



## GEORGIA - INDIA COUNTRY CONNECTION

### Government and Commerce

The Consulate General of the Republic of India, which opened in January 2012, is the official representation of the Indian Government to the Southeastern United States. The Consulate serves Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Dr. Swati Kulkarni has served as Consul General since September 2018.

Atlanta has been home to the the Georgia Indo-American Chamber of Commerce since 2001.

Georgia has hosted the U.S. India Business Summit (UIBS) annually since 2010. Indian officials partner with the state of Georgia to organize this event focusing on key sectors such as life sciences, information technology, logistics, real estate and investment.

In 2013, at the Bangalore India BIO convention, the Georgia Department of Economic Development signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Indian state of Karnataka committing to collaboration in the betterment of the life sciences and information technology industries and the communities they serve.

In 2016, Former Governor Nathan Deal met with the former Ambassador of India to the U.S., Arun K. Singh, to discuss Georgia's relationship with India. Ambassador Singh also visited Lockheed Martin's Georgia facilities. The Indian Air Force recently awarded Lockheed Martin a long-term sustainment contract to supply C-130 aircraft for its fleet.

### Academics

In the Fall semester of 2022, 5,871 Indian students will be enrolled in USG schools.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected study abroad programs around the world, but these programs are expected to return to former participation levels soon. In the past, the University System of Georgia (USG) offered nine study abroad programs to India in business, biotechnology, anthropology and veterinary medicine.

The University of Georgia and SRM University in Chennai, India have developed joint research in the areas of biorefining, bioenergy, natural resource management and applied genetic technologies.

Emory University offers a Tibetan Studies program that is based out of Dharamsala, India.

2017-2018 was the Year of India at Kennesaw State University. Featuring a full calendar of academic and cultural events exploring India's rich political, economic and artistic history, the Year of India offered Kennesaw State students and members of the Atlanta community a variety of ways to engage with Indian culture.

### Arts, Culture and Tourism

COVID-19 severely impacted the tourism industry in Georgia, but international visitation is expected to reach past numbers soon. In 2021, 18,379 Indian visitors spent \$25.2 million in the state of Georgia. Lilburn, Georgia is home to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, the largest Hindu temple of its kind outside of India.

The Indian American Cultural Association of Atlanta celebrated India's 70<sup>th</sup> Independence Day at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of India in August 2016.

In 2021, The Hudgens Center had on display the work of one of their instructors, Yesha Panchal, who moved to the US from India when she was sixteen.

Academy of Kuchipudi Dance Atlanta presents solo, group performances, dance dramas (ballets), workshops and works by experts in the field, under the leadership of Sasikala Penumarthy. In 2017, the Hindu Temple of Atlanta and the Academy of Kuchipudi Dance presented the classical dance drama Sri Rama Pattabhishekam.

In March 2018, the RiverCenter theatre in Columbus, Georgia presented its first main-stage Indian production called Taj Express: The Bollywood Musical.

The Tourism Division of GDEcD participates in Brand USA's annual tourism mission to India promoting the state to tour operators.

### International Trade

**EXPORTS:** In 2021, Georgia exports to India totaled **\$1 billion**. India is the **8th** largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to India include civilian aircraft, scrap aluminum, chemical woodpulp, insecticides and fungicides, and diesel or semi-diesel engines.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to India: chemical woodpulp, insecticides, and kaolin.

**IMPORTS:** In 2021, Georgia imports from India totaled **\$3.6 billion**. India ranks **10th** among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from India to Georgia include household linens, tractors, carpets, gear boxes for motor vehicles, and jewelry.

### Capital Investment

There are at least **50** Georgia companies with operations in India, including but not limited to:

- American Megatrends
- Equifax
- Gray Ghost Ventures

- Kawneer Company
- PRGX Global
- Scovill Fasteners
- Total System Services

There are at least **25 Indian facilities operating in Georgia**. These Indian-affiliated companies employ more than 2000 Georgians.

### Transportation

Delta Air Lines provides daily one-stop flights from Atlanta to Bangalore, New Delhi, and Mumbai via connections in Paris or Amsterdam.

International connectivity has been limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. As restrictions ease, the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport expects a return to pre-COVID connections.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah offers four direct weekly container ship services to India, calling the ports of Mumbai, Mundra and Pipavav.

### About GDEcD

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects. For more information, visit [www.georgia.org](http://www.georgia.org).

\*Information valid as of July 2022

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