



INDIA IN TORONTO

Newsletter of the Consulate General of India, Toronto

April/May/June - 2025

Prime Minister meets Prime Minister Mark Carney on the sidelines of the G7 Summit



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, held a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Canada, The Right Honourable H.E. Mr. Mark Carney, on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta. This was the first in-person interaction between the two leaders since Prime Minister Carney assumed office following Canada's recent general elections. The meeting provided an opportunity for both sides to hold frank and forward-looking discussions on the state of India-Canada relations and the way ahead.

The leaders reaffirmed the importance of India-Canada ties, based on shared democratic values, respect for the rule of law, and commitment to upholding the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Read more on https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/39689/Prime_Minister_meets_Prime_Minister_Mark_Carney_on_the_sidelines_of_the_G7_Summit

Conversion of PIO Card to OCI Card by December 31, 2025

1. Indian Immigration will accept all Person of Indian Origin (PIO) cards, along with a valid foreign passport, as a valid travel document till December 31, 2025 or acceptance of handwritten PIO card by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) whichever is earlier.

2. All existing PIO cardholders are informed that no further extension will be given and they will have to get their PIO Cards converted to OCI card by 31 December, 2025. In the meantime, if any deadline is notified by ICAO thereby making handwritten PIO cards invalid, then PIO cardholders may have to obtain appropriate Visa from the Indian Missions/Posts abroad for travel to India.

3. All PIO cardholders with valid PIO cards as on January 9, 2015 are therefore advised to convert their PIO card to OCI card by 31.12.2025.



Cultural Activities:

Celebrating Unity and Wellness on International Day of Yoga



On June 21st 2025, the Consulate proudly marked the 11th International Day of Yoga at the historic Legislative Assembly of Ontario, bringing together yoga enthusiasts, community members, wellness organizations, government officials, diplomats, and consular officers.

The event embodied this year's theme—"Yoga for One Earth, One Health"—highlighting the power of yoga to foster well-being, harmony, and cultural connection.

The Consulate extends its heartfelt thanks to the yoga and meditation organizations whose dedicated efforts over the past 75 days helped spread the message of yoga to diverse communities across the region.

Halifax Yoga Fest 2025: A Day of Wellness by the Water



The Consulate, in collaboration with Build Nova Scotia, hosted Halifax Yoga Fest 2025 at the picturesque Foundation Wharf to mark the 11th International Day of Yoga.

The celebration brought together yoga enthusiasts from across Nova Scotia for a vibrant day dedicated to wellness, mindfulness, and community spirit. Attendees enjoyed revitalizing yoga sessions, guided meditations, and insightful workshops led by local instructors.

The event was also joined by Deputy Mayor of Halifax, Mr. Tony Mancini.

Glimpses of International Day of Yoga 2025 (PART-1)



The Consulate together with ISHA Foundation, celebrated the 11th International Day of Yoga at HTO Park with a serene lakeside session. The event brought together the local diaspora for a shared experience of yoga, breath, and mindfulness. Consul Mr. Sanjeev Saklani graced the occasion.



Consulate together with prominent yoga organizations, including Art of Living, HSS, SGVP Gurukul, Shri Ambika Yoga Kutir, Gayatri Pariwar – Western Ontario and Yoga with Arunita hosted a rejuvenating yoga session in the KWC (Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge) region. Consul Girish Juneja joined the participants in promoting wellness through yoga.



The Consulate, in collaboration with the Delhi Association of Canada, organized a special morning yoga session in Brampton as part of the lead-up to IDY 2025.

Embracing the theme 'Yoga For One Earth One Health', the event promoted wellness and environmental harmony. Consul Kuljeet Singh Arora participated in the session, joining the community in this meaningful initiative.

Glimpses of International Day of Yoga 2025 (PART-2)



The Consulate, in collaboration with ISHA foundation, hosted an engaging yoga session in Mississauga, drawing enthusiastic participation from the community. Consul Kuljeet Singh Arora, representing the Consulate, encouraged attendees to embrace yoga as a path to wellness and inner balance.



The Consulate, in collaboration with Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur (SRMD) Yoga, hosted a yoga session at the University of Toronto, Mississauga. The event saw active participation from yoga enthusiasts, promoting health, and community well-being.



The Consulate, in collaboration with Sahaj Yoga organised a Yoga session to celebrate 50 days countdown to 11th International Day of Yoga. Consul Mukesh Puri joined the session, engaging with the community in a shared celebration of wellness and unity.

Remembering the Victims of Air India Flight 182



Location: Humber Bay Park



Location: Queen's Park

Marking 40 years since the reprehensible terrorist bombing of Air India Flight 182, Acting Consul General Mr Kapidhwaja Pratap Singh laid a wreath in solemn remembrance of the 329 victims at the Air India 182 Memorial in Humber Bay Park & Queens Park. He expressed his condolences and solidarity with the families of the victims.

Consulate Engages with Indo-Canadian Organizations Across GTA



Consulate organized a meeting of Indo-Canadian community organizations working across the Greater Toronto Area. Acting Consul General Mr Kapidhwaja Pratap Singh briefed participants on key diaspora matters, including updates on consular services, upcoming events such as Panorama India Day Parade in August and other collaborative initiatives.

Maharana Pratap Jayanti Celebrated in Brampton



The Kshatriya Welfare Association of Canada hosted a vibrant Maharana Pratap Jayanti celebration at Hindu Sabha Mandir, Brampton. Acting Consul General Mr Kapidhwaja Pratap Singh attended the event, joining the community in honoring the legacy of the legendary warrior king.



CIAF 2025 Celebrates the Spirit of Indian Art and Culture

The Canada Indian Arts Festival (CIAF) 2025 brought to life the richness of India's cultural heritage through mesmerizing dance performances and vibrant artistic displays.

Acting Consul General Mr Kapidhwaja Pratap Singh attended the event and, in his remarks, highlighted the timeless appeal and global influence of Indian art, applauding the diaspora for keeping cultural traditions alive and thriving.



Consulate Marks World Environment Day with Pledge

On the occasion of World Environment Day, Acting Consul General Mr Kapidhwaja Pratap Singh led the Consulate team in pledging to #BeatPlasticPollution, aligning with this year's global theme.

Consulate reaffirmed its dedication to sustainability and emphasized the importance of collective action in promoting environmentally responsible choices.



Consulate Hosts Walkathon for Environmental Awareness



The Consulate organized a Walkathon to promote environmental consciousness and inspire collective action. Participants came together in support of Mission LiFE, advocating for sustainable lifestyles and spreading awareness about ending plastic pollution.

Vedic Roots Montessori Academy Showcases Indian Culture at 'Kalaa Utsav'



Vedic Roots Montessori Academy in Toronto celebrated its year-end annual event, Kalaa Utsav, on Friday, June 20, 2025. The young students delivered vibrant performances that highlighted the rich cultural heritage, traditions, and knowledge of India. Consul Arun Kumar attended the event on behalf of the Consulate.

11th World Punjabi Conference in Brampton

The Punjabi Business Professional Association, Jagat Punjabi Sabha, and Ontario Friends Club jointly hosted the 11th World Punjabi Conference 2025 in Brampton from June 27 to 29. The event focused on preservation of the Punjabi language and honoring the legacy of the Ghadri Babas in India's freedom movement. The Consulate was pleased to support the initiative. Consul Girish Juneja commended the organizers for their meaningful efforts and reaffirmed the Consulate's commitment to supporting community-led initiatives.



Himachal Day Celebrated in Toronto



The Himachal Association of Canada (HimCan) hosted its annual Himachal Day Celebration on June 13, 2025, in Toronto, showcasing the vibrant culture and traditions of Himachal Pradesh. Consul Arun Kumar attended the event on behalf of the Consulate, joining the community in celebrating this special occasion.

Consulate Joins in Celebrating Women at 'Teeyan Da Mela'



The Consulate was pleased to partner with ਤੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਮੇਲਾ (Teeyan Da Mela) — a unique celebration of womanhood and cultural heritage. The vibrant event welcomed over 4,000 women and featured energetic Giddha performances, soulful Punjabi music, traditional games, and engaging videos highlighting India's rich and diverse tourist experiences.

Consulate Joins Celebration of Maharaja Jassa Singh Ramgharia's 302nd Birth Anniversary

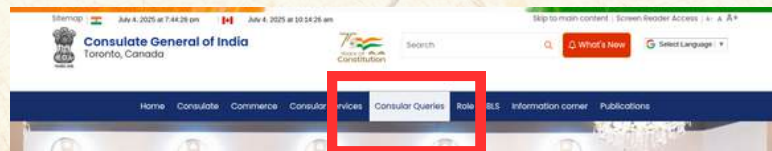


Consul Mr. Girish Juneja represented the Consulate at a commemorative event organized by the Ramgarhia Sikh Federation of Ontario, marking the 302nd birth anniversary of Maharaja Jassa Singh Ramgharia. The event honored the legacy of the revered leader, remembered as a fearless warrior, strategist, and devout Sikh.

Consulate Launches Query Management System

In a major step towards improving service delivery and communication, the Consulate has implemented a dedicated Query Management System (QMS) to handle public inquiries more efficiently and transparently.

Since its launch, the QMS has significantly streamlined the resolution process for a wide range of consular services. Over the last three months—April, May, and June—the Consulate successfully addressed 2,750 queries, covering essential services such as passport issuance and renewal, Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) applications, visa processing, document attestation, and other consular matters.



For all consular-related assistance or inquiries, please follow the steps outlined below:

Stepwise guide:

1. Select Consular Service

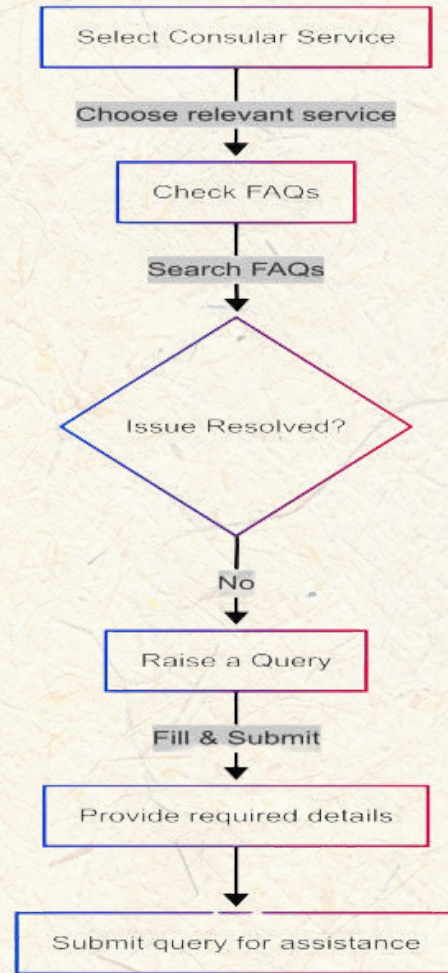
Choose the relevant consular service from the dropdown for your query.

2. Check FAQs

Browse FAQs related to your selected service. Use the search bar (top right corner) to find relevant FAQs quickly.

3. Raise a Query

If the FAQs do not resolve your concern, submit your query via the 'Raise A Query' tab at the bottom of the FAQ section. Fill all required details accurately. Submit your query for further assistance.



Consular Activities:

During April, May & June 2025, the Consulate successfully processed a total of 46,790 applications across a range of consular services, including passport renewals and issuance, OCI, visa processing, police clearance certificates (PCC), and other related services.

This reflects the Consulate's ongoing commitment to efficiently serving the Indo-Canadian community while upholding high standards of service delivery.

Welfare Activities:

The Consulate remained committed to supporting Indian nationals in need throughout April, May & June 2025. Assistance was provided in the transportation of mortal remains. The Consulate also extended help in missing persons cases and facilitated the repatriation of distressed Indian nationals to India. Support was offered to Indian women facing marital challenges and the well-being of one Indian national in detention was ensured.

For all welfare-related assistance or inquiries, the Consulate may be contacted at welfare.toronto@mea.gov.in. The welfare team will provide the necessary support and information regarding applicable services and assistance programs.

Consulate Launches Social Media Campaign to Engage Indian Diaspora

To keep the Indian diaspora well-informed about various consular services and updates, the Consulate has launched a dedicated campaign across its social media platforms. This initiative aims to provide timely information, important announcements, and service-related guidance, ensuring greater outreach and engagement with the community.

Consulate General of India
Toronto

PASSPORT RENEWAL

DOCUMENTATION & APPLICATION PROCESS

Cases of passport reissue/renewal

- Validity expiry
- Change in personal particulars
- Loss/Damage
- Minors

Scan to know more

Consular Services

Confused about the documents requirement and online application process for passport renewal? See all the details on our website under Passport menu.

Home > Consular Services > Passport

STAY INFORMED

It's all there on our **WEBSITE**

cgitoronto.gov.in

For your all consular queries, submit your queries at: Home > Consular Queries

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Toronto

STATUTORY FEE BY THE CONSULATE

DETAILS OF FEES FOR DIFFERENT CONSULAR SERVICES

Fee details

Visit our website to see the detailed breakup of fees charged by the Consulate for different consular services

Home > Consular Services > Fees

Scan to know the fee details

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TATKAL PASSPORT SERVICE

FAQ FOR PASSPORT SERVICES

Q1: How can I apply under TATKAL category for renewal of passport?

A1: The following cases are eligible to apply for TATKAL passport:

1. Lost/Expired passport
2. Applied under cases and cases where name has changed (JEE/NEET/Foreign Study Permit/Visitor Permit)
3. For changes in personal particulars (including addition/deletion of spouses, date of birth, etc.)
4. Change in name (signature) appearance, sex, date of birth, place of birth
5. Renewal of short validity passport
6. Apostrophe cases
7. Minors whose parents are separated/divorced

Application submitted under TATKAL can be processed as normal application if regular supporting documents are not received or the applicant is not eligible for TATKAL. TATKAL fees will not be refunded in such cases.

Scan to see Passport FAQs

Passport FAQs

More such key queries & doubts related to passport services have been clearly explained in the FAQs available on our website — making the process easier and free of confusion.

Home > Consular Services > Passport > FAQs

STAY INFORMED

It's all there on our **WEBSITE**

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For your all consular queries, submit your queries at: Home > Consular Queries

Consulate General of India
Toronto

ROLE OF BLS

OUR AUTHORISED CONSULAR SERVICES PARTNER

Scope of work

- BLS only receives applications and transmits services
- Decision on any application is the sole authority of Consulate

Home > Passport BLS > Scope of Work

Authorized BLS Centres

5 authorised BLS Centres: Toronto, Brampton, Mississauga, Winnipeg, Halifax

Scan to know more about the immediate date of BLS

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MANDATORY & OPTIONAL FEE OF BLS

DETAILS OF FEES CHARGED BY BLS

Fee details

BLS offers additional services that are completely OPTIONAL — NOT MANDATORY

Home > Role of BLS > Fee Structure & Optional Services

Scan to know the optional services fee details

Optional Services YOUR CHOICE YOU DECIDE

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PREMIUM LOUNGE & COURIER POLICY

DETAILS OF PREMIUM LOUNGE SERVICE & ITS COMPONENTS

Premium Lounge

Premium Lounge is there for your convenience — but it's purely optional, never mandatory

Home > Role of BLS > Premium Lounge Policy

Scan to know more about premium lounge service

YOUR COMFORT YOUR CHOICE

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ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

Mr. Manoj Sumrani, Consul has moved on to his next assignment. Mr. Kuljeet Singh Arora, Consul has taken over and is handling OCI, Surrender Certificate and Attestation wing.

Mr. Mukesh Puri, Consul has moved on to his next posting. Mr. Sanjeev Saklani, Consul & Head of Chancery is in-charge of the Passport related issues.

Economic Landscape in India

India Records USD 81.04 Billion FDI Inflow in FY 2024–25. FDI inflow grows by 14%; Services Sector leads with 19% share



The Government has put in place an investor-friendly Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy, under which most sectors are open for 100% FDI through the automatic route. This policy is reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure that India remains an attractive and competitive investment destination. As a result, FDI inflows have seen a steady rise—from USD 36.05 billion in FY 2013–14 to USD 81.04 billion (provisional) in FY 2024–25, marking a 14% increase from USD 71.28 billion in FY 2023–24. The services sector emerged as the top recipient of FDI equity in FY 2024–25, attracting 19% of total inflows, followed by computer software and hardware (16%) and trading (8%). FDI into the services sector rose by 40.77% to USD 9.35 billion from USD 6.64 billion in the previous year. India is also becoming a hub for manufacturing FDI, which grew by 18% in FY 2024–25, reaching USD 19.04 billion compared to USD 16.12 billion in FY 2023–24. Maharashtra accounted for the highest share (39%) of total FDI equity inflows in FY 2024–25, followed by Karnataka (13%) and Delhi (12%). Among source countries, Singapore led with 30% share, followed by Mauritius (17%) and the United States (11%).

India's Total Exports Grow by 6.01% to Reach Record \$824.9 Bn in 2024-25, Up from \$778.1 Bn in 2023-24: RBI Report

India's total exports have touched an all-time high of US\$824.9 billion in the financial year 2024–25, as per the latest data released by the Reserve Bank of India on services trade for March 2025. This marks a growth of 6.01% over the previous year's export figure of US\$778.1 billion, setting a new milestone in the country's trade trajectory. Services exports continued to drive the growth momentum, reaching a historic high of US\$387.5 billion in 2024–25, up 13.6% from US\$341.1 billion in the previous year. For March 2025, services exports stood at US\$35.6 billion, reflecting a year-on-year growth of 18.6% compared to US\$30.0 billion in March 2024. In 2024–25, merchandise exports excluding petroleum products rose to a record US\$374.1 billion, registering a 6.0% increase from US\$352.9 billion in 2023–24 — the highest ever annual non-petroleum merchandise exports. Read the full article [here](#)



Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal Chairs Review Meeting on PLI Scheme



As part of many government reforms undertaken in recent times, Ministry of Commerce and Industry shared key insights On Production Linked Incentive PLI scheme. They stated that the scheme is under various stages of implementation in 14 key sectors and has witnessed investments worth approx USD 22.5 Billion with 1.2 million jobs generated till March 2025. Cumulative incentive amount of (approx) USD 2.76 billion has been disbursed under PLI Schemes for 12 Sectors viz. Large-Scale Electronics Manufacturing (LSEM), IT Hardware, Bulk Drugs, Medical Devices, Pharmaceuticals, Telecom & Networking Products, Food Processing, White Goods, Automobiles & Auto components, Specialty Steel, Textiles and Drones & Drone Components. The impact of PLI Schemes has been significant across various sectors in India. These schemes have incentive domestic manufacturing, leading to increased production, job creation and a boost in exports. [Read the full article here](#)

DPIIT Clears 187 Startups For Tax Relief Under Revised Section 80-IAC Framework

In a significant boost to India's startup ecosystem, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has approved 187 startups for income tax exemption under the revamped Section 80-IAC of the Income Tax Act. Notably, the decision came during the 80th meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Board (IMB), held on 30th April 2025. According to a spokesperson of DPIIT, the tax benefit allows eligible startups a 100% income tax deduction on profits for any three consecutive years within a ten-year window from the date of incorporation. The scheme is designed to support emerging businesses in their formative years, encouraging innovation, job creation, and wealth generation. Of the total approvals, 75 startups were cleared during the 79th IMB meeting and 112 during 80th such meeting. With this, over 3,700 startups have now been granted exemptions since the scheme's inception. Read the full article [here](#)



India Canada Trade Dashboard

India Canada Merchandise Trade

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
India's export to Canada	2.88	3.68	4.99	4.08	4.32
India's import from Canada	2.8	2.43	4.19	3.87	3.92
Total (in <u>USD</u> million)	5.68	6.11	9.18	7.95	8.24

(Source: Statistics Canada)

The merchandise trade data between India and Canada from 2020 to 2024 shows a steady upward trend, with total trade rising from USD 5.68 billion in 2020 to USD 8.24 billion in 2024. India's exports to Canada consistently outpaced its imports, growing from USD 2.88 billion in 2020 to USD 4.32 billion in 2024. Imports from Canada, while initially lower and somewhat fluctuating, also increased from USD 2.8 billion in 2020 to USD 3.92 billion in 2024. The trade balance remained in India's favor throughout the period, highlighting India's growing export strength

India Canada Service Trade

The India-Canada services trade data from 2020 to 2024 reveals a consistent rise in bilateral trade, primarily driven by India's growing imports from Canada. India's exports to Canada saw modest fluctuations, increasing from USD 1.84 billion in 2020 to USD 2.54 billion in 2024. In contrast, imports surged significantly from USD 3.84 billion in 2020 to USD 11.76 billion in 2024, almost tripling over the period.

Service Trade in <u>USD</u> billion	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
India's export to Canada	1.84	2.27	2.55	2.38	2.54
India's import from Canada	3.84	4.63	6.94	10.42	11.76
Total	3.68	4.54	5.1	4.76	5.08

(Source: Statistics Canada)

Canada FDI in India



Canada is the 17th largest foreign investor in India with a cumulative investment of USD 3.9 billion from April 2000 to March 2024, which represents 0.57% of the total FDI inflows into India according to statistics provided by the DPIIT. For the Year end March 2025, the total FDI inflows were recorded at USD 4.1 billion for the period April 2000-March 2025, a slight increase of USD 0.2 bn for the FY2024-25. This represents 0.57 per cent of India's total FDI inflows. In 2024, the largest foreign direct investments (FDI), including by pension funds, from Canada to India

Portfolio investments from Canada into India

Portfolio investments from Canada into India are estimated at more than CAD 100 billion, underscoring the interest in India as a favourable investment destination. The investment is diversified across sectors such as Infrastructure, Highways, Airports, Clean Energy, Education, Logistics, Real Estate, Banking, Hospitality and Warehousing. The Canadian organizations are increasingly viewing India as an attractive destination for investments. Some of the major Canadian organizations investing in India are: Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB), Caisse de depot et placement du Quebec (CDPQ), Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (OTPP), Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSPIB), Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS), Brookfield Asset Management, Fairfax Financial Holdings, British Columbia Investment Management Corporation (BCIMC), and Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCo).

