EMBASSY OF INDIA
GUATEMALA CITY

PRESS RELEASE

ARTIFICIAL LIMB FITMENT CAMP AT MARISCAL ZAVALA, GUATEMALA CITY FROM 06 JANUARY 2026 TO 21 FEBRUARY 2026

The Embassy of India in Guatemala City, in coordination with Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), and Ministry of Defense of Guatemala, organized an Artificial Limb Fitment Camp at Mariscal Zavala, Guatemala City from 06 January 2026 to 21 February 2026. The inauguration ceremony of this camp was held on 08 January 2026.

2. This humanitarian initiative reflects the Government of India's long-standing commitment to inclusive development, social welfare, and people-centric cooperation with Guatemala. The camp brings together experienced Indian prosthetic specialists and local institutions to provide free artificial limbs and mobility aids to around 600 beneficiaries from different parts of Guatemala during the 6 weeks of the camp. The Embassy of India deeply appreciates the close collaboration and support extended by CONRED and the Ministry of Defense of Guatemala, particularly in logistics, coordination, and beneficiary mobilization, which have been instrumental in the successful organization of the camp.

3. The artificial limbs are being fitted by experienced technicians from Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), Jaipur, internationally renowned for the Jaipur Foot. The Jaipur Foot, a low-cost, innovative prosthetic leg developed in India, is globally recognized for transforming lives through its affordability and functionality, earning accolades from Time magazine for the Stanford-Jaipur Knee and UN consultative status for its makers, BMVSS.

4. The Ambassador said that the Artificial Limb Fitment Camp stands as a shining example of India's humanitarian outreach and its enduring friendship with Guatemala. He praised Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) for bringing the globally renowned Jaipur Foot, which has transformed millions of lives worldwide through its affordability, innovation, and compassion. He expressed deep appreciation to the Ministry of Defense of Guatemala, CONRED, and CONADI for their excellent coordination, logistical support, and commitment to inclusivity. The Ambassador emphasized that this initiative reflects shared values of solidarity, dignity, and people-centric cooperation, and significantly strengthens people-to-people ties between India and Guatemala.

5. The Minister of Defense said that the Artificial Limb Fitment Camp is a powerful example of humanitarian cooperation between India and Guatemala. He appreciated the Embassy of India and BMVSS for bringing the Jaipur Foot initiative to Guatemala, noting its life-changing impact on beneficiaries. He underlined the importance of restoring mobility and dignity to persons with disabilities and reaffirmed the Ministry of Defense's full support for such inclusive and people-centric initiatives.

6. Ms. Claudinne Ogaldes said that the camp reflects strong inter-institutional coordination and shared humanitarian values. She highlighting CONRED's role in beneficiary identification and coordination, she said such initiatives significantly strengthen resilience, inclusion, and social welfare at the community level. Ms. Maira Virginia Rivas, President of the Board of Directors of the National Council for the Care of People with Disabilities (CONADI) said that the Artificial Limb Fitment Camp is an important step toward empowerment and inclusion of persons with disabilities in Guatemala. She commended the Embassy of India and BMVSS for introducing the globally renowned Jaipur Foot, which offers mobility, confidence, and renewed independence to beneficiaries.

7. A video titled "Achievements of Jaipur Foot Organization" was presented by Mr. Satish Mehta, President, Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), highlighting the global humanitarian work of the Jaipur Foot initiative and its transformative impact on millions of lives worldwide. In his remarks, Mr. Mehta thanked the Government of Guatemala, particularly the Ministry of Defense, CONRED, and CONADI, for their invaluable cooperation and support in organizing the camp. He emphasized the importance of sustained partnerships and expressed BMVSS's readiness to expand future collaborations in Guatemala to further promote mobility, dignity, and social inclusion for persons with disabilities.

8. During the inauguration, a few beneficiary amputees who have already been fitted with artificial limbs on the first day of the camp, were present to demonstrate the tangible and life-changing outcomes of the limb fitment program. The inauguration of the Artificial Limb Fitment Camp stands as a symbol of the enduring friendship and cooperation between India and Guatemala, rooted in solidarity, compassion, and shared humanitarian values.

9. The Embassy of India invites members of the general public who may benefit from this initiative to come forward and register during the camp period. The Embassy also encourages representatives of the media to cover this humanitarian programme and help amplify its impact by sharing the inspiring stories of beneficiaries whose lives are being transformed through this initiative. The Artificial Limb Fitment Camp reaffirms the shared commitment of India and Guatemala to compassion, inclusion, and people-centric development, strengthening the enduring bonds of friendship between the two countries.

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Guatemala, 8 January 2026