

## City Key of Honour Award to Indian President

## **Source: PIB**

The **President of India** received the **'City Key of Honour**' of Lisbon (Portugal), acknowledging the strong ties and goodwill between India and Portugal.

- It is the **highest honour accorded** by the city of Lisbon, given **by the Mayor** to **recognise contributions to society or ties with Portugal**.
- 2025 marks the 50th anniversary of India-Portugal diplomatic relations.

## **India-Portugal Relations:**

- Historical Background: India- Portugal connection began in 1498 with Vasco da Gama's arrival in Calicut.
  - Full diplomatic normalization was achieved after Portugal's 1974 Carnation Revolution, culminating in the 1975 Goa Treaty.
- Strategic Cooperation: Portugal has consistently backed India's bid for UNSC permanent membership and <u>NSG</u> entry. It also initiated the <u>India-EU Summits</u>, hosting the first in Lisbon in 2000 under PM Vajpayee.
- Economic and Trade Relations: As of 2025, India-Portugal bilateral trade stands at around USD 1.5 billion, marking a 50% rise since 2020 (USD 951 million).
- Diaspora Linkages: Around 1.25 lakh Indians, including 35,000 nationals and 90,000 persons of Indian origin (PIO) live in Portugal.
- Cultural and Educational Cooperation: India-Portugal cultural ties include the <u>Indian Council</u> for <u>Cultural Relations (ICCR)</u> Chair at the University of Lisbon and release of joint stamps marking 500 years of ties.



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