

**Consulate General of India  
Frankfurt**

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**General and Bilateral Brief: 0 Hessen-India**

**Hesse (German: Hessen)** is home to one of the largest European airports (Frankfurt Airport) and also offers an excellent transport network. The state capital is Wiesbaden and the largest city is Frankfurt am Main. Frankfurt, as an international financial centre, has a strong influence on Hesse as a service region. Similarly, well-known international industrial companies define Hesse as a technology location at the heart of European markets. The important industries are automotive and supply industries, Biotechnology, Cultural and creative industries, Financial services, Aerospace, Mechanical and plant engineering, Medical technology, Tourism. Hesse also boasts beautiful nature reserves, historical castles and palaces, as well as the Rheingau vineyards which are renowned for its excellent wines all over the world.

**Salient Features of Hesse**

**1. Geography:**

Hesse is situated in west-central Germany, with state borders the German states of Lower Saxony, Thuringia, Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palatinate, and North Rhine-Westphalia. It is the greenest state in Germany, as forest covers 42% of the state. Most of the population of Hessen is in the southern part in the Rhine Main Area. The principal cities of the area include Frankfurt am Main, Wiesbaden, Darmstadt, Offenbach, Hanau, Gießen, Wetzlar, and Limburg. Other major towns in Hesse are Fulda , Kassel and Marburg. The densely populated Rhine-Main region is much better developed than the rural areas in the middle and northern parts of Hesse. The most important rivers in Hesse are the Fulda and Eder rivers in the north, the Lahn in the central part of Hesse, and the Main and Rhine in the south. The countryside is hilly and the numerous mountain ranges include the Rhön, the Westerwald, the Taunus, the Vogelsberg, the Knüll and the Spessart. The mountain range between the Main and the Neckar rivers is called the Odenwald. The plain between the rivers Main, Rhine, and Neckar, and the Odenwald Mountains is called the Ried.

**2. Demography:**

Hesse was founded in 1945, with Wiesbaden being the new state capital. Darmstadt was the capital city of Hesse until 1945. The Hesse state has a long history and a wide variety of cultural influences. Still today, many Hessian towns bear witness to important historical events. Until the unification of Germany, the territory of Hesse was occupied by the Grand Duchy of Hesse,

the Duchy of Nassau, the free city of Frankfurt and the Electorate of Hesse, known also as Hesse-Cassel. Due to divisions after World War II, the modern federal state does not cover the entire cultural region of Hesse, which includes both the State of Hesse and the area known as Rhenish Hesse (Rheinhessen) in the neighbouring state of Rhineland Palatinate. The Hessian people speak a variety of German, a Rhine Franconian dialect known as Hessisch.

### **3. Art and Culture:**

Hesse has a great deal to offer in the way of culture. There is much more to discover and experience than Hesse's three state theaters and its numerous cultural events. The state museums, libraries, and archives hold internationally recognized treasures. Its castles, palaces and gardens, as well as the sites listed in UNESCO's Cultural Heritage of Humanity, are well worth a visit. In addition to preserving historical sites, Hesse state is also responsible for promoting artists and supporting all facilities connected to the arts. A unique example is the documenta, a world-wide art exhibition of modern art, which is held every five years in Kassel. Through its Cultural Investment Programme, Hesse supports the renovation and promotion of its heritage sites. The Ministry of the Arts supports numerous independent cultural initiatives, organizations, and associations as well as artists from all fields including music, literature, theatre and dance, cinema and the new media, graphic art, and exhibitions.

### **4. Government:**

Hesse is a unitary state governed directly by the Hessian government in the capital city Wiesbaden. Municipal parliaments are, however, elected independently from the state government by the Hessian people. Local municipalities enjoy a considerable degree of home rule. The state is divided into three administrative provinces Kassel, Gießen and Darmstadt. The administrative regions have no legislature of their own, but are executive agencies of the state government. Hesse has either been ruled by the center-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU) or the center-left Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD), with a smaller coalition partner. The last state elections were held in Hessen on 28 October 2018. Prior to that, the 2013 elections had seen the formation of a CDU-Greens coalition under Minister President Volker Bouffier. In the elections of October, 2018, both CDU and SPD saw a fall in their vote share yet the Christian Democratic Union maintained its leading position. The CDU returned to government, continuing under Volker Bouffier, after negotiating a coalition agreement with the Greens, the second consecutive such arrangement between the two parties. The two parties formed a majority in the Landtag, occupying 69 seats. In the 2018 elections, the Greens and the opposition party Alternative for Germany (AfD) won the biggest increases in votes compared to the last election in 2013. The Greens and the Social Democrats finished with equal numbers of seats. In 2018 elections, AfD won 19 seats and became the only new addition to the Hessian Landtag thereby becoming present in all German state legislatures.

## **5. Trade and Economy:**

Hesse has distinguished itself as an attractive location for foreign direct investment. No other German territorial state receives as much foreign investment relative to the number of jobs. Hesse is one of Germany's and Europe's most attractive locations for companies and international investors. The federal state has used Hesse's central location in Germany to build a transportation infrastructure that is unparalleled in Europe.

The Rhine-Main area in particular occupies a top position in Europe for its status as an international hub for air, road and rail traffic. Hesse is one of the largest economies in Europe. According to GDP-per-capita figures, Hesse is the 5<sup>th</sup> wealthiest State in Germany. Hesse's largest city Frankfurt am Main is home of the European Central Bank (ECB), the German Bundesbank and the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. Within the European Union, Frankfurt is one of the largest financial center. The Rhine-Main Region has the second largest industrial density in Germany after the Ruhr area. The main economic fields of importance are the chemical and pharmaceutical industries with Sanofi, Merck, Heraeus, Messer Griesheim and Degussa. In the mechanical and automotive engineering field Opel in Rüsselsheim is worth mentioning.

## **6. Higher Education:**

Hesse offers excellent higher education opportunities: five universities, two art colleges and five technical colleges are based in the state.

### **Important website links for more information on Hesse:**

1. Information on many aspects of Hesse, including politics and administration, events and its people : [www.english.hessen.de](http://www.english.hessen.de)
2. Work in Hesse, Practical information on living, working and studying in Hessen: [www.work-in-hessen.com](http://www.work-in-hessen.com)
3. Invest in Hesse Facts and figures on Hessen as a business location: [www.invest-in-hessen.com](http://www.invest-in-hessen.com)
4. Information for immigrants - Integrationskompass: Comprehensive information and publications on the topics of professionals and securing professionals for the labor market: [www.integrationskompass.de/hmdj/home/~byk/Zuwanderung/](http://www.integrationskompass.de/hmdj/home/~byk/Zuwanderung/)

Recognition authorities and advisory centres: IQ Network Hessen – the first place to go in Kassel, Gießen, Frankfurt and Wiesbaden to get recognition for diplomas acquired abroad and advice about qualifications: [www.hessen.netzwerk-iq.de](http://www.hessen.netzwerk-iq.de)

5. Welcome Center in Frankfurt: [www.work-in-hessen.com/dynasite.cfm](http://www.work-in-hessen.com/dynasite.cfm)

### **India-Hessen bilateral relations:**

**Overview:**

Frankfurt is the main city in Hesse around which various industries are located. The main industries in Hesse are chemical and pharmaceutical industries, mechanical engineering, automotive industry, aviation and aerospace, biotechnology, electro-technology, environmental technology, logistics and mobility and medical technology.

Automobile industry is one of Hesse's key industries. Opel has a manufacturing facility in Rüsselheim, which produces around .18 million cars per year. Opel India Pvt Ltd (OIPL) is the division of General Motors India Private Limited. Mazda Motor Europe GmbH has its R&D center for Europe in Oberursel. The Kassel region hosts Daimler and Volkswagen production facilities as well as a spare parts and logistics center of the VW Group. Daimler and Volkswagen have their presence in India too.

There are around 70 Indian multinational / major companies represented in the state of Hesse. With a representative number of around 50 companies, the IT sector forms the majority among the Indian multinational / majors active in Hesse, among them TCS, Infosys, Wipro, and HCL. Most of the Indian IT majors have their German HQs in Frankfurt / the Greater Frankfurt region and branches across the country.

Apart from the IT sector, Frankfurt / the Greater Frankfurt Region is home to some Indian companies representing the fields of life sciences and chemicals with for instance biotech company Evolves having its European HQ in Frankfurt or Kiri Dyes & Chemicals Ltd. having acquired DayStar Textilfarben GmbH.

Furthermore, Frankfurt is home to the German HQs of State Bank of India as well as ICICI Bank. Furthermore, India Tourism has its regional office for Europe, CIS, and Israel in Frankfurt and Frankfurt Airport has been used in the past as a hub by Air India.

**2) Major Indian Investments in Hessen:**

- The Indian pharma company Lupin announced that NaMuscla® (mexiletine) has been launched in Germany and the United Kingdom (UK). NaMuscla® is approved across the European Union (EU) for the symptomatic treatment of a group of rare, inherited neuromuscular conditions. The product will be commercialized in Germany by Hormosan Pharma GmbH, a full subsidiary of Lupin Ltd located in Frankfurt (Feb 2019).
- Dexler Information Solutions Pvt. Ltd. Opened an Education and Training center in Eschborn, in the Frankfurt Rhein Main region. Headquartered in Bengaluru, and founded in 2001, the group has interests in Education, eLearning and related technologies, Training Infrastructure, Renewable Energy, Real Estate, Portfolio investments and CSR (2017)

- The famous Godrej Group commenced their joint venture under the name Godrej Security Solutions - Godrej and Boyce Mfg. Co Ltd in Offenbach. Godrej & Boyce Mfg. Co. Ltd., a Godrej Group Company, started its journey with the manufacture of high-quality locks in 1897. Currently, the company has 15 diverse business divisions offering consumer, office, and industrial products and services of the highest quality to every corner of India and across the globe. (2017)
- Precision Automation and Robotics (Pari) India Ltd., a company specializing in automation opened its sales and marketing unit in Hanau in the Frankfurt Rhein Main region. PARI hosts one of the world's largest automation & robotic engineering teams and has over 2,000 man-years of automation experience affording its customer industry leading performance. (2017)

### **3) Activities of selected German Majors (with Headquarters in Hessen) in India:**

- Karl Mayer group headquartered in Obertshausen focusing on manufacturing of textile machinery, entered a joint venture with Rabatex Industries and A.T.E. Group in India. The joint venture company named Karl Mayer Textile Machinery India Private Limited will be majority owned and controlled by Karl Mayer. The joint venture aims to enhance the position and distribution in the Indian market for each of the joint venture partners, especially by using the existing competencies of each of the partners. Rabatex is one of the leading manufacturers of advanced computerized sectional warping machines. (Apr 2019).
- Magnum Pirex, a German startup with an e-mobility and fuel cells focus, has got an 'in-principle' nod for setting up their manufacturing unit with a base investment of around \$15.5 Mn (INR 100 Cr). It produces Mia-family car; C-Zen (2-seater fun car); Metro-delivery truck and Magnum Courb, a sports car. The German firm intends to invest up to ₹200 crore in the proposed manufacturing-cum-assembly line with an initial capacity of 12,000 cars per annum (January 2018).
- Merck, a leading science, and technology company based in Darmstadt announced about €16.6 million investment in its new manufacturing and distribution center for the life Science business. The new center will be located in the Patalganga industrial area near Mumbai (Feb 2018).
- CMORE Automotive GmbH tied up with Expert Global. This joint venture called EC Mobility will work on solutions in intelligent driving, e-mobility, and digitized industry (Mar 2018).
- Wacker opened a new plant for functional silicone fluids in India. Wacker Metroark Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. expanded its existing silicone production at its Amtala site near Kolkata with a new hydrosilylation plant for manufacturing functional silicone fluids. The

plant with an annual capacity of over 6,000 metric tons was officially opened at a ceremony in Amtala. The expansion is WACKER's response to growing regional demand for specialty silicones for use in the textile, personal-care, rigid and flexible polyurethane foam and agrochemical sectors. The investment for the plant amounts to around €6 million (Mar 2018).

- Norma Group, Maintal has signed an agreement to acquire Kimplas Piping Systems Ltd. Norma Group has purchased 100 percent of the shares in Kimplas. Kimplas is a manufacturing and development company for injection molded parts which is situated in Nashik (Jul 2018).
- L&FS Transportation Networks Ltd (ITNL), the infrastructure development arm of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd (IL&FS) Group has raised €23.4 million (₹186.11 crore) in debt financing from KfW IPEX-Bank. IL&FS Transportation Networks has raised the fund to use for the Rapid Metro South Extension Project in Delhi that it is working on ( Jun 2018).
- KfW, a leading German financial institution, has signed a €200 million (~\$228.15 million) loan agreement with India's Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC), a state-run power sector financier. KfW signed the agreement on behalf of German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The REC will fund renewable energy project developers in the form of low-interest loans. These loans will be supplemented by counterpart contributions of up to 30 percent from the borrowers as well as contributions from other banks. The funds provided will be leveraged by the private sector (Aug 2018).
- German camera maker Leica expanded its presence in India. Leica Camera India Private Limited, a 100 per cent subsidiary of Leica Germany, has a working office based out of Gurgaon that takes care of administrative functions. It also has a Leica store at Connaught Place, New Delhi, for customers to walk in and experience their line-up. Leica is also selling its lower entry-level modes through Amazon India in the country. The company also has a shop-in-shop in Bangalore, and the graduation of the shop-in-shops will be Leica Stores. The company plans to introduce 3-5 Leica stores over the next three years in India (Sep 2018).
- KfW IPEX-Bank to support one of India's leading steel producers, JSW Steel Limited, and its wholly owned subsidiary, JSW Steel Coated Products Limited (JSWCP), and to enable them to expand their capacity provided a total debt capital of around EUR 110 million. The funds are planned to use to finance deliveries for two German exporters, SMS group GmbH and Primetals Technologies. On the basis of its legal mandate, KfW

IPEX-Bank is supporting the German export industry with these financings and is thereby contributing to the protection of jobs in Germany. (Sep 2018).

- Germany's Leica Camera opens its first store in India. Leica is also known for being the maker of the world's most expensive camera—in May 2012, a Leica O-series camera made in 1923 sold for €2.1 million, or about Rs 16 crore at today's exchange rate. In India, professional Leicas will cost up to Rs 40 lakh while its 'fun cameras' will be available for Rs 25,000. The cost of a customized or a la carte Leica could go up to any extent. Leica, primarily known for its lenses, is among cameras preferred by professional photographers as well as dedicated amateurs. (November 2017)
- Merck, a leading science and technology company in Darmstadt, announced the opening of its first joint Process Scale Up Lab in Bengaluru, India to provide end to end solutions from process development to scale up manufacturing for preclinical, clinical and commercial supply. This lab, which is a collaboration with Stelis Biopharma, is located at the Stelis Biopharma R&D Facility in the Jigani industrial estate. (June 2017)

#### **4) Indo – Hessian Trade 2016 to 2019 (In million Euro)**



The total bilateral trade between Hesse and India experienced a sharp increase by 12.85% and was € 1,440 million. Among the 16 German states, Hessen has a percentage share of 6.76% of total Indo German trade.

The total volume of Indo German trade stood at € **21,316**mn in Jan-Dec 2019 as compared to € **21,415** mn in Jan-Dec 2018. The overall trade decreased by **0.46%** during this period. Indian exports to Germany during this time increased by 5.25% whilst Indian imports from Germany experienced a substantial decrease by 4.53%. The four states falling under the jurisdiction of CGI accounted for 34.93% of the total trade between India and Germany in Jan-Dec 2019.

Top 10 Items of Indian export to Hessen	Top 10 items of Indian Import from Hessen
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharmaceutical products</li> <li>• Prefabricated chemicals</li> <li>• Television and radio transmitters and apparatus for line telephony and line telegraphy</li> <li>• Basic pharmaceutical products</li> <li>• Paints, varnishes and mastics</li> <li>• Machinery and apparatus for electricity production, distribution and control</li> <li>• Articles of rubber</li> <li>• Articles of leather and leather clothes (excl. footwear)</li> <li>• Measuring and automatic control instruments and appliances</li> <li>• Plastics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Machinery</li> <li>• Pharmaceutical products</li> <li>• Plastics</li> <li>• Prefabricated chemicals, not mentioned elsewhere</li> <li>• Machinery and apparatus for electricity production, distribution and control</li> <li>• Measuring and automatic control instruments and appliances</li> <li>• Chemical end products, not mentioned elsewhere</li> <li>• Electric machinery, apparatus and appliances, not mentioned elsewhere</li> <li>• Machine-tools</li> <li>• Basic pharmaceutical products</li> </ul>

## **5) Major Trade Delegations:**

### **i) Delegations from India to Hessen**

- In February 2020, an Indian delegation led by Joint Secretary DPIIT Mr. Anil Agrawal, arrived in Germany. The delegation comprised of senior government officers from different states of India. They met the representatives of the Digital Factory of the Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt. The delegation held a tour of the Digital Factory and interacted with Mr. Frank Pohlgeers, Head of Chief Digital Office and Ms. Eva Ley, Head



Digital Office. The delegation also visited Innoplexus in Eschborn. Innoplexus is a very successful start-up by Dr. Gunjan Bhardwaj, an Indian origin person.

- In February 2019, a delegation from Maharashtra led by Global Network visited Germany. The Consulate organized a roadshow on Vibrant Terry Towel to promote the Vibrant Terry Towel Global Expo and Summit 2019 which was scheduled to be held in Solapur, Maharashtra from 25-27 September 2019. Mr. Nikhil Sheth from the General Manager of Global Network presented insights on the Maharashtrian economy and home textiles / terry towel sector of Solapur. Business introductions were made by Mr. Rajesh Goski, MD of Goski Terry Towels and Mr. Dattu Ramdas Dubas, MD of Varad Impex. The roadshow was attended by representatives from the Indo-German textile community.
- On 8th March 2019, the High Power Committee (HPIC) of the Government of Kerala organized, in collaboration with CGI Frankfurt, a roadshow on #FUTURE: Global connect Session in Frankfurt. The Roadshow saw speeches regarding Kerala's IT power from Mr. Shibulal, Co-Founder Infosys and other senior government and private sector representatives from Kerala. Best practices were also shared by Mr. Roland Schütz, Group CIO, Lufthansa Group. Over 80 representatives from the Indo-German business community attended the event and actively participated in the networking session.
- In July 2019, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Jai Ram Thakur led a delegation to Germany. They held a meeting with the Economic Minister of State of Rhineland Palatinate wherein possibility of signing twinning MoU was discussed. A roadshow was organized by the Consulate for promoting Himachal Pradesh in this region and several meetings with business and government entities were also held. During the visit, an MoU on Ayurgenomics and Ayurnutrigenomics project with FIZ - Frankfurter Innovationszentrum Biotechnologie GmbH (Frankfurt Biotechnology Innovation Center) was also signed. The same was announced in the Joint Statement. During the visit of Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Jai Ram Thakur to Germany in July 2019, an MoU on Ayurgenomics and Ayur Nutrigenomics project with FIZ - Frankfurter Innovationszentrum Biotechnologie GmbH (Frankfurt Biotechnology Innovation Center).
- Hon'ble Minister for Textiles & I&B visited Frankfurt from 9th -10th January for the Heimtextil Fair held in Frankfurt from 9th-12th January 2018. The India Pavilion was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister Smt. Smriti Irani. Over 390 Indian exhibitors are participating at the Fair facilitated through the government bodies including The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC), and Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH).
- In January 2018, the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board organized an evening of networking with the travel trade community in Frankfurt. Consul General delivered the

opening remarks at the event. A detailed presentation was made by Ms. Chhavi Bhardwaj, Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation on the opportunities that the state of Madhya Pradesh offers as an attractive tourist destination. Around 70 members from the tourist fraternity attended the event.

- From 8th-12th February 2018, Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles, Shri Ajay Tamta led a delegation comprising of Secretary (Textiles) Shri Anant Kumar Singh, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) Shri Shantmanu and others for the Ambiente Trade Fair 2018 held in Frankfurt from 9th-13th February 2018. As part of the Trade fair, Hon'ble Minister inaugurated the India Pavillion of Indian exhibitors organised by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) and interacted with Indian and international exhibitors participating at the Fair.
- On the 12th and 13th of March 2018, The Consulate General of India hosted and facilitated a team of 30 delegates from various Government of India Public Sector Undertakings as part of a study tour conducted by IIM Calcutta to Frankfurt. As part of the tour, the delegates got an opportunity to visit and interact with (DeutscheGesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH), VDMA (The Mechanical Engineering IndustryAssociation) and the Waste water management plant,Bau und Service Oberursel Kläranlage.
- On 25th April 2018, Secretary for Department of Heavy Industries, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Dr. A.R. Sihag and Director Ms. Ritu Pande visited PTW (Institut für Produktionsmanagement, Technologie und Werkzeugmaschinen) followed by a tour of the ETA Fabrik at the technical university in Darmstadt .
- On 21st June 2018, The Consulate General of India organised a Roadshow in collaboration with Vibrant Tamil Nadu to promote the Global Expo & Summit, Food Edition in August in India. CG Ms. Pratibha Parkar welcomed the delegates from the Vibrant Tamil Nadu Team as well as the participants for the roadshow and spoke about the consistent and robust Indo-German trade and the growing importance of the food processing industry in India owing to the rising domestic & global demand. Mr. Dirk Radermacher, MD, German Spice Industry association & Culinaria Europe spoke about the rising spice markets in the world as well as the potential for exports in the European market. Mr. Nikhil Sheth, General Manager of Vibrant Tamilnadu & Mr. K.Pounraj, Vice Chairman, Vibrant Tamil Nadu Expo & Summit 2018 presented on the highlights and features of the Vibrant Tamil Nadu Food Expo & Summit 2018 to be held in Madurai in August 2018. Mr. Tahir Rahamathullah, Vice President, International Business, GRB Dairy Foods Pvt. Ltd. Presented the business case and shared the best practices of his company which has made it a pioneer in exports of packaged & ready to eat food items globally.

- Hon'ble Minister, State of Uttarakhand, Mr. Madan Kaushik led a political and business delegation comprising in total of 8 members to Germany from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018. During his visit the Hon'ble Minister had 1-1 meetings with representatives from the LRT sector in Cologne and Frankfurt.
- An official and business delegation led by Ms. Mamata Verma, Secretary, Industries Commissioner to Government of Gujarat, Industries and Mines Department from the State of Gujarat promoted the 9th Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit at a roadshow organised in cooperation with the Consulate General of India Frankfurt. As part of the roadshow, CG Ms. Pratibha Parkar highlighted the importance of Gujarat ne of the most industrialised State in India and urged potential investors to visit Gujarat. Business pitches and best practices by representatives from important industrial houses in Gujarat, including Reliance and others were made during the roadshow. A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between Government of Gujarat and Trützschler GmbH on the occasion. Over 60 representatives from the Indo-German business fraternity attended the successful event. The Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit is to be held from 18-20 January 2019 in Gandhinagar.
- On 15th November Consul General Ms. Pratibha Parkar attended and delivered the Opening Remarks at a roadshow organised by Kerala Tourism in Frankfurt, organised in cooperation with 12 trade partners, including hotels and tour operators. At the event around 40 outbound tour operators got a glimpse of Kerala God's own country from a new perspective in a presentation delivered by Ms. Rani George, Secretary, Kerala Tourism. Mr. Sanjiv Kumar Vashist, Assistant Director India Tourism also addressed the gathering.
- On 15th February 2017, Consul General welcomed Hon'ble MoS Mr. M.J. Akbar and a meeting was hosted in his honour in Frankfurt. Top 40 representatives from the economic councils, chambers of commerce, newspapers, universities, and Indian entrepreneurs interacted with the Hon'ble Minister on the occasion. The Consul General delivered the welcome remarks on the occasion and the Minister delivered a speech on the current progress and advancement happening in India and the impacts that would bring about on the Indo-German relationships.
- Hon'ble Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog Dr. Arvind Panagariya led a high-level delegation comprising of officials from the Ministries of External Affairs and Finance visited Frankfurt for the 2nd Sherpa meeting of G20 Germany 2017 from 22-24 March 2017.
- On 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Hon'ble Minister for Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Shri Anant Geete graced the India Europe Automotive Partnership Summit which was organized on the sidelines of the International Motor Show by the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA), Verband der Automobilindustrie(VDA), Society of Indian Automobile

Manufacturers (SIAM), Indo-German Chamber of Commerce(AHK) and supported by Forum Indien in Frankfurt.

**(ii) Delegations from Hessen to India:**

- A business delegation led by the Lord Mayor of Frankfurt, Mr. Peter Feldmann visited India from 14-17 May 2018. During the visit, the delegation visited Indian IT companies, as well premises of Messe Frankfurt India. The visit was held in Pune and Mumbai.

**6) MoUs / Bilateral Agreements:**

- In October 2019, Dr. Christian Garbe, Managing Director of Frankfurter Innovationszentrum Biotechnologie GmbH (FiZ) and Prof. Dr Tanuja Nesari, Director of All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi. The MoU was signed a part of the Indo-German Intergovernmental Consultations (IGC) between German Chancellor, Ms. Angela Merkel and Indian Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Also present during the signing was Dr. Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH. The signing of the MoU was announced as part of the Joint Statement released during the Intergovernmental Consultations (IGC).
- Signing of Memorandum of Understanding for Renewable Energy Financing Facility-I of €200 Mn between Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd & KfW Development Bank in Frankfurt was held on 13th August 2018. The REFF-I is being made available by KfW as a reduced interest loan for CGI Frankfurt - Monthly Economic & Commercial Report - August 2018 8 of 12 financing projects in Renewable Energy in sectors of Solar/PV Solar Thermal & Wind power. The Agreement was signed by Dr. P.V. Ramesh, Chairman Managing Director, Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. & Mr. Roland Siller, Member of the Management Committee-Europe & Asia, KfW Present also was Dr. Arun K. Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India. Consul General Ms. Pratibha Parkar was also present during the Signing ceremony.
- An official and business delegation led by Ms. Mamata Verma, Secretary, Industries Commissioner to Government of Gujarat, Industries and Mines Department from the State of Gujarat promoted the 9<sup>th</sup> Vibrant Gujrat Global Summit at a roadshow organized in cooperation with the Consulate General of India Frankfurt. As part of the roadshow, a Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between Government of Gujarat and Trützschler GmbH on the occasion. Over 60 representatives from the Indo-German business fraternity attended the successful event.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany signed an agreement on technical

cooperation under the “Indo-German Energy Program – Green Energy Corridors (IGEN-GEC)” in Delhi on 28th August 2017. The main objective of this program component is to improve the sector framework and conditions for grid integration of renewable energies. It is commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and jointly implemented by Ministry of New and Renewable Resources (MNRE), Ministry of Power (MoP), Government of India and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit. In the following, the MNRE has further agreed that Germany will provide loans of up to one billion euros through the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) and up to 10 million euros for technical support for network management. These were expanded in 2015 and 2016 to 400 million euros. Another seven million euros were earmarked for training measures for the installation of photovoltaic roof systems. (August 2017).

- Frankfurt based National Development Bank, KfW (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau), has signed a loan agreement of 85 Million Euros to finance an integrated water transport system in the city of Kochi. The amount will be utilized by the Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL) to develop the urban transport system in Kochi. The phase 1 of the Kochi Metro project was inaugurated in the month of June. (June 2017).
- The German Development Bank (KfW) on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) signed a loan agreement of over €200 million with India's Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL). The Indo-German development cooperation addresses mutual interests of mitigating global warming and bringing together the expertise of highly committed institutions on both sides. Additionally, a financing agreement of €500,000 was signed with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). IREDA will use these funds to assure the quality of solar PV projects and to mitigate the challenges faced in solar rooftop PV projects by establishing an implementation structure. (March 2017).

#### **7) Regular trade promotion events in which CGI Frankfurt is involved:**

- TiE Global is the world’s largest not-for-profit organization promoting entrepreneurship. The German chapter of TiE named TiE Deutschland e.V. has been founded in 2012. CGI Frankfurt has been organizing several events together with TiE such as a seminar on ‘Entrepreneurship and SME Development’ (May 2012)
- “India meets FrankfurtRheinMain – Let’s talk Business” is a series of events initiated by the Frankfurt Chamber of Commerce and Industry; the Frankfurt Economic Development GmbH; Frankfurt Rhein Main GmbH; and CGI Frankfurt in the year 2009. With this series of events the aforementioned German organizations, together with CGI Frankfurt, aimed at establishing a networking and information platform for the strong Indian business community in the Frankfurt Rhine Main (FRM) region. One event out of

this series is held every quarter; the organization and hosting of the events alternates between the four organizations. Every event focuses on a certain topic of interest to India / the Indian business community, on which one or two keynote speakers give a brief presentation. These events also include a networking session as an inherent part. So far, 12 events have taken place. CGI Frankfurt has been hosting its event normally at the end of the financial year

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**20 July 2020**