

SPAIN INDIA COUNCIL FOUNDATION

# 2015 INDIAN LEADERS PROGRAMME

1-5 June 2015 Madrid-Barcelona







Alonso Dezcallar, Secretary General of the Spain India Council Foundation, officially welcomed the members of Indian parliament to this SICForganised event: "It is a great honour to host the 4th edition of the Indian Leaders Programme, with such an outstanding delegation of Indian MPs." The Leaders met with the Secretary General of the SICF to gain a deeper understanding of the Foundation's mission and goals, of its composition and of the way it works. They were particularly interested in the functioning of the Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation's commitment to creating this network of Council Foundations. The Secretary General closed his welcome speech by encouraging the attending MPs to participate actively in the various activities planned and saying that he hoped the group would take full advantage of and thoroughly enjoy their time in Spain.











# THE INDIAN LEADERS PROGRAMME BEGINS WITH A WELCOME FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SICF

Alonso Dezcallar received the members of Indian Parliament participating in this fourth edition of the event at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation







## **IGNACIO YBAÑEZ:** "THE MINISTRY IS VERY PLEASED WITH THE SICF AND ITS LEADERS PROGRAMME"

The Chairman of the Council Foundation, Antonio Escámez, attended the meeting with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs









The meeting between the Indian

Leaders and the Secretary of State

for Foreign Affairs, Ignacio Ybañez,

both countries have to strengthen

relations, but it also highlighted the

Ignacio Ybañez talked the MPs through

significant work still to be done.

the three pillars of Mariano Rajoy's

government's strategy to enhance Spain's presence in the country: increase institutional and political coordination, consolidate commercial trade, and bring the societies of the two countries closer together. The meeting also covered the economic activity between the countries, which is still far lower than it should be, and even more so compared with our European neighbours. With regard to how this situation is to be corrected, Ignacio Ybañez underlined the Spanish government's strong commitment to India through its Strategic Internationalisation Programme, explaining that the internationalisation of Spanish companies has been one of the main drivers of the country's economic recovery. The Secretary of State pointed out that the SIFC's task is focused on achieving all of these goals, not just through the Leaders Programme but also through its other activities, such as the Spain-India

served to underscore the clear desire

Forum, adding that this is why it has become such a useful, invaluable diplomatic tool for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. During the event, the Secretary of State reminded the attendees that 2016 marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral relations between the two countries, and said Spain would like to organise a series of visits to make these relations stronger still.

























## INDIA, A STRATEGIC COUNTRY WITHIN THE **CERVANTES INSTITUTE'S** INTERNATIONAL **EXPANSION PLAN**

The New Delhi centre has become the Institute's largest centre worldwide















India is a fundamental location within the Cervantes Institute's international expansion strategy. The Institute's New Delhi centre is now the Cervantes Institute's top centre worldwide by number of students. The delegation from the SICF was welcomed by Rafael Rodríguez-Ponga, the Institute's Secretary General, and Eduardo Sánchez Moreno, Head of Analysis and Strategy. The Secretary General gave an overview of the role and the importance of the Cervantes Institute: "It is the top global institution for the promotion of Spanish". He also explained that it is not focused solely on Spain, but on a far more extensive community,

which encompasses over 400 million Spanish speakers and centres in more than 90 cities. As for the importance of India in its internationalisation strategy, Rodríguez-Ponga said the Institute was looking into opening more centres in the country, because although the New Delhi centre coordinates activities and exams for the whole country, it is not enough to consolidate the Institute's expansion, as "there is huge demand". After the meeting, the Indian Leaders visited the Box of Letters (Caja de las Letras), which was the vault of the bank that previously occupied the building, and is currently used to conserve legacies left by some of the greats of Hispanic culture, which will be opened on a date determined by the artists themselves.









Spain's Congress of Deputies was a must-see for the MPs on this year's Leaders Programme. The Leaders were taken inside and visited the Hemicycle, the plenary chamber where the Congress of Deputies holds its plenary sessions and where the joint sessions between the Congress and Senate are held at the beginning of each parliamentary term. The atmosphere was relaxed and the group particularly enjoyed the visit as, although there wasn't a session taking place, the everyday routine of the building and the presence of their Spanish counterparts made them feel "right at home". During the tour the Leaders were eager to hear about the composition of parliament, the distribution of the political groups, the meaning of the different coloured seats, the way in which speeches are organised and the historical roots of the building. The Programme schedule also allowed them to make contact with the members of parliament the following day and enjoy a working lunch together.



















The following day the SICF organised a lunch with a group of Spanish MPs to discuss areas of shared interest











The lunch held at the Madrid Casino for the Patrons of the SICF and the Members of Indian Parliament from the IV Leaders Programme provided an opportunity to highlight the assets that have made the Council Foundation an indispensable tool for public diplomacy in Spain. Its Chairman, Antonio Escámez, addressed the attendees, describing the Foundation's outstanding progress to date and how it has contributed, since its creation in 2009, to enhancing bilateral relations between India and Spain. "The Leaders Programme is just one example of our activities," he explained to the participants in this year's programme,

going on to list other events organised by the institution, including the Spain-India Forum, the Spain India Council Foundation Award and other activities such as seminars, working meetings and bilateral dialogues. The Chairman also explained that the SICF's Patrons, government institutions and cutting-edge companies from various industries are vital to ensuring its success. "The Spain India Council Foundation is committed to its mission, but also to its Patrons. Not only because we are all global partners now, but because India is a priority for us."











The most important conclusion drawn following the meeting of the Leaders with Spain's Secretary of State for Trade, Jaime García-Legaz, is that it is necessary to work towards improving Spain-India bilateral relations in terms of trade. This is exactly the same conclusion as was drawn at the meeting with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The two countries have a strong institutional relationship at the moment as a result of several official visits - the latest one by Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation José Manuel García-Margallo in April, - which has yielded greater understanding between them in the economic and cultural fields as well as facilitating the signing of several collaboration agreements. However, Jaime García-Legaz said: "We are a long way off having the best possible relations. Therefore, I believe there is a lot that

# THE CHALLENGES POSED BY THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPAIN AND INDIA

In a meeting with the Secretary of State for Trade, Jaime García-Legaz, the Leaders discussed Spain's current economic situation

needs to be done and which can be done. We must put an end to many of the barriers preventing us from going further." The Secretary of State for Trade was especially grateful to the SICF for the meeting with the participants in the Indian Leaders

Programme, since this gave him the chance to exchange impressions with them as an MP.















Madrid's balmy weather last spring allowed the Indian Ambassador to Spain, Vikram Misri, to host a dinner in the gardens of his residence. Among the guests were members of the Embassy's diplomatic body and representatives of the Indian community in Spain. They had the chance to talk with a group of MPs in a very relaxed setting and share their impressions after their first few hours in Spain.













# RECEPTION AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR

As is traditional as part of the Indian Leaders Programme, the greatest representative of Indian diplomacy in Spain hosted a dinner for the participants in the Programme

















### SPAIN: A TRUSTED PARTNER TO INDIA ON SECURITY AND **DEFENCE POLICY**

The Secretary General for Defence Policy, Alejandro Alvargonzález, received the Indian Leaders at the Ministry of Defence









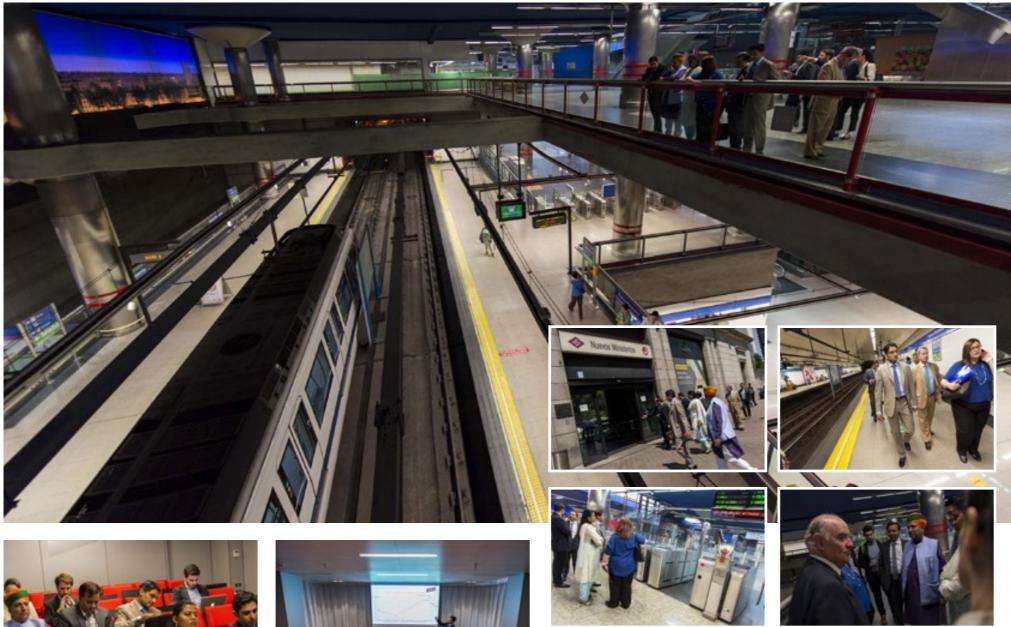












## THE LEADERS EXPRESS THEIR INTEREST IN THE MANAGEMENT OF MADRID'S **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

They praised the integrated management model of Madrid's Regional Transport Consortium and highlighted the need for a similar system in India







India is undergoing an intense urbanisation process as a result of the economic growth enjoyed in recent years. The visit to the Madrid Regional Transport Consortium (CRTM, in Spanish) at the headquarters of the Public Transport Management Centre (CITRAM) therefore generated huge interest among the participants in the Programme. The Leaders were eager to hear about various aspects, from the cost of projects to the public transport management

model in conjunction with private operators, and the technology used. With regard to the latter, the CITRAM coordinator explained that it is a priority for the CRTM to have access to cutting-edge technology, as it allows for better management and passengers benefit from services like WiFi, modern ticketing systems and additional information on maps and waiting times. After the meeting, the delegation had the opportunity to experience the performance and results of the integrated transport management first-hand. The group travelled to the multimodal transport hub Nuevos Ministerios with Javier Otamendi, Head of Institutional Relations for Metro de Madrid. The station has both underground and local train services which connect the city of Madrid with its metropolitan area and the main cities in the Community of Madrid.



















The next event on the Indian Leaders' schedule in Madrid was a meeting at the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, where they discussed the opportunities for Spain and India to work together in the field of infrastructure and transport. As well as the group of MPs from the SICF delegation, the event was attended by José María Pérez Rosado, Advisor to the Cabinet of the Secretary of State for Infrastructure, Transport and Housing; Fernando Nicolás, international director at Adif; Jesús Izarzugaza, Counsellor to the Minister of Public Works and Transport; and Esperanza Ruiz de Velasco, Secretary General for Infrastructure. The meeting began with a presentation by José María Pérez Rosado, who explained the importance of the Spanish transport infrastructure system. He highlighted the highspeed rail network, which is the second largest in the world, beaten only by China, and the motorway network, which is among the most extensive in Europe. He also spoke about the conventional rail network,

which is crucial for passenger and freight transportation, Spain's air transport system, which boasts 47 airports with Madrid and Barcelona at the forefront, and the performance of its maritime transport thanks to a blend of technology and strategic geographic positioning. The advisor to the Cabinet of the Secretary of State gave the example of Council Foundation Patrons such as Isolux and the LKS projects. Fernando Nicolás, international director at Adif, remarked on the close relationship between his company and Indian

Railways following the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2012, which will regulate Adif's entry into the consortium charged with launching India's high-speed line from Mumbai to Kolkata.

### SPAIN-INDIA: HUGE OPPORTUNITIES IN **INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT**

At a meeting at the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, the Leaders were told about the presence in India of Spanish companies like Adif and Isolux Corsán

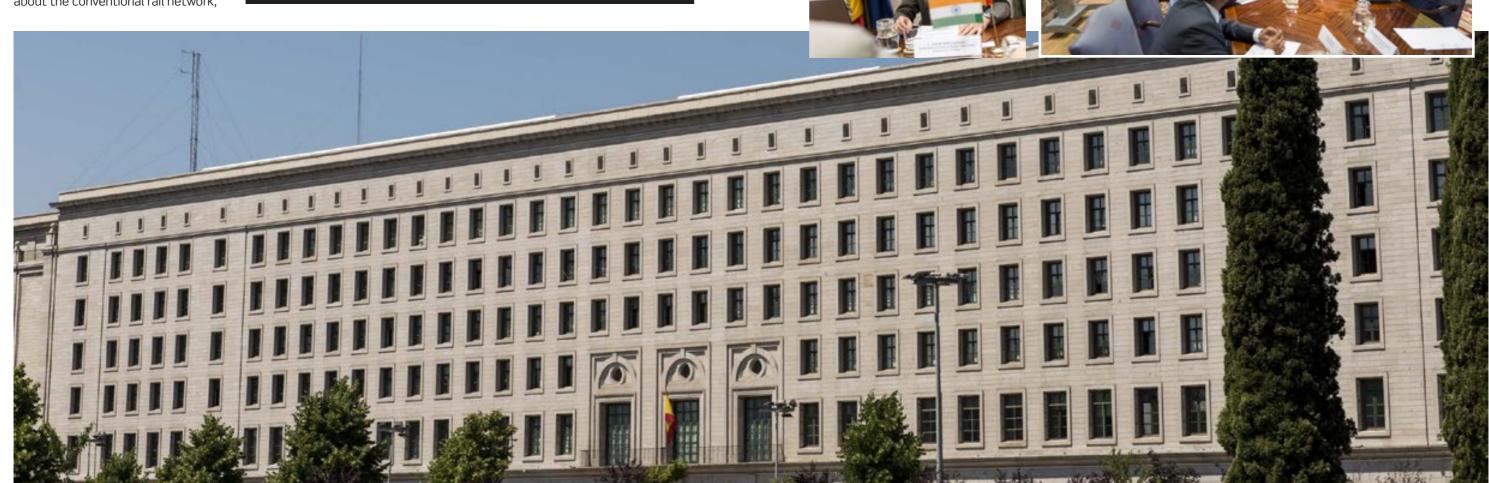












































## PRESENT AND FUTURE **CHALLENGES** IN RELATIONS BETWEEN SPAIN AND INDIA

The Leaders met at Caixa Forum with a group of Spanish think tanks and renowned institutions to discuss bilateral relations











The breakfast organised by Caixa

Forum was the backdrop to a

fruitful, enriching exchange of

opinions, ideas and expectations

regarding relations between India

and Spain. The most commonly held

perception among the attendees is

that the countries should continue

there are attractive opportunities

for exchange and collaboration in

various areas. María Aparici, Deputy

Director General of Trade Policy with

Europe, Asia and Oceania, said the

years, there has been a significant

increase in the number of Spanish

companies present in India, from 60

Moreno, Director of Casa Asia, said a

in 2007 to over 250 today. Ramón

figures invite optimism. In recent

to enhance relations and that



major priority was the improvement of air links, which would really help to bring the two countries closer together both in terms of tourism and of business. Guillermo Rodríguez, Director of Casa de la India, said that in order to strengthen Spanish-Indian relations, there needs to be investment in education and mutual knowledge, and training of experts through specific Master's degrees and courses (on India, and Spain and Latin America), as there is a serious lack in this area. Kiron Ravindran, a professor at IE Business School, highlighted the talent of Indian students, but said it was a shame that Spain was not among their preferred training locations and added that this is due to a lack of knowledge of our substantial educational offering. Greater cooperation between the

think tanks in the two countries

would also be positive, according to Rubén Campos, Director of Club de Madrid, as in our increasingly global world the research they undertake is crucial when it comes to identifying common issues and joint strategies. The Indian Ambassador to Spain, Vikram Misri, closed the event. The diplomat emphasised the need to increase coordination between India and Spain to harness all the potential highlighted during the discussion, adding that a good time to do so would be the 60th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral relations.

















# ABENGOA WELCOMES THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE SICF INDIAN LEADERS PROGRAMME

They attended a presentation by the Spanish multinational on innovation, technology and renewable energy projects

centre in Chandrapura Halol, in the state of Gujarat, which boasts an annual production capacity of 30,000 t of transmission line towers and solar structures. Regarding projects currently underway, the Spanish company is in charge of the engineering, design, construction, operation and maintenance of two 134 km-long transmission lines for Torrent Power Ltd for 25 years, with a chance to extend the contract a further 10 years.







The delegation of the Spain-India Council Foundation was welcomed by Germán Bejarano, Director of Institutional Relations at Abengoa, Ana Raquel Díaz, Director of Technology at Abengoa, and Javier Pérez de las Peñas, Vice-President of Business Development in Asia and the

Middle East, who gave a presentation on the company's background and its presence in India, as well as on the importance of renewable energies, innovation and technology. Abengoa is present in India through a permanent office in Delhi, another one opened recently in Mumbai and a metal structures production







Íñigo de Palacio, Vice President of International Affairs, welcomed the delegation and outlined some of the drivers behind Indra's international leadership position, the main one being its commitment to investing between 6 and 8% in innovation. He also stressed the value added by providing all-encompassing solutions covering design, hardware, software and system operation, a competitive advantage which is highly valued by clients, according to De Palacio. Finally, he also stated that part of the company's international success is due to the strategy of becoming a local company in the markets in which it operates with local staff, suppliers and management teams. Regarding the company's commitment to India, the Vice-President explained that Indra has a significant presence in India, with a Delhi office and major contracts such as the ticketing management system for the Delhi and Mumbai metros. In turn, it also holds a strategic position in air traffic, with 80% of air space controlled by the company's radars and 38 airports using its navigation systems. Additionally, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) commissioned Indra to modernise Delhi's air control centre, one of the country's most important centres and from which one of the greatest air traffic areas is managed, including operations at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport. After the presentation and a discussion, the delegation visited Expo Indra, where they got to see systems at work first-hand, including 'Da Vinci', which operates Adif's trains, and other technologies applied to industries such as border protection and cybersecurity.



INDRA SHOWS THE INDIAN LEADERS ITS TECHNOLOGY **LEADERSHIP** 

The Spanish company has a significant presence in India, where its radars control most of the air space







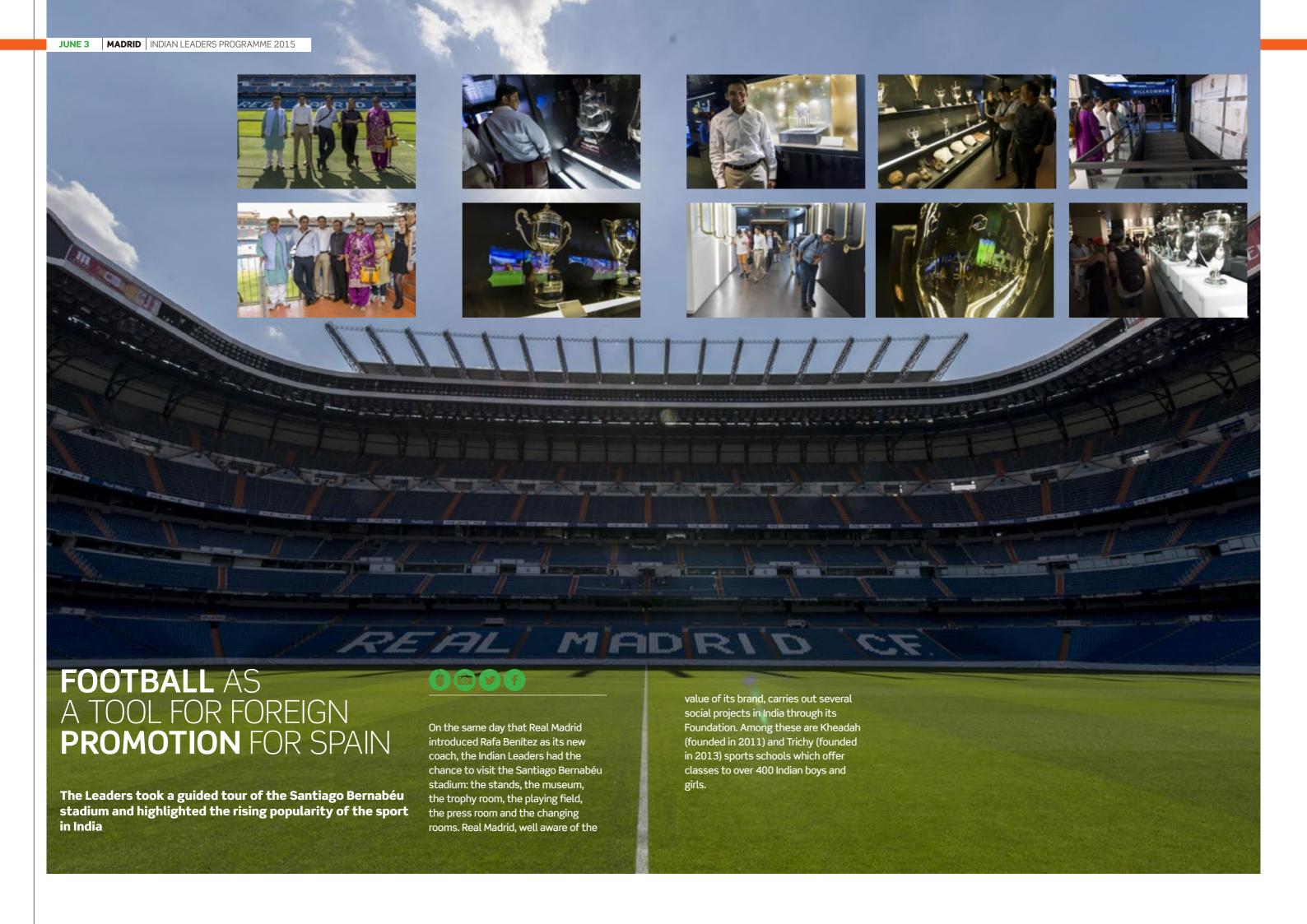














# HIGH-SPEED **AVE** SHOWS THE LEADERS ITS POWER

A trip to Barcelona gave the Leaders a chance to get acquainted with the Spanish high-speed train's possibilities from the cockpit









After the Indian Leaders Programme's first leg in Madrid, the participants travelled to Barcelona. The chosen means of transport was the AVE high-speed train, which allowed them to get acquainted with the great infrastructure and service potential that Spain can offer India. The Leaders travelled with José Antonio García Bárez, Head of Coordination and Support at RENFE, who showed them to the train's cockpit so that they could see for themselves its integrated control system and the technology that makes this kind of rail transport possible.









# **BARCELONA,** A SMART-CITY MODEL

The Indian Leaders discovered the new concept being developed by the city's Council during a walk around Gracia



For Barcelona City Council, a smart city is one which works towards improving its citizens' quality of life by guaranteeing sustainable social, economic and urban development in terms of environment, mobility, business, communications, energy and housing. The Council has been fully committed to this idea in recent years. During the walk, the Leaders had the chance to see some of these improvements, such as the 30% reduction in energy consumption for lighting thanks to LED technology, and the 700 Internet hotspots, 24 of which are located in Paseo de Gracia.

The use of mobile connectivity is key to this new system and is the basis for all services, as the Indian MPs were able to see in areas such as the management of parking in the neighbourhood, an innovative solution that allows drivers and authorities alike to intuitively monitor mobility in the area through mobile apps. The Leaders also inquired about the smart bus shelters with contactless technology, which allows people to access information regarding frequencies, fares, tourist recommendations and nearby services from their mobile phones.











































# THE LEADERS SEE BARCELONA AS AN IDEAL **SUSTAINABLE** CITY MODEL

The Programme participants attended a presentation of the projects that the Hàbitat Urbà area has implemented in the city







Good planning, a suitable budget and the consensus and support of all the parties involved (administrations,

politicians, citizens, etc.) have made it possible for the city of Barcelona to experience a thorough transformation in the past few decades that has turned it into a point of reference as a sustainable,









the Olympic Games in 1992 and entailed a significant challenge as the area was densely populated and extremely deteriorated. The Council representatives explained that nowadays, the department is mainly focused on managing tourism, which is abundant and concentrated in the city centre. Among the measures taken, which have been largely welcomed among the citizens, are the promotion of cycling, the

pedestrianisation of streets, the promotion of public transport and the relief of population density in the centre by creating new leisure and dining offerings in other areas. Before the end of the meeting, they also found out about the 22@ Barcelona project, which has transformed 200 ha of industrial land into an innovative district offering modern spaces for the strategic concentration of knowledge-intensive activities.













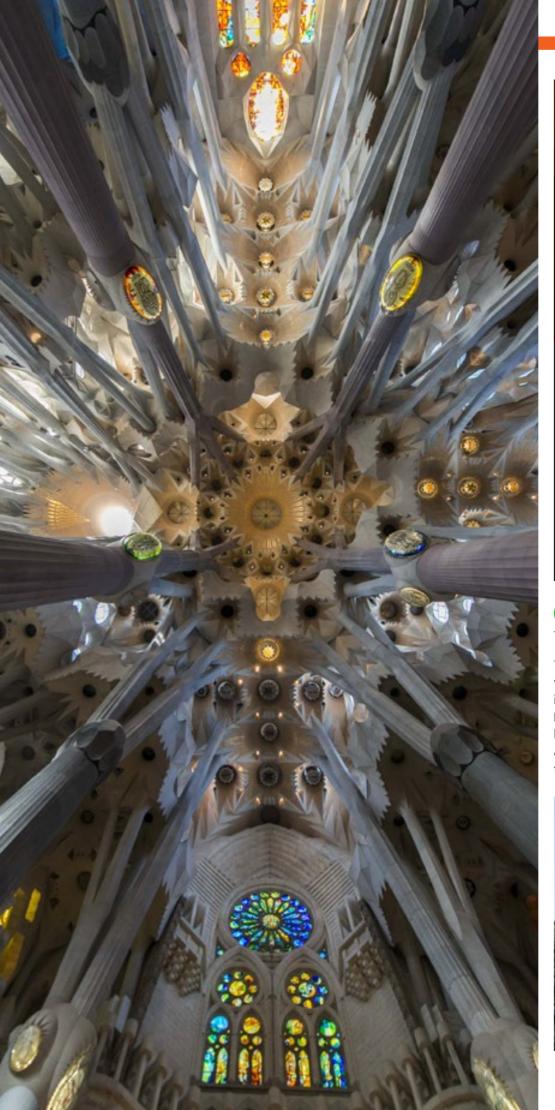














cathedral, one of the city's most representative symbols







The group visited the Sagrada Familia with a guide, who told them all about its peculiarities and history. The Leaders highlighted the building's brilliance and the originality of its art, and were especially surprised at the fact that a biblical passage carved

into the Puerta de la Eucaristía should be carved in 50 languages, Sanskrit being one of them. During the visit, the Indian Leaders had the chance to contextualise the work of Catalan architect Antonio Gaudí in Barcelona, whose architectural legacy has left an imprint on the city, home to most of his work.



## OPENING NEW PATHWAYS FOR COOPERATION IN **INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

Casa Asia brought together representatives of several industries to explore cooperation possibilities between Barcelona and India











After Casa Asia Director Ramón Moreno welcomed the participants, Catalan MP Inma Riera took the floor: "The economy is currently stabilising and allowing us to grow thanks to the strength of the foreign sector. However, we can only keep up this pace by committing to an innovation strategy. Our policies should focus on fostering the competitiveness of businesses through innovation." Jordi Majó, Head of Economic Development of Mobile World Capital, considers the support of the Catalan authorities to innovation as key to turn the city into a European digital hub for entrepreneurs and startups. He encouraged the Leaders to harness the impressive penetration of mobile Internet in India, where close to 300 million people have Internet access: "India has a great chance to digitalise the economy and Barcelona has a lot to contribute." Majó explained that economic integration in the digital world is Mobile World Capital's mission, and that "the main Indian operators" are present at Mobile World Congress, the world's largest digital technology event. In turn, Miquel Mateu encouraged the Leaders to get involved in the IAEC 2014 International Association Education Cities event, where they could share their country's expertise in the industry.





























Following the presentation the day before by members of the department of Hàbitat Urbà of Barcelona City Council, the Leaders took a walk from El Raval to Barrio Gótico. During this walk, the MPs witnessed the extensive renovation carried out in this part of the city, which has gone from being a poor area to becoming an example for efficient and sustainable city planning. Carme Gual i Via, Coordinator of International Relations at Barcelona City Council, accompanied the SICF delegation. Among the most prominent buildings they visited was Barcelona's Contemporary Art Museum, the former Santa Creu and Sant Pau hospital, refurbished and turned into a social space with services such as a library and institutions such as the Institute for Catalan Studies. They also stopped at Mercado de la Boquería, where they saw how locals and tourists alike pack out the new retail spaces created after the remodelling of traditional food markets. The walk around Barrio Gótico finally took the participants to the City Hall.



# THE BARCELONA EXAMPLE IN PRESERVING URBAN HERITAGE

The Indian Leaders walked around El Raval and Barrio Gótico to witness the extensive renovation carried out in this part of the city











































# CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE IV INDIAN LEADERS PROGRAMME

The diploma ceremony was the finishing touch to an intense working schedule devoted to strengthening bilateral relations













The Spain-India Council Foundation put the finishing touch to the Programme with the diploma awarding ceremony followed by a farewell lunch held at CaixaForum. At the ceremony, chaired by the institution's Head of International Relations, Peter Hansen and attended by MP Inmaculada Riera, diplomas were awarded to officially certify the delegates' participation in the IV Indian Leaders Programme. Awarded by the SICF's President and Patrons and handed out by the MP, these diplomas represent the participants' work towards bilateral cooperation and their appointment as ambassadors for the promotion of Spain-India relations. After the ceremony, the delegation enjoyed a farewell lunch offered by Caixabank during which talked about the achievements of the initiative and the action plan to be implemented once they are back in India. The SICF's Secretary General, Alonso Dezcallar, took the floor to thank them for their active participation and highlighted the mutual knowledge both parties have been able to acquire during the















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