



सत्यमेव जयते

Consulate General of India
Munich

INDIEN in Süddeutschland

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A NEW BEGINNING

I am glad to begin the monthly newsletter "Indien in Süddeutschland" offering highlights of activities of the Consulate General of India, Munich. The newsletter will also give a glimpse of developments in India, its culture and cuisine. A unique aspect of the newsletter is India Quiz winners of which will be awarded prizes. I am sure, friends of India in Germany will appreciate our efforts.

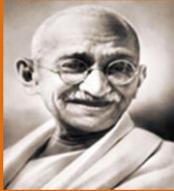


Sugandh Rajaram
Consul General of India

During March 2017, we continued to engage with political leadership in Consulate's jurisdiction. Consul General called on Bavarian Environment Minister Ulrike Scharf prior to her visit to India. While in India, Minister Scharf had meetings with Indian Ministers of Environment and Water Resources.

Consul General also met President of Bavarian Parliament Barbara Stamm and discussed issues of cooperation between India and Bavaria.

Quote of the month



Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man.

- Mahatma Gandhi



Consul General with Bavarian Environment Minister Ulrike Scharf



Consul General called on Bavarian Parliament President Barbara Stamm

Bavaria has a strong commercial relationship with India. Consul General briefed Vice Minister for Economic Affairs Franz Josef Pschierer of the latest policy initiatives of the Indian Government to promote India as a manufacturing hub. While praising the support of various agencies of Bavarian Economic Ministry in promoting bilateral trade with India, Minister Pschierer was urged for a delegation to India in the second half of 2017.

India's engagement with Germany in the field of education has been increasing rapidly. Various Bavarian universities and research institutions collaborate with Indian universities and institutes. Consul General discussed with Vice Minister for Education Georg Eisenreich the possibility of enhancing this cooperation.



With Bavarian Vice Minister for Economic Affairs Franz Joseph Pschierer



With Bavarian Vice Minister for Education Georg Eisenreich

Do you know?

India is the 7th largest country in the world and occupies 2.8% of world's land mass (3.3 million sq. Kms.). The country measures 3,214 km from North to South and 2,933 km from East to West.

The Indian peninsula is separated from mainland Asia by the Himalayas. India is surrounded by the Bay of Bengal in the east, the Arabian Sea in the west, and the Indian Ocean to the south. It has a coastline of 7,517 kms.

India has a population of 1.26 billion, i.e. 17.5% of world's population. More than 65% of the population is below the age of 35.

India has strong commercial engagement with Germany. In fact, our first economic linkage dates back to 16th century. In March 2017, Consul General actively engaged with various commercial establishments. He visited Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IHK), Nuremberg and discussed with CEO Dirk von Vopelius ways to strengthen Indo-Mittelfranken business ties, organise 'India Business Day' and visit of a business delegation to India.

The Consulate hosted a seminar on waste-water management with a focus to gain an insight into the best practices followed in Germany for waste water management. Ideas were exchanged and further scope for partnership between India and Germany in management of waste water in India was explored.



Consul General with President of IHK Nueremberg Dirk von Vopelius (on his left)



Consul General with some of the participants at a seminar on waste-water management

Consul General participated at the meeting of the German-Indian Round Table (GIRT) at Freiburg and India Board Meeting at Karlsruhe wherein he briefed participants about the latest legislative and policy initiatives in India that have opened up a window of opportunity for German investors particularly from mittelstand sector.



At the GIRT meeting, Freiberg



At the India Board meeting in Karlsruhe

Various small and medium businesses were encouraged to invest in India and become part of Make in India Mittelstand (MIIM) programme. Consul General visited Papierwerke Lenk (one of the world's successful speciality paper manufacturers which holds patent for crepe paper since 1916) and offered market entry support through MIIM programme. He also visited MTU Aero Engines (a strategic company in civil aviation sector) and highlighted opportunities in civil and defence sectors in India.



Consul General with CEO of Papierwerke Lenk (on his left) and Mayor of Kappelrodeck city (on his right)



Consul General at MTU with Sr. VP Eckhard Zanger (on his left) and Sr. VP Ottmar Pfaender (on his right)

World's largest democracy

In the last election to the House of the People, more than 814 million people — a number larger than the population of Europe — were eligible to vote

11 million, security personnel manned 930,000 polling stations

1.4 million Electronic Voting Machines were used.

Languages in India

22 languages are recognised by the Indian Constitution.

2011 census recognizes 1,635 languages spoken by people of India (30 languages are spoken by more than a million native speakers)

The official language of the Union Government is Hindi while English is also used to transact official business of the Government of India. Hindi and English spoken across the length and breadth of the country.

India and Germany has close engagement in the field of education, from school level exchange program to higher education, including research. There has been close collaboration between different universities and Consul General's outreach last month to a few universities was aimed at further consolidating this cooperation. He visited Aalen University, Deggendorf Institute of Technology, Mannheim University, SRH University Heidelberg and Technical University of Munich. During his interactions with Presidents/Rectors, he explained the need to develop institute-to-institute mechanism of collaboration and joint research. Consul General also interacted with Indian students during these visits.



Consul General with Rector Gerhard Schneider (on his left) and his colleagues at Aalen Uni.



Consul General with President of Deggendorf Institute of Technology Prof. Peter Sperber



Consul General with Rector Ernst-Ludwig von Thadden of Mannheim University



Consul General with TUM's President Prof. Wolfgang Herrmann



Consul General with Dr. Winterberg, MD of SRH University (on his left) and his colleagues



Consul General interacted with Indian students at Deggendorf



Celebration of the International Women's Day

The International Women's Day was celebrated at the Consulate on 8th March 2017. Consul General highlighted the importance of the Day by emphasising on the need to appreciate, respect and empower women who are the essence of our lives. Ms. Jyaysi Desai, a Research Scholar at Ludwig Maximilian University gave a presentation on "Achievements of Women in India".

Religions in India:

India is the birth place of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism.

Hinduism (830 million followers) is the oldest religion of the world. Vedas were compiled around 1800 BC.

Sikhism (19 million followers), was founded in India by Guru Nanak (1469-1539 AD)

Buddhism (8 million followers) was founded in Eastern India by Gautam Budha between 6th and 4th centuries BC.

The origin of Jainism (4 million followers) can be traced back to the Indus River valley civilization of 3000 BC

Islam (140 million followers), first came to India with Arab traders around 7th century AD to coastal Malabar.

Christianity (24 million followers), was brought to India by Saint Thomas, the Apostle himself, in the year 52 AD. The faith was embraced by the people of India well before many European nations.

India is a secular country.

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Indian cuisine is diverse, ranging from very spicy to very mild, varying with seasons in each region. Food in India is often served in thali - a plate with rice, bread and a selection of dishes.

Art & Culture



Brigitta Hegedeus, an accomplished Mohiniyattam dancer based in Munich

Mohiniyattam is a classical dance form from Kerala, India. Believed to have originated in 16th century, it is considered a very graceful form of dance meant to be performed as solo

India in Spotlight



India's space workhorse, the PSLV

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved a major milestone with a successful record-setting launch of 104 satellites on a single rocket through its Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C37.

The satellites included, one each from Kazakhstan, Israel, The Netherlands, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and 96 from United States of America (USA). The 101 international customer satellites were launched as part of the commercial arrangements between Indian Department of Space and international customers.



India is now the top global source of affordable medical supplies to the international body UNICEF. India topped the list of suppliers by providing medicines and healthcare items worth \$741 million to UNICEF programme surpassing Belgium (\$456 m), France (\$204 m) and the US (\$497 m).

Indian Cuisine



Indian food recipe of the month: 'Butter Chicken' (one of the most popular Indian curries across the world. (In fact, this Indian curry remains the highest in demand in Munich)

Ingredients for Butter Chicken Recipe:

Boneless chicken (400 grams), salt to taste, butter (2 tablespoons), ginger and garlic paste (2 teaspoons each), Kashmiri red chilli powder (1/2 teaspoon), garam masala powder (1/2 teaspoon), tomato puree (1/2 cup), fresh cream (1/2 cup)

Method

Apply a mixture of red chilli powder, lemon juice and salt to chicken pieces and set aside for half an hour. Preheat oven to 200°C. String chicken pieces onto skewers and cook in the preheated oven for ten minutes. To make curry, heat butter in a non-stick pan, add ginger & garlic paste and sauté for two minutes. Add tomato puree, red chilli powder, salt, garam masala and half cup of water. Bring mixture to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for ten minutes. Add cooked chicken pieces. Simmer for five minutes and add fresh cream. Serve hot with naan or parantha.

India Quiz

Name the oldest mountain range of India?

- Himalayas - Nilgiris - Aravallis - Vindhyas

Please send your responses at cg.munich@mea.gov.in by April 21, 2017. First five successful responses will receive interesting information material about India.

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