

19 July 2025

Context: India has sent 300,000 doses of the Measles-Rubella vaccine to Bolivia in response to a disease outbreak, reaffirming its dedication to health diplomacy within the Global South.



About Bolivia:

- **Location:** A landlocked nation situated in the west-central region of South America.
- **Capitals:** La Paz (administrative) and Sucre (constitutional).
- **Neighbours:** Shares borders with Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, Chile, and Peru.
- **Geographical Extent:** Extends approximately 1,500 km from north to south and around 1,300 km from east to west.

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Physiographic Features of Bolivia:

- **Andes Mountains:** Contains the Cordillera Occidental and Cordillera Oriental, with Mt. Sajama (6,542 m) being the tallest peak.
- **Altiplano Plateau:** A flat, elevated plain (approximately 12,000 ft above sea level), which includes Lake Titicaca and the now-dried Lake Poopó.
- **Salt Flats:** Home to the Uyuni Salt Flat, the largest in the world (about 10,400 sq. km).
- **Yungas Region:** Characterized by rainy, forested slopes that descend from the Andes into valleys.
- **Amazon Drainage:** Rivers such as Beni, Mamoré, and Iténez feed into the Amazon basin.
- **Chaco and Oriente:** Comprises hot lowlands in the south and tropical rainforests in the north and east.

India–Bolivia Bilateral Relations:

- **Vaccine Diplomacy:** India's recent provision of vaccines is part of a larger framework of South-South Cooperation under its Development Partnership Programme.
- **Health Support:** The shipment included Measles-Rubella vaccines and other supplies to address Bolivia's health crisis.
- **Strategic Engagement:** India and Bolivia maintain strong relations, particularly within multilateral forums such as the G77, NAM, and BRICS outreach events.
- **Energy & Minerals:** Bolivia possesses abundant lithium resources and has expressed interest in collaborating with India on technology and energy initiatives.