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## The Catalan Government, received by the Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi

- **The General Directorate of Telecommunications and the Director of Catalonia Trade & Investment in India also met with representatives of the telecommunication and transport ministries of the Indian Government.**
- **The meetings were celebrated within the framework of the Times Global Business Summit, where Catalonia was the only invited region.**
- **Catalonia, alongside Canada and Russia, was chosen to present business opportunities in the smart city, mobile and connectivity sectors.**

Barcelona, February 1, 2016— India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, held last Saturday a brief meeting with the Catalan Government delegation led by the General Directorate of Telecommunications and Information Society, Jordi Puigneró, during the celebration of the Times Global Business Summit where Catalonia was the only guest region, together with Canada and Russia.

During the meeting with Prime Minister Modi, Puigneró explained the collaboration opportunities between both countries in the smart, mobile and telecommunications sectors, an area of special interest to Modi, who took the opportunity to suggest a meeting with the Ministry of Telecommunications of India and the Catalan delegation.

This meeting between the Secretary for Communications and Information Technology of the Indian Government, Shri N Sivasailam, and the Catalan delegation took place just a few hours later. During the meeting, Jordi Puigneró explained the smartCAT strategy; which aims to make Catalonia an international point of reference in terms of smart regions and integrates projects using technology and big data in sectors such as education, e-commerce and health.

Furthermore, this Saturday also took place the meeting between the Secretary of Transports and Highways of the Indian Government, Sanjay Mitra, with Jordi Puigneró and the Director of the Catalan Government Trade & Investment Office in Mumbai, Suprio Bose. During the meeting, Jordi Puigneró expressed the Catalan Government's willingness to collaborate with the Indian Government in the areas of smart mobility, using the T-Mobilitat project as an example.

Catalonia participated in the Times Global Business Summit 2016 (<http://www.et-gbs.com>) which was held on January 29 and 30 in New Delhi (India) as the guest region, together with Canada and Russia. Catalonia was chosen to present business opportunities in the mobile, connectivity and smart city sectors, in an

°event organised by the Times of India Group and that drew together some one thousand business professional, economists and institutional representatives from all over the world, with the noteworthy attendance of the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi.

Catalonia's participation in the Congress took place on Saturday 30, at 10am (Indian time). As well as Puigneró, other speakers were the founder of the Smart Cities Council India, Pratap Padode, and the Director of the Catalan Government Trade & Investment Office in Mumbai, Suprio Bose. The Catalan company Applus Idiada and the Indian company Balaan Group also explained the characteristics of their business collaboration.

### ***About Catalonia Trade & Investment***

*Catalonia Trade & Investment is the public agency that works to attract foreign direct investment to Barcelona and Catalonia, promoting the area as an attractive, innovative and competitive business location. In the last 30 years, the agency's track record includes 5,000 investment projects managed, €8.1 billion attracted in inward investment and 40,000 jobs created. Catalonia Trade & Investment operates from 36 offices around the world.*

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