



India and Argentina Signs Social Security Agreement

For Prelims: Social Security Agreement, Argentina

For Mains: India- Argentina Relations.

[Source: TH](#)

Why in News?

India and Argentina recently signed a '**Social Security Agreement(SSA)**' aimed at safeguarding the legal rights of professionals in each other's domains. This agreement is expected to facilitate **risk-free international mobility for professionals from both countries**.

What is the Social Security Agreement?

▪ About:

- It ensures that the rights of professionals and workers in both countries are protected against the **loss of social security benefits or contributions**.

▪ Need:

- The growing number of Indian professionals working in Argentina and Argentine nationals seeking employment in India necessitated this legal framework.

▪ Key Highlights:

- The **SSA applies to legislation in both India and Argentina** concerning various aspects of social security, including **old age, survivor's pension**, and permanent, **total disability pension for employed persons**.
- The agreement **provides rights and benefits to detached workers**, i.e., employees working in another country on a temporary basis, and their family members.
 - These benefits include **cash allowances for retirement or pension**, rent, subsidy, or lump sum payments, all as per local legislation, without any reduction, modification, suspension, suppression, or retention.
- The SSA establishes the legal framework for regulating the **insurance period**, which includes the period of services credited with contributions, contributory benefits, and their export for detached workers.
 - This framework also covers crew members of airlines and ships.
- The agreement addresses legislation concerning contributory benefits of the **Social Security System in Argentina**.
- The agreement would protect the rights of professionals and workers against loss of benefits or contributions made towards social security in both countries and thus **facilitate greater movement of professionals** and the labour force.

How are India-Argentina Relations?

▪ Political Relations:

- India-Argentina relations were elevated to the level of **Strategic Partnership in**

February 2019.

- India opened a Trade Commission in Buenos Aires in 1943, which was later converted into one of the first embassies of India in South America in 1949.
- Argentina had established a Consulate in Calcutta in the 1920s, which was transferred to Delhi as an Embassy in 1950.
- **Economic Relations:**
 - India is the **4th largest trading partner of Argentina**, with bilateral trade touching a historic peak of **USD 6.4 billion in 2022**, recording a growth rate of 12% over 2021.
 - Major items of India's exports to Argentina include petroleum oils, agrochemicals, **yarn-fabric-made ups, organic chemicals, bulk drugs and two-wheelers.**
 - Major items of India's imports from Argentina include **vegetable oils (soya bean and sunflower), finished leather, cereals, residual chemicals and allied products and pulses.**
- **Cultural Relations:**
 - India and Argentina have historical and literary ties, such as the visit of [Rabindranath Tagore to Argentina in 1924](#) and the award of an honorary doctorate to Victoria Ocampo by Visva Bharati University in 1968.
- **Counter-Terrorism**
 - India and Argentina issued a **separate joint declaration to fight terrorism.**
 - Argentina condemned the recent terrorist attack in [Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir in the strongest terms.](#)
 - Both countries reiterated their commitment to [combat terrorism](#) in all its forms and manifestations and gave a call that any country must not allow their territory to be used to launch terrorist attacks on other countries.

Argentina

- **Capital:** Buenos Aires.
- **Official Language:** Spanish.
- Argentina is the **eighth largest country in the world.**
 - The country is bounded by **Chile to the south and west, Bolivia and Paraguay to the north, and Brazil, Uruguay, and the [Atlantic Ocean](#) to the east.**
- The highest mountain in the Andes range is the Cerro Aconcagua.
- Argentina is rich in resources, has a well-educated workforce, and is **one of South America's largest economies.**
- **The country is divided into four regions:** The [Andes](#), the North, the Pampas, and Patagonia. The Pampas is the agricultural heartland.

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