



# NEWSLETTER 2024

Issue 14

## Indian Honorary Consulate Stuttgart



### INDIA AND GERMANY – TWO COMPLEMENTARY PARTNERS

As the host of the G20 summit and an emerging economic power with a highly diverse population, India plays a crucial role in shaping global political and economic solutions. With India, Germany has an important partner in South Asia. This is also reflected in the cooperation between the two federal states of Baden-Württemberg and Maharashtra.

Numerous German companies rely on qualified Indian specialists to drive their digital projects forward. However, many training professions in the skilled trades, health-care and other sectors are also suffering from a lack of trainees. Various projects in politics and the private sector are also underway here.

Many friends and guests attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Film Festival in Stuttgart last year. In addition, the Indian Honorary Consulate and its partners presented a varied program as part of the Indian Summer and thousands of interested people visited the India Summer Days in Karlsruhe. The Indo-German Society (DIG) also celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Stuttgart.

In this newsletter, we take you through the projects and activities of the past months and give you an outlook on what is planned for 2024.

The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “Stuttgart meets Mumbai” Wine Festival will take place in Mumbai from February 9-10, 2024. Two weeks later, on February 23, 2024, we will celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Indian Republic Day together in Stuttgart. I am looking forward to it!

I wish you good health and every success 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 SUMMER STUTTGART

## ART EXHIBITION “INDIAN ENCOUNTERS”

### *Indian Honorary Consulate Stuttgart*

The Indian Honorary Consulate in Stuttgart organized the 19<sup>th</sup> art exhibition on the theme of “Indian Encounters”. The exhibition put visitors in the mood for the Indian Summer and the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Film Festival in the State capital Stuttgart.

The exhibition kicked off with a vernissage on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, where the three artists introduced their works in a facilitated discussion. Ms. Shreya Shankar presented a typically Indian and very colorful folk art. With an extremely delicate and patient drawing technique, Ms. Nazma

Begum’s paintings captivated its viewers. Ms. Riya Francis took the visitors to the streets of India, where they encountered very different people in their everyday lives.

In addition to paintings, drawings and personalized products were also displayed. The artworks of the Indian artists from Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh took the audience on an artistic journey to their roots in India. The most popular painting, “Artist” by Nazma Begum, was purchased by Mr. Lapp and raffled off to the audience.

The evening was rounded off with dance and musical interludes and a small snack.



*Vernissage for the 19<sup>th</sup> art exhibition*



*Art exhibition “Indian Encounters” 2023*



*The artists introduce themselves, from left to right Riya Francis, Shreya Shankar and Nazma Begum*



*Winner Nazma Begum with her painting “Artist”*

*LAPP, Wolfram Scheible*



# CREATIVEDAYS SYMPOSIUM: CITIES FOR PEOPLE – DESIGNING HUMAN SPACES

*poonamdesigners Studio*

Poonam Choudhry and Martin Bargiel from poonamdesigners Studio curated the CreativeDays Stuttgart again in July 2023. Architect Nandini Sampat, SNK, from Mumbai and Mike Herud from SCOPE Architekten were invited to the symposium on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The topic was: Cities for People – Designing Human Spaces.

*Author: Poonam Choudhry*



*Architect and organizer Poonam Choudhry opens the CreativeDays Symposium*

*poonamdesigners Studio*

## CREATIVEDAYS EXHIBITION: PLANNED AND UNPLANNED NEIGHBORHOODS IN INDIA

*poonamdesigners Studio*

Through the CreativeDays, a cooperation between the h\_da University of Applied Sciences (Darmstadt) and the Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture and Environmental Studies (KRVIA Mumbai) was established, resulting in an architectural excursion to India in spring 2023 under the direction of Poonam Choudhry and Prof. Dita Leyh. An exhibition was held in the foyer of the Hospitalhof Stuttgart during the symposium.

*Author: Poonam Choudhry*



*Architecture excursion to India under the direction of Poonam Choudhry and Prof. Dita Leyh*



*Exhibition during the symposium*



*poonamdesigners Studio*

## DISCOVER INDIAN ART AND ARTISTS

*ArtBook The Platform*

ArtBook The Platform organized an Indian art exhibition at Indu Art Gallery Karlsruhe on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. It was an initiative to highlight the innate skills and talents of our Indian artists and unleash their creative genius. The exhibition provided the right platform for Indian artists to showcase the exquisite paintings they have created. A total of 60 visitors came to the Indu Art Gallery to view the exhibition. This exhibition brought together many different groups of people. The visitors were delighted with the colourful exhibits at the art gallery and appreciated the efforts of the organizers for making the event a grand success.

*Author: Artist Anuradha and Dr. Manoj Nimbalkar*



*Exhibition*

*@abthepf*

# 20<sup>TH</sup> INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL STUTTGART

*Filmbüro Baden-Württemberg e.V.*

With a great, colourful anniversary program featuring 75 new films from all over India, many world, European and German premieres as well as exciting Indian film guests, the festival delighted its audience. Since many friends from India have already moved to the Stuttgart region, the festival itself has become a personal meeting place and a piece of home for many.

Baden-Württemberg's Minister of State Dr. Florian Stegmann, the Indian Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp and Dr. Verena Andrei from the Welcome Center Stuttgart kicked off the festival with a discussion on the topic 'New HEIMATLÄND Baden-Württemberg – Economic Potential – Welcoming Culture – Quality of Life'. Other highlights included the premiere of the German version of the most successful Hindi film of all time, 'Pathaan' starring Shah Rukh Khan, as well as a unique screening of Indian festival films in the park of Villa Reitzenstein, the official residence of Baden-Württemberg's Minister President Winfried Kretschmann.



*Panel discussion "New HEIMATLÄND Baden-Württemberg – economic potential – welcoming culture – quality of life"*



*Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Festival Director Oliver Mahn (right) with guests of honor and filmmakers at the opening of the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Film Festival Stuttgart*



*Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp opens the 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Film Festival Stuttgart*



*The German Star of India – a coveted award for Indian filmmakers*



*Two happy winners of the German Star of India*

*LAPP, Wolfram Scheible*



# INDIAN EVENING – GHUNGROO-BAAJE

*Deutsch-Indische Gesellschaft e.V. Zweiggesellschaft Stuttgart (Indo-German Society)*

As part of the Indian Summer, all those interested in dance and music were able to experience the Indian evening “Ghungroo-BaaJe” at the Linden-Museum Stuttgart on Saturday, July the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. The Indian evening traditionally was organized by Mr. Bimal Agarwala, DIG e.V. ZG. Stuttgart. The choreography was created by Ms. Amouna. The dancers, dressed in colorful costumes, delighted the audience with extraordinary solo and group dances that showed the colorful dance variety of the Bollywood style. The dance journey ranged from the times of the Mughal Empire to the modern day. Robi Ray enchanted his audience with his melodic flute music, accompanied by tabla player Harun Rashid.



*Performance of the dancers*



*Flutist Robi Ray*

# CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE MONASTERY – 15,000 EUROS RECORD DONATION FOR CHILDREN IN INDIA

## *Klassik im Kloster*

In summer 2023, “Klassik im Kloster” celebrated a special concert anniversary as part of the Indian Film Festival in Stuttgart and the India Summer Days in Karlsruhe. Andreas Lapp, Honorary Consul of the Republic of India for Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate, praised the tireless commitment of Sabine Zoller as initiator, organizer and presenter of the concerts in Bad Herrenalb, who generated donations for children in India with her charity concerts for the fifth time. As patron, he personally attended the 54<sup>th</sup> fundraising concert in the sold-out monastery church.

Under the title “Dein ist mein ganzes Herz”, an excellent trio enchanted the audience: Emmanuelle Chimento (soprano), Frazan Adil Kotwal (baritone) and Yu Tashiro on the grand piano. They transported the music lovers into the sound world of the golden operetta and encouraged generous donations. Sabine Zoller entertainingly led the audience through the colorful melodies, which included not only well-known catchy tunes, but also atmospheric inter-

pretations of Johann Strauss on the grand piano and delighted the audience with musical melodies from “My Fair Lady” and “West Side Story”.

The proceeds from the concert will be used to support children in India. Alexandra Nowack, chairwoman of the Indian Rainbow Association, gave an insight into her 14 years of work and informed the audience about girls and orphans who receive a safe home and an education from the Catholic Fatima Sisters thanks to “Classical Music in the Monastery”.

The evening culminated in an unprecedented fundraising record. With proceeds of 7,425.36 euros, those present in the sold-out monastery church were more than impressed. Andreas Lapp generously promised to double the sum, resulting in an incredible total of almost 15,000 euros. A glittering finale to an anniversary concert that not only shone musically, but also in terms of generosity.

*Author: Sabine Zoller*



*Sabine Zoller's donation target far exceeded*



*Full pews in the monastery church*

*Klaus Epple*



*Yu Tashiro (grand piano), Frazan Adil Kotwal (baritone),  
Emmanuelle Chimento (soprano)*





# IMMERSION IN INDIAN CULTURE



Gustaf/Pixelgrün

*Impressions of the India Summer Days*

## *India Summer Days Karlsruhe*

Whether regional Indian dances, cultural offerings from Goa, the partner country 2023, practical examples of India's national sport cricket, music from sitar & tabla or classical and folkloric dance and music performances: The India Summer Days in Karlsruhe are a symbolic connection between Germany and India, emphasized the Indian Consul Dr. Suyash Chavan, who explicitly mentioned the diverse activities between Karlsruhe, Mumbai and Pune as pioneers of an active partnership between the two countries.

Dances from Goa, Bharatanatyam or "Bollywood Dance", ancient Sanskrit mantras, performances by an Indian dance school from Karlsruhe, a sari fashion show or a "dance journey" through the world of the Indian gods: the India Summer Days enchanted visitors for the fifth time – in the middle of Karlsruhe at "Das Fest", southern Germany's largest family festival. You come to the India Summer Days – and are

suddenly in the middle of India, said Karlsruhe's Lord Mayor Dr. Frank Mentrup, delighted by all the smells, colors, specialties, and cultural offerings, as well as a relaxed openness with yoga. Everything can be experienced here.

"Thanks to the once again great and broad support of our partners from the network – including Goa as the official partner country 2023, the Indian Consulate General in Munich, the Indian Honorary Consulate in Stuttgart, Indien aktuell, the Deutsch-Indische Gesellschaft e.V. in Karlsruhe – we were once again able to offer an authentic, extensive and varied Indian program free of charge for visitors to Karlsruhe this year," said Martin Wacker, Managing Director of the organizing Karlsruhe Marketing und Event GmbH.

*Author: Jo Wagner*

Information: [www.indiasummerdays.de](http://www.indiasummerdays.de)



# ON-BOARDING NETWORK BA-WÜ

The On-Boarding Network is a platform for HR professionals, international recruitment experts and company representatives dealing with the challenge of attracting talent from all over the world. It offers the opportunity to expand your know-how, exchange best practices and make valuable contacts with experts in the industry.

In fall 2023, two kick-offs took place in Karlsruhe and Stuttgart with a total of 70 HR experts. Another network

meeting was held at the Welcome Center Stuttgart on November the 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Further information and how you can become part of the On-Boarding Network Ba-Wü can be found

<https://aktion.ecoach.tk.de/kampagne/onboardingnetwork>



*Presentations on specialist topics and solutions for current challenges*



*Lively exchange between the participants*

## GERMAN-INDIAN ROUND TABLE IN OCTOBER



*Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp hosted the German-Indian Round Table (GIRT) at the Speisemeisterei in Stuttgart on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*

India has become an important player in the global solar energy sector due to its enormous potential and commitment to sustainable development. The head of the International Solar Energy Research Center Konstanz (ISC Konstanz e.V.), Lejo Joseph Koduvelikulathu, reported on new technologies and the promising prospects for photovoltaics in the Indian market, highlighting the central role of the ISC PV Alliance in shaping the technology and production landscape.

“You obviously need cables from LAPP to ensure reliable and efficient solar energy production,” emphasized Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp with a smile, who is also the former CEO of the Lapp Group. Afterwards, the participants discussed the presentation with great interest during the dinner and exchanged their own experiences in Indo-German business.



*Speaker Lejo Joseph Koduvelikulathu presents host Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp with a photovoltaic cell*



*GIRT participants share their experiences*

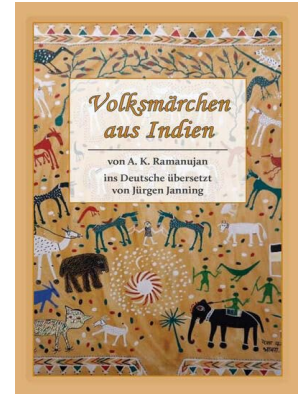


## NEWS IN BRIEF

### New publication: Volksmärchen aus Indien

Based on the English edition of "Folktales from India" by A. K. Ramanujan, Jürgen Janning has translated the collection of these 110 folktales from India into German. This is a project of the heart, as Jürgen Janning's affinity with India stems from his extensive travels, which began in 1970/71.

Please send orders by e-mail to [kontakt@maerchen-stiftung.de](mailto:kontakt@maerchen-stiftung.de)  
ISBN: 978-3-9820250-2-5



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Kick-off event for the development of the Asia-Pacific Guidelines of the State of Baden-Württemberg



*Panel discussion with representatives from business, science, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Federal Foreign Office and China Research on the topic of "Opportunities through diversity: Baden-Württemberg in the Asia-Pacific region"*

At the kick-off event for the development of the Asia-Pacific guidelines of the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg entitled "THE LÄND meets Asia Pacific", experts from business, science and local authorities discussed how Baden-Württemberg should become involved in Asia in the future. India expert, former Consul General in Mumbai and current Chairman of the Indo-German Association (DIG), Dr. Jürgen Morhard, contributed his extensive expertise on India and the region. These impulses and recommendations are to be incorporated into the state's strategy in order to reposition itself in the dynamic Asia-Pacific region in a new and diverse way.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### India exchange with the State Ministry

Minister of State Dr. Florian Stegmann welcomed the Indian Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp and Matthias Lapp, CEO of LAPP, to a joint lunch to look back on the India activities of the State of Baden-Württemberg, the Indian Honorary

Consulate in Stuttgart and the great commitment of the Lapp Group to India. However, the focus was particularly on the events, collaborations, projects and visits to India planned for 2024.



*From left to right: Honorary Consul Andreas Lapp, Minister of State Dr. Florian Stegmann, Chairman of the Board Matthias Lapp*



*Joint review of India related activities in 2023 and outlook for 2024*

# 70 YEARS OF THE INDO-GERMAN SOCIETY

## *Deutsch-Indische Gesellschaft e.V. (Indo-German Society)*

On the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation, the Indo-German Society (DIG) gathered in Stuttgart to celebrate its many years of existence and the progressive development of Indo-German relations. The formal ceremony took place in the heart of the city, in the company headquarters of the Indian Honorary Consul and businessman Andreas Lapp, and was attended by over 170 members and friends of the society. Among them were representatives of the 24 branch societies of the DIG, who came from various parts of Germany.

The festivities were marked by a series of important speeches focusing on the deepening of bilateral relations

between Germany and India. The event was particularly enriched by the presence of the Ambassador of the Republic of India, H.E. Harish Parvathaneni, and his wife. In his enthusiastic speech, the ambassador gave insights into the long history of cooperation between the two nations and emphasized the importance of the growing current relations.

Several political dignitaries paid tribute to the DIG and its role in promoting the Indo-German partnership. Minister of State Dr. Florian Stegmann, the Mayor of Stuttgart Dr. Alexandra Sußmann and the Lord Mayor of Karlsruhe Dr. Frank Mentrup emphasized in their speeches the importance of the organization for strengthening bilateral relations.

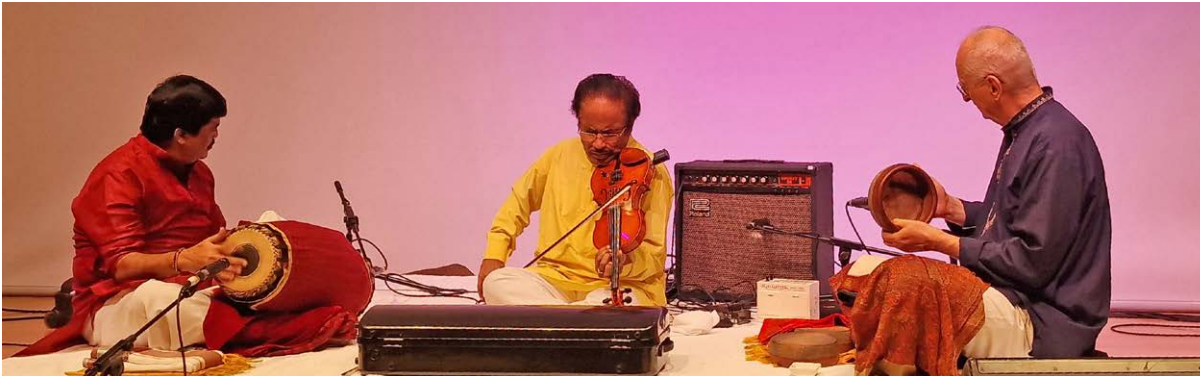


*Guests at the ceremony to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the DIG*



*Guests of honor, from left to right:  
B. Steinrücke (Chairman of the DIG India Foundation),  
Prof. Dr. W. Schuster (former Lord Mayor of Stuttgart), Indian Ambassador H. Parvathaneni, Lord Mayor Dr. F. Mentrup (Karlsruhe), Minister of State Dr. F. Stegmann, former Consul General Dr. J. Morhard (Chairman of the DIG), Prof. C. Neumann (Member of the Board of SAP), Honorary Consul A. Lapp*





*Performance by the famous violinist Dr. L. Subramaniam at the Linden-Museum*



*Mannheim ensemble Nisarikalakshetra, led by Shany Mathew (back right)*

Mallebrein

The keynote speech by Prof. Clas Neumann, member of the Executive Board of SAP and member of the DIG Foundation Council, who addressed the importance of Indo-German cooperation with regard to the challenges and opportunities of the digital age, particularly in the field of artificial intelligence, deserves special mention.

Dr. Jürgen Morhard, Chairman of the Indo-German Society, is committed to promoting and intensifying relations between Germany and India. With his valuable experience as former Consul General in Mumbai, he focuses on strengthening bilateral ties through personal engagement and intercultural exchange. His motto “connecting people – linking minds” reflects his endeavor to deepen mutual understanding and trust between the peoples of both countries by expanding existing partnerships and proactively establishing new contacts.

In addition to the speeches and discussions, there was also a rich cultural program that underlined the diversity and depth of Indian culture. The highlight was a concert by the well-known violinist Dr. L. Subramaniam at the Linden-Museum, which took place the following day. A dance performance by the Mannheim-based ensemble Nisarikalakshetra, led by Shany Mathew, also delighted the guests in attendance.

This year’s anniversary of the DIG not only reflected the tradition and history of the organization, but also set a clear signal for the future. Under the motto “Encounters that inspire”, the DIG presented itself as a forum for dialogue, culture and education and emphasized its role as a pioneer for even closer cooperation between Germany and India in the coming decade.

*Author: DIG*



## → DATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS →

- **09. – 10.02.2024** 20<sup>th</sup> Wine Festival “Stuttgart meets Mumbai”
- **23.02.2024** Celebrations on the occasion of the “75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India” in Stuttgart
- **20.06.2024** German-Indian Round Table Stuttgart
- **15. – 21.07.2024** 20<sup>th</sup> Indian Summer Stuttgart
- **18. – 21.07.2024** 21<sup>st</sup> Indian Film Festival Stuttgart
- **18. – 21.07.2024** India Summer Days Karlsruhe



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