PRESS RELEASE

BUSINESS SEMINAR IN COBÁN

The Embassy of India in Guatemala organized a successful business seminar in Cobán on 26 February 2025. The seminar was attended by H.E. Ambassador Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra, Hon'ble Governor of Alta Verapaz, Ms. Dilia Margarita Có Coy, and 16 mayors from the Cobán region. The event served as a platform to enhance economic cooperation and strengthen trade ties between India and Guatemala. During the seminar, Ambassador Mohapatra also handed over a donation of essential medicines to the 16 mayors in the presence of the Hon'ble Governor, reinforcing India's commitment to healthcare support and bilateral cooperation.

2. India's presence in Guatemala, particularly in the Cobán region, holds strategic significance. Indian businesses have been expanding across various sectors, including the BPO industry. Additionally, Indian infrastructure projects are making an impact in cities such as Xela and El Progreso. The Indian healthcare sector, particularly its supply of affordable generic medicines, has contributed significantly to public health in Guatemala. Initiatives such as free medical camps in the Petén region further showcase India's efforts to support local communities. Of late, Guatemalans are increasingly involved in dubbing Indian films. This seminar gave an apt platform to outreach India's achievements in the interior region of Guatemala and involve them in this development.

3. In his remarks, Ambassador Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra elaborated on India's rapid economic growth, highlighting its achievement of becoming the world's fifth-largest economy. He emphasized the increasing Indian exports to Guatemala and how the country's strategic location presents valuable opportunities for Indian companies. Ambassador Mohapatra also discussed the advantages of CAFTA-DR, which could provide Indian businesses with preferential trade benefits, thereby boosting economic ties between the two nations.

4. Hon'ble Governor Ms. Dilia Margarita Có Coy extended her full support to strengthening business relations with India. She encouraged Indian enterprises to explore opportunities in the Cobán region, emphasizing local development initiatives, employment generation, and infrastructure enhancement. She acknowledged India's assistance in critical sectors and underscored the potential for collaborative efforts to uplift local industries.

5. During the seminar, detailed presentations were made on Indian trade and industry, highlighting key sectors where India and Guatemala could

deepen their economic collaboration. These presentations provided insights into market opportunities, investment prospects, and the mutual benefits of enhanced bilateral trade.

6. The business seminar in Cobán concluded on a high note, reinforcing India's commitment to fostering economic partnerships with Guatemala. The discussions and presentations laid the groundwork for future collaborations, ensuring sustainable development and mutual growth. The event marked another milestone in India-Guatemala relations, setting the stage for expanding trade, investment, and cooperation across multiple sectors.

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Guatemala City, 28 February 2025