



NEWSLETTER 2023

Issue 12

Indian Honorary Consulate Stuttgart



INDIA AND GERMANY – TWO WELL COMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

To the delight of all of us, the Corona pandemic has weakened so much this year that we have been able to return to the old familiarity in most areas of life and to a new normality in other areas. However, in our rich country, which has been blessed with peace for many years, we have been reminded very clearly that peace and also prosperity is not a permanent self-perpetuator.

It is all the more important to me to promote good relations and understanding between peoples. As Honorary Consul of India, my focus is primarily on Indo-German exchange. With India, Germany has an important political and economic partner in South Asia.

We feel this here in Stuttgart as well. In recent months, the Indian Ambassador, H.E. Parvathaneni Harish, has visited Stuttgart several times. His visit focused on politics with Prime Minister Kretschmann and on art and culture in the Linden-Museum. I am particularly pleased that the Indian Embassy chose Stuttgart and the LAPP headquarters as the kick-off point for its Germany-wide Make In India Mittelstand (MIIM) roadshow to show German SMEs their business opportunities in India.

Many friends and guests again participated in our past events. In July, the 19th Indian Film Festival was held in Stuttgart with 35 films from different genres. In addition, the Honorary Consulate of India and its partners presented a diverse cultural programme as part of the Indian Summer. Through the Manager Training Programme, we received several Indian delegations at LAPP in the summer and the German-Indian Round Table again invited representatives from business, politics and society to an inspiring exchange.

In this newsletter we take you through the projects and activities of the past months and give you a preview of what is already planned for next year.

From 03rd–04th February 2023, the 19th wine festival STUTTGART MEETS MUMBAI will again take place entirely on site. Two weeks later, on 17th February 2023, we will celebrate the Indian “Republic Day” together in Stuttgart. I am looking forward to it!

I wish you all the best for the new year!

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Lapp

*Honorary Consul of the Republic of India for
Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate*

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INDIAN AMBASSADOR VISITS COMPANIES IN STUTTGART

On Friday, July 15th, 2022, the Indian Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, visited companies and institutions in Stuttgart that are involved in hydrogen technology.

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Markus Wiedemann, Indian Ambassador and Consul General at the SSB hydrogen filling station

The program, organized by the Honorary Consulate of India, was attended by Indian Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni and Indian Consul General Mohit Yadav, from Munich.

First, the delegation visited the hydrogen filling station at Stuttgarter Straßenbahnen AG (SSB). The Indian representatives were welcomed by Markus Wiedemann, Head of the Motor Vehicles Division. After the tour of the hydrogen filling station, a special trip in the hydrogen bus to MAHLE International GmbH followed.

After lunch with Dr. Marco Warth, VP Global Product Development, Holger Oechslen, Head of Systems Development and Rainer Schulze Temming, Head of Engineering Powertrain Product Testing, a plant tour at the hydrogen test center followed. The last stop on the agenda was Robert Bosch GmbH. The ambassador and the Consul General were welcomed by Matthias Ziebell, VP Business Development & Sales Hydrogen Electrolyzer, Martin Eberle, Head of Market & Business Strategy for SOFC, and Mr. Stefan Schere, specialist for SOFC testing. All in all, it was a very successful and informative exchange between the Indian Ambassador, the Consul General and the representatives of the Stuttgart based companies.



Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni in exchange with representatives of MAHLE

Indian Ambassador and Consul General with representatives of MAHLE



Copyright: Wiedemann, Mable

INDIAN SUMMER IN STUTTGART – ART EXHIBITION “INDIAN ENCOUNTERS”

From July 19th to July 22nd, 2022, the art exhibition "Indian Encounters" was presented as part of the Indian Summer in Stuttgart.



The artist talk

On July 18th, 2022, the vernissage of the art exhibition took place in the headquarters of LAPP. After a champagne reception, Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp welcomed the numerous guests and set the mood for the Indian Summer and the Indian Film Festival. Through the artist talk on stage, the audience gained an impression of who the three Indian artists are and what inspires them to create art. This was followed by the performance of an Indian dance group consisting of the dancers Shany Mathew and Sri PT Narendran. Andreas Lapp then opened the buffet and a relaxed get-together with live Indian music by Dr Balakrishna and Karthik Raman followed, which successfully rounded off the evening.

The artist Reena Bhatt presented artworks from her art series “Incredible-India” and selected pieces from her Buddha collection. The “Incredible India” collection featured paintings that focus on elegance, rich colours, and attention to detail. In her “Confluence” art series, artist Poonam Kamath made a remarkable connection between German culture and traditional Indian art forms. In this way, she aims to pay tribute to both cultures to which she belongs. Artist Supriya Savant inspired with traditional Indian folk art on canvas as well as on everyday objects. Fascinating was the extremely fine technique she uses on her art pieces – true to her motto: “Life is my canvas and my motivation for painting.”



The art exhibition “Indian Encounters”



Performance of dancers Shany Mathew and Sri PT Narendran

Copyright: LAPP, Wolfram Scheible

19TH INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL IN STUTTGART

The 19th Indian Film Festival Stuttgart took place from July 20th – 24th, 2022 at the Innenstadt Kinos in Stuttgart. Organizer was the Filmbüro Baden-Württemberg under the direction of festival director Oliver Mahn, sponsored by the state of Baden-Württemberg, the state capital Stuttgart, and the Stuttgart-based company LAPP.

Festival director Oliver Mahn opened the 19th Indian Film Festival together with the promoters and sponsors in the festive Marble Hall of the New Palace in Stuttgart. In addition, the Indian film journalist Uma da Cunha from Mumbai was honoured with the Staufer Medal of the State of Baden-Württemberg, which was presented by State Secretary Sandra Boser. Among the numerous guests were also film guests from India and the USA. The opening film “Shankar’s Fairies” by Irfana Majumdar, was shown at the

Gloria Kino in Hindi with English subtitles. A total of 30 recent feature films, short films, documentaries, and animated films from across India were screened. Among other things, the films addressed various social, economic, and political grievances in India and gave viewers an insight into India’s current issues.

At the festival finale, various film awards were presented to the winners from the categories of best feature film, best documentary, and best short film. As the favourite of the festival audience, the short film “Bad Egg” by Mehak Jamal received the audience award. Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp presented the prestigious film award “German Star of India” to director Sandeep Kumar for his performance on the socially critical film “Mehrunita”.



Honouring in the New Castle on July 20th, 2022, with Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp, Consul General Mohit Yadav, State Secretary Sandra Boser, Festival Director Oliver Mahn



Awarding of the “German Star of India” to director Sandeep Kumar by Andreas Lapp

Copyright: LAPP, Wolfram Scheible

GERMAN-INDIAN ROUND TABLE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE INDIAN SUMMER WITH CULTURAL CONSUL KAILASH BHATT



As part of the 19th Indian Film Festival, the German-Indian Round Table took place on July 20th, 2022, at the restaurant “Alte Kanzlei” in Stuttgart.

More than 30 participants from politics, economy and society attended the event. The guest of honour Mr. Mohit Yadav, Indian Consul General in Munich spoke on the topic of “German-Indian relations” and on current topics concerning India. Afterwards there was a joint meal and then it went on to the opening of the Indian Film Festival in the New Castle. The evening was rounded off by a visit to the Gloria cinema for the screening of the opening film “Shankar’s Fairies” by Irfana Majumdar.



Host Andreas Lapp between Cultural Consul Kailash Bhatt (l.) and former Consul General Dr. Jürgen Morhard (r.)

INDIAN EVENING OF THE DIG IN STUTTGART

As part of the Indian Summer, all dance and music enthusiasts could experience the Indian evening “Sursangam” on Saturday, July 23rd, 2022, in the care centre Paulinenpark in Stuttgart.

The Indian evening was organized by Bimal Agarwala, DIG e.V. ZG. Stuttgart. The three musical artists played

on traditional musical instruments such as sitar, tabla, dilruba and bansuri and presented various compositions from Indian classical music and folk music. The dancer, dressed in colourful costumes, delighted the audience with extraordinary choreographies from Indian classical dance while accompanied by the sounds of traditional instruments.



Organizer Bimal Agarwala (centre) with supporters and participants



Concert with classical Indian instruments

Copyright: Bimal Agarwala

CREATIVEDAYS SYMPOSIUM 2022 “WELLBEING DESIGN AND SPACES”

Poonam Choudhry shares about the CreativeDays as part of the Indian Summer:

Which kind of light do we people need for our wellbeing in public spaces? What has the Jal Mahal in Rajasthan to do with Rahul Kadri? How do you design good places for communities and sustainable, healthy architecture? These and other questions were answered by our invited Indi-

an architect Rahul Kadri, IMK Architects Mumbai, and the designer Christiane Sander, sbp Stuttgart. The two Young-Visions speakers, Aarti Dhingra and Monica Tusinean, showcased solutions for sustainable architecture, design and urban spaces.

Text: Poonam Choudhry



Poonam Choudhry at the opening of the CD Symposium at the Hospitalhof Stuttgart



The CD hosts with speakers Rahul Kadri, Christiane Sander, Monica Tusinean, Aarti Dhingra

poonamdesigners, Fotos: Günter Bergmann

CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE MONASTERY BENEFIT CONCERTS

"The whole world is sky blue"

Since 2006, international artists as well as young talents have been singing and making music at Klassik im Kloster (Classical music in the monastery) in Bad Herrenalb. On July 21st, 2022, in the presence of Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp, the multifaceted concert series celebrated its 50th anniversary concert with an operetta gala entitled "The whole world is sky blue." What began seventeen years ago with a concert in the monastery church of Bad Herrenalb has developed into a brand whose concept, with 50 concerts, 43 artists from thirteen countries and the unbelievable number of over 2,000 young talents, has been able to generate total donations of over 55,000 euros for social projects. On the anniversary evening alone, proceeds of 7.834,00 euros were donated to Alexandra Nowack and the "Indian Rainbow" association to support 31 children in the Indian state of Assam in northern India, who are cared for and educated by Catholic Fatima Sisters.

With a colourful bouquet of lively operetta melodies, the artists Frazan Adil Kotwal (baritone), Yi Tashiro (piano) and Emmanuelle Chimento (soprano), who study together at the Stuttgart University of Music, impressed the audience. Frazan Adil Kotwal comes from Mumbai /India. He is the first and so far, only Indian opera singer to study in Germany and has not only found a congenial partner in his piano accompanist Yi Tashiro from Japan, but also harmonizes brilliantly with Emmanuelle Chimento from France. "Today our soul is being caressed," Andreas Lapp emphasized in his welcoming words and directed his thanks to Sabine Zoller, who has been organizing her summer concerts in cooperation with the Honorary Consulate of India since 2017.

Text: Sabine Zoller



Organizer Sabine Zoller with Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp and Mayor Klaus Hoffmann (Bad Herrenalb)



Yi Tashiro (piano), Frazan Adil Kotwal (baritone) and Emmanuelle Chimento (soprano)



Contributors and Sponsors

INDIA SUMMER DAYS IN KARLSRUHE

Examples of the diversity of Indian culture

Join in and try things out at the India Summer Days

From Friday, 21st to Sunday, 23rd July 2023, India can once again be experienced authentically at the India Summer Days in Karlsruhe. Whether music, dance and cultural performances on the live stage, hands-on activities, bazaar, information, stalls, street food or yoga: around a central square, an Indian village in the area of the active playground in the Günther-Klotz-Anlage invites visitors to take a foray into Indian culture in the middle of Karlsruhe.

Since their premiere in 2017, the India Summer Days in Karlsruhe have been one of the largest India festivals in Germany. With free admission, they will again present themselves in 2023 parallel to the “Fest”, one of the largest open-air events in Germany, giving special space to the long-standing and strong German-Indian partnership in Baden-Württemberg. In addition to the three-day stage programme with dance, live music and authentic shows, visitors will have the opportunity to actively participate in special offers.

“Thanks to the support of our strong partners, we can offer an authentic and varied Indian programme” says Martin Wacker, Managing Director of the organising KME Karlsruhe Marketing und Event GmbH. At the India Summer Days – under the patronage of Prime Minister Winfried Kretschmann – and in partnership with the Indian Consulate General in Munich and the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of India in Stuttgart, there are offers from all areas of life in India, so that visitors can gain insights and make their own experiences.

It is important to the organisers that everything can be presented in Karlsruhe, tradition and modernity of Indian culture, which at the same time can be experienced by visitors in an authentic way. In addition to an extensive cultural programme, the focus will also be on participatory yoga, for example. This also includes tasting the culture, among other things through chai, spices and Indian specialities. At the stands, there will be spices, body painting with henna, clothes and textiles, small arts, singing bowls, incense, jewellery, pictures, books and decorative material, as well as information on Indian culture and many tourist tips.

Information at www.indiasummerdays.de



Indian dance group



Evening programme with Indian entertainers

Copyright: Gustav Pixelgrün

INDIAN DELEGATIONS VISIT LAPP

As part of the Manager Training Program, the Honorary Consulate of India welcomed an Indian delegation from the Stuttgart Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry in July and an Indian delegation from the Baden-Württemberg Export Academy in August.

Besides the presentation of the Indian Honorary Consulate and the company LAPP, the Global Innovation Manager, Freya Stonawski, gave exclusive insights into the topic “In-

novation Management at LAPP” during the visit in July. In August, the focus was set on “Sustainability in medium-sized companies”, presented by Global CSR Manager, Maria Dobritsch. In addition, our guests were able to visit the production facilities of LAPP Kabelwerke and LAPP Mobility GmbH. The latter was only founded in 2018 and specializes in charging solutions for electric vehicles. A get-together with Indian snacks rounded off the visits.



A glimpse into the LAPP Mobility GmbH



The Indian delegation at LAPP the Export Academy Baden-Württemberg

GERMAN-INDIAN ROUND TABLE IN OCTOBER 2022



Secret of success of Indian companies – What do Indians do differently?

In October, another German-Indian Round Table took place in the venue of the Speisemeisterei at Hohenheim Castle near Stuttgart. Among the numerous guests were representatives of different companies and institutions from industry and research. The German-Indian Round Table was opened by Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp. The speaker Dr.-Ing. Vinod Talgeri is managing director of the company TALGERI CONSULTING, a provider of consulting services for European and Asian governments and corporations. He wrote his doctoral thesis on outsourcing issues at the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology. In addition, he has held performance positions in various international industrial and IT companies, where he was responsible for areas such as management, sales



Host Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp and his guests from the sectors of industry and research

and marketing. Dr. Talgeri spoke on the topic “Secret of success of Indian companies – What do Indians do differently?” An energetic exchange with the guests followed.

“MAKE IN INDIA MITTELSTAND!” ROADSHOW IN STUTTGART ON OCTOBER 7TH, 2022



After years of corona-induced moratorium, the “Make in India Mittelstand!” roadshows have started again this year. These are organized under the leadership of the Indian Embassy in Berlin by Rödl & Partner as the official Partner. Especially in times when, for example, rising energy prices, geopolitical challenges and corona-related supply chain bottlenecks are forcing German SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) to explore alternative investment strategies, it is worth taking a look at India. It was precisely this view of India’s potential that the MIIM roadshows clearly demonstrated to the participants.

The roadshow in Stuttgart made the start on October 7th, 2022. This was organized in cooperation with the Honorary Consulate of India in Stuttgart at the headquarters of the company LAPP and was attended by several company representatives from different industries. In addition to the interesting keynote speech by the Indian Ambassador, Mr. Parvathaneni Harish, which covered topics such

as (renewable) energy, digitalization and India’s demographic potential, the event was also characterized by the interesting exchange of practical experiences in the context of a lively panel discussion. In this, Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp, and Martin Wörlein of Rödl & Partner, moderated by Rahul Oza, Rödl & Partner, shared their practical experiences and perspective on India’s potential with the attending representatives of German SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises). The program was rounded off by a presentation of the “Make in India Mittelstand!” program and the many ways in which it can help German SMEs set up or expand operations in India. This part of the program also gave the opportunity to answer individual questions of the company representatives and thus led to a lively exchange. The roadshow was rounded off by ‘networking and snacks’ and thus offered a nice opportunity for individual exchange in a smaller group.

Text: Rödl & Partner



Panel discussion with Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp, and Martin Wörlein and Rahul Oza, Rödl & Partner



Company representatives from different branches



Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish and Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp

STUDENT EXCHANGE

Return Visit of Bhartiya Public School, Sikar, Rajasthan at Friedrich-Schiller-Gymnasium, Ludwigsburg after Covid-19

Ulrich von Sanden, principal of the Friedrich-Schiller-Gymnasium Ludwigsburg:

What a difference two years make! More than two years have passed since I had the privilege to visit Bhartiya Public School in Sikar, Rajasthan, which has been our Indian partner school for a decade now. My family and I and our entire exchange group, consisting of the two teachers Angelika Hoff and Ute Sievert and 14 students, were treated like kings in a breath-taking display of exuberant Indian hospitality. Colourful and dazzling receptions at school, delicious meals in the families' homes and a multitude of trips to places of cultural interest offered plenty of opportunities for intercultural exchange and discussions. All this

left us with feelings of deep gratitude and the necessity to offer similar experiences to our Indian partners on their return visit to Germany.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, our school had to wait more than two years for our Indian students to visit Ludwigsburg. This meant that many of the original exchange partners had already left with the Abitur in their pockets, new host families had to be found and prices had risen tremendously due to inflation. However, it also meant the experience of sudden helpfulness, be it from our "new" host families or the Indian Honorary Consul, Mr Andreas Lapp, to whom we would like to express our sincere gratitude. I am extremely relieved and happy that our exchange with Bhartiya Public School has survived two years of pandemic, thanks to great commitment on the Indian as well as the German side.



Interreligious dialogue with Indian exchange students of the Friedrich-Schiller-Gymnasium Ludwigsburg in the Catholic Church on the Market Square



Indo-German Evening

Copyright: Angelika Hoff

INDIA DAYS OF THE DIG IN HANNOVER

At the India Days 2022 of the Indo-German Society (DIG) in Hanover, the long-standing Chairman Ambassador (ret.) Hans-Joachim Kiderlen was bid farewell.

His successor is Consul General (ret.) Dr. Jürgen Morhard, who recently returned to Germany after six years of service at the German Consulate General in Mumbai. The chairman of the DIG, Mr. Bernhard Steinrücke, showed his gratitude by presenting Mr. Kiderlen with a painting by the respected Indian artist Abdul Hisham. As the new

Chairman of the Board, he will lead the federal office of the Indo-German Society with its more than 20 branch societies. A delegation from the Honorary Consulate of India in Stuttgart was present and thanked Mr. Kiderlen for his faithful service to the Indo-German Society and wished Dr. Morhard all the best, much strength and good ideas to lead, modernize and rejuvenate the Indo-German Society. Another highlight of the event was the musical group Indigo-Masala, which delighted the audience with calm and melodious pieces. Afterwards, Gulshan Dhingra,

Consul General in Hamburg, presented the Gisela Bonn Award, which is awarded annually for special services to Indo-German relations. This year's award went to Hans Harder, Chair of Modern Indology at the South Asia Institute in Heidelberg. The basis for the award to Mr. Harder was his many years of effort in the study of modern South Asia, in which the research and translation of Indian regional languages plays a central role.



India Days in Hannover

On this festive day, the Rabindranath Tagore Culture Prize, which went to Jose Punnampambal, was also awarded. This prize is awarded every two years in cooperation with the DIG. It honours especially German-speaking authors and cultural personalities who have the talent to bring the meaning and beauty of India to a German audience. The "India Speech" by Bernhard Steinrücke successfully rounded off the festive event.



Bernhard Steinrücke, Dr. Jürgen Morhard, Hans-Joachim Kiderlen and Klaus-Reinhard Hardegen

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Prime Minister Kretschmann welcomes Indian Ambassador Parvathaneni

On an inaugural visit on July 14th, 2022, Minister President Winfried Kretschmann welcomed the Ambassador of the Republic of India, H.E. Harish Parvathaneni, in the Villa Reitzenstein in Stuttgart.



Prime Minister Winfried Kretschmann and Harish Parvathaneni, Ambassador of the Republic of India

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp visits Minister of State Dr. Florian Stegmann

The Honorary Consul of India for Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate visited Minister of State Dr. Florian Stegmann on November 29th, 2022. Topics of the informal meeting were the cities of Mumbai and Pune (both in the state of Maharashtra), as well as the upcoming delegation trip of the Minister of State in January 2023 to Mumbai. Baden-Württemberg maintains a long-standing state partnership with the Indian state of Maharashtra. On his delegation trip, Dr. Stegmann will focus on the topics of hydrogen, biotechnology and automotive.



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→ DATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS →

- **03.– 04.02.2023** 19th Wine Festival STUTTGART MEETS MUMBAI
- **17.02.2023** Celebrations on the occasion of the “Republic Day of India” in Stuttgart
- **April 2023** German–Indian Round Table Stuttgart
- **17. – 23.07.2023** Indian Summer Stuttgart
- **19. – 23.07.2023** 20th Indian Film Festival Stuttgart
- **21. – 23.07.2023** India Summer Days Karlsruhe
- **19.10.2023** German-Indian Round Table Stuttgart



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