

**Embassy of India
Santiago**

Remarks of Ambassador Abhilasha Joshi for the Inauguration of the “IV International Meeting: From Los Ríos to the World” on 10 October, 2025.

Excellencies, Distinguished Regional Authorities, Members of the International Community, Cultural and Academic Colleagues, and Dear Guests,

It is a true honour to join you today for the inauguration of the IV International Meeting of the Los Ríos Region and to have India as the Guest Country. At the outset, I would like to thank the Regional Government of Los Ríos for bestowing this honour upon our country.

Moments like this remind us of the powerful impact of culture: the everyday exchanges of music, cuisine, story and song, that build trust across miles and oceans. I still carry fond memories of my participation in Noche Valdiviana in March 2025. That evening of lights and shared celebration was a small but meaningful seed of friendship between India and Los Ríos — a demonstration that when people meet with openness, partnerships follow.

I am happy to share that together with our interlocutors and with support from the regional government, we were able to organize several events during the India Week and India Day including seminars, business and academic engagements, showcase films and cuisine.

Among the many cultural highlights, I am especially pleased that the programme includes the exhibition of **two contemporary Indian films—Dunki and Jawan**. Film is a powerful storyteller: through these screenings you will see modern India’s humour, courage and creativity, and you will witness how cinema can open windows into society, identity and imagination. I encourage you to attend these screenings and to allow cinema to spark new collaborations between filmmakers, academics and cultural programmers here and in India.

I would also like to take a moment to invite each of you—artists, students, entrepreneurs, municipal leaders—to come and visit India. Travel is an education unlike any other. Come to experience our festivals, our coastlines and mountains, our temples and contemporary cities; taste our regional cuisines, learn our crafts, and meet the innovators and scholars shaping India’s future. Whether your interest is in traditional crafts, sustainable agriculture, information technology, or music, you will find partners eager to learn from the knowledge held here in Los Ríos and to share practices from their own communities.

The Embassy of India stands ready to facilitate these exchanges. We can assist in creating institutional links, advising on scholarship opportunities and technical training, and coordinating cultural partnerships. Let us transform the energy of the IV International Meeting into a steady year-round rhythm of visits, joint projects and mutual learning.

The participation of representatives from Los Rios government in our National Day in Santiago, and our return to this beautiful and historic city, is truly a testament to the friendship between India and your region.

I once again thank the Regional Government of Los Ríos for their warm hospitality and thank you to all the organizers, speakers and participants who have made this week possible. The IV International Meeting of Los Rios has truly become a melting pot of cultures, bringing the world to Valdivia and taking Los Rios to the world.

I look forward to continued engagement with you all and let us continue to build bridges of friendship and shared creativity.

Thank you!