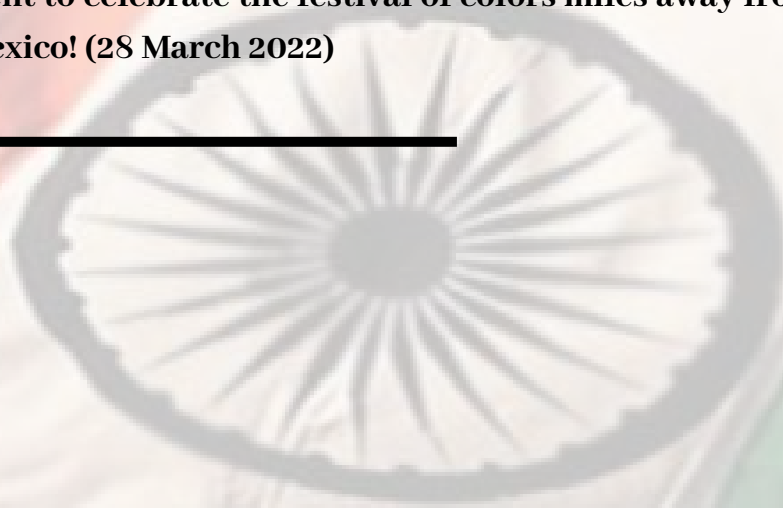
Three exhibitions 'Lok Mein Ram-The god Rama among the people', 'Stree Drishti: women engravers of India' and 'Sari, cultural icon of India' were on display as part of the Festival. (12 March 2022)







People, music & colors filled the green space at La Marquesa in Mexico, as Indian Association of Mexico organized an amazing Holi event to celebrate the festival of colors miles away from home, with more than 400 people from India & Mexico! (28 March 2022)



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Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

Incredible India

