

## India - Guyana Relations

The historic and current relations among Guyana and India are referred to as Indo - Guyanese relations. Both the countries were part of the British Colonial Empire at one time. The population of Indian descent in Guyanese is estimated to be 327,000 people. The Indo - Guyanese are Guyana's largest ethnic community. Following Guyana's independence in May 1966, relationships between India and Guyana have all been friendly. Changes in governments in India and Guyana have had little effect on the relationship's warmth.

The topic has a very high chance of being asked as a UPSC Prelims International Relations Question or as a Current Affairs Question, as it has been in the news recently.

### Economic Relations

The main channel of partnership between the two nations in terms of exchanging developmental expertise is via the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC), which awards forty scholarships each year in diverse fields. In addition, some experts are delegated to Guyana on a case-by-case basis in specific areas of operations. Many other scholarships are awarded for Guyanese to study long-term courses, gain exposure to India, and learn Hindi in India. India has provided Guyana loan facilities for use in mutually agreed-upon industries, including agriculture as well as information technology. Biofuels, electricity, minerals, and pharmaceuticals have all piqued Indian firms' attention. Though the trajectory is good, total trade turnover remains modest.

### Cultural Relations

The Indian Cultural Centre in Georgetown was founded in 1972 with the goal of fostering cultural ties and shared understanding amongst India and Guyana, as well as their respective peoples. Yoga and Dance (Kathak) lessons are held on a regular basis at the Centre. Cultural activities are held on a periodic basis at the Centre's well-equipped Auditorium. ICC teachers and students take part in community events on a regular basis throughout the year. The Centre has a library containing books and journals on history, literature, artwork, culture, mythology, and notable scholars' and authors' works. Cricket is a significant cultural link between India and Guyana. Many Guyanese players were signed to play in the Indian Premier League after its inception.

### India and CARICOM

CARICOM stands for "Caribbean Community" and is made up of the Caribbean countries of Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, Suriname, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago. Of these, several nations, including India, are members of the Commonwealth and assist each other in global forums. India's relations with Guyana are not very different from India's relations with other CARICOM nations. Due to so much similarity, closeness and shared ambitions as well as issues, India's diplomatic outlook remains more or less quite similar.

## Latest News

India's head of the State Mr. Ramnath Kovind visited the CARICOM nations recently, it is the first of a kind visit to these nations by an Indian President.

