

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 4772

ANSWERED ON- 28/03/2025

INDIA-BOLIVIA RELATIONS

4772. SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any concrete steps to establish a resident Indian mission in Bolivia following the announcement made during the State Visit of the Hon'ble President of India in 2019; if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the status of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and Bolivia in 2019 particularly those concerning geology, mineral resources, space and traditional systems of medicine;**
- (c) the extent of India's involvement in Bolivia's lithium extraction and battery manufacturing industries and the potential benefits this cooperation could bring to India; and**

(d) the progress achieved in bilateral cooperation in the health and pharmaceutical sectors including the export of Indian pharmaceuticals to Bolivia?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

(a) The Government of India opened the Embassy of India in La Paz, Bolivia in September 2024 fulfilling the announcement made by the President of India in 2019.

(b) Following the signing of the Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) between India and Bolivia on Geology, Mineral resources, Space and Traditional systems of medicine, both sides have held multiple Joint Working Group meetings and identified action points. ISRO has trained Bolivian personnel in nano-satellite technology at Bengaluru.

(c) Companies from India and Bolivia are engaged in training in Lithium carbonate and related minerals, while also exploring the lithium ion battery sector in Bolivia.

(d) India engaged with Bolivia to promote export of medicine and equipment from India to Bolivia. Both sides have started negotiations on an MoU in the field of medical products regulation envisaged to boost bilateral cooperation, including on the export of Indian pharmaceuticals to Bolivia. Indian export of pharmaceutical products to Bolivia stood at around US \$ 22.5 million in 2023-24 and US \$ 17.6 million during April to December in 2024-25.
