

**Consulate General of India
Frankfurt**

General and Bilateral Brief: Rhineland-Palatinate - India

Rhineland-Palatinate (German: Rheinland-Pfalz, RLP) is one of Europe's high tech regions with above-average economic strength and a focus on export. Its state capital and largest city is Mainz. RLP is located in western Germany and was formed after World War II by the French military government from parts of regions historically not belonging together. The state has developed its own identity since, built on its natural and cultural heritage of extensive winegrowing, picturesque landscapes and its many castles. The extensive modernized network of autobahns and federal highways, the convenient rail connections between the cities of Mainz, Kaiserslautern, Trier, Ludwigshafen and Koblenz, the major waterways Rhine and Mosel, as well as the state's proximity to three economically powerful centers - the Rhine-Main, Rhine-Neckar and Rhine-Ruhr regions - have created optimal framework conditions for the development of RLP into one of Germany's most dynamic regions.

Salient Features

1. Geography: Rhineland-Palatinate shares international borders with France, Luxemburg and Belgium. Within Germany its neighbours are Baden-Württemberg, Hesse, Northrhine-Westphalia and the Saarland. It is the ninth largest state by area. One of the most beautiful landscapes in Germany - and the world - is the stretch of the Rhine Valley between Bingen and Bonn. Dotted with castles, it is steeped in legend, and its praises have been sung by countless poets, painters and musicians. Here and in the valley of the Mosel River grow wines which are prized by connoisseurs all over the world. The other tributaries of the Rhine - the Nahe, Lahn and Ahr rivers - are likewise very scenic wine-growing regions. At the foot of the Palatinate Forest runs the "German Wine Route".

2. Demography: RLP has a population of about 4 million. As of 2018, 40.3% of the population of the state adhered to the Roman Catholic Church and 26.8% to the Evangelical Church in Germany; 32.9% of the population is irreligious or adheres to other religions. Muslims made up 2.5% of the total.

3. Art and Culture: The Rhine Valley is among the most important cultural regions in Europe. A rich heritage of art and culture is the hallmark of the Romantic Rhine. There are a number of Castles, Architectural Sites & Monuments, Museums and Concerts to visit. Family-friendly infrastructures, excellent schools, universities and educational institutions as well as beautiful natural and cultural landscapes and the mighty rivers Rhine and Moselle make Rhineland-Palatinate a lovely place to be.

4. Government: RLP has been governed by an SPD-FDP-Greens coalition since 18 May 2016. The SPD got 36.2 per cent, the CDU 31.8 per cent, the FDP 6.2 per cent, the Greens 5.2 per

cent, the Left-wing Party 2.8 per cent (not enough to enter parliament), and the right-wing populist AfD 12.8 per cent. The Minister President of the state is Ms. Malu Dreyer (SPD).

5. Trade, Economy, and Industry:

The Gross domestic product (GDP) of the state was 147.0 billion euros in 2018, accounting for 4.4% of German economic output. GDP per capita adjusted for purchasing power was 33,100 euros or 110% of the EU27 average in the same year. The GDP per employee was 102% of the EU average.

Rhineland-Palatinate leads all German states with an export rate around 50%. Its economy is remarkably diversified: Rhineland-Palatinate is a wine-growing center (two thirds of the country's wine comes from here) and an important wood producer as well as a major center of the chemical industry and a leading supplier of automobile components.

"Distinctive regional industries" includes gemstones, ceramics and glass, and leather. Small and medium enterprises are considered the "backbone" of the economy in Rhineland-Palatinate. The state's principal industrial employer is the chemical and plastics processing industry: BASF in Ludwigshafen is Europe's largest chemical factory complex and Rhineland-Palatinates largest manufacturing firm. Also situated on the Rhine are the state's four next-largest companies: Boehringer (pharmaceuticals) in Ingelheim, Joh. A. Benckiser (chemicals, cosmetics) in Ludwigshafen, SGE Deutsche Holding (construction) in Ludwigshafen and the Schott Glassworks in Mainz. Europe's largest television network, ZDF (Channel Two), has its headquarters in Mainz.

7. Agriculture and viticulture: RLP is Germany's leading producer of wine in terms of grape cultivation and wine export. Its capital, Mainz, may be called the capital of the German wine industry. Of thirteen wine regions producing quality wine in Germany, six (Rheinhessen, Pfalz, Mosel, Nahe, Mittelrhein and Ahr) are located in Rhineland-Palatinate, with 65% to 70% of the production of wine grapes in Germany having their origin within the state. The worldwide leader in sparkling wine production, selling around 220 million bottles of sparkling wine, is the renowned Schloss Wachenheim Group. This company is headquartered in Trier, with operations in several locations in Rhineland-Palatinate.

6. Higher Education: RLP has a very diverse higher education landscape that is known for its innovative research, modern instruction and wide-ranging selection of courses of study including in engineering, medicine, natural sciences and economics as well as the social sciences and humanities, design, art and music. One can pursue a wide range of fields of study at five universities, seven technical universities, as well as private colleges and schools of public administration. The universities meet international standards and offer bachelor and master degrees as well as strong connections to other universities around the world.

(Annexure I)

Important website links for more information on RLP

1. **Information on the state RLP.de:** Official website offering information on Rhineland-Palatinate www.rlp.de/de/startseite/

Rhineland-Palatinate Location Finder, Database containing available commercial sites in Rhineland-Palatinate: www.standortfinder.rlp.de

The Investment and Economic Development Bank of Rheinland-Pfalz (ISB), Information on funding available for individuals wishing to set up their own business: isb.rlp.de/en/home/

2. **Information for immigrants**

The official state portal with information for qualified professionals: www.fachkraefte.rlp.de/en/start/

Information about integration and immigration : mifkjf.rlp.de/integration/

Central point of initial contact for having your foreign professional qualifications recognized: www.iq-rlp.de/beratungsangebote

3. **Welcome Center Rhineland-Palatinate: welcomecenter.rlp.de/english/**

India-RLP Relations

1) Overview

The Rhineland-Palatinate is one of the 16 German federal states located in the southwest of the Federal Republic of Germany. It is the seventh most populated state of Germany. Its capital city is Mainz. The Rhineland-Palatinate borders the federal states of North Rhine-Westphalia, Saarland, Baden-Württemberg and Hesse, and the countries of Belgium, France and Luxembourg. Its surface area is 19,854km² and its population density is 204 inhabitants per km².

The cornerstones of the region's successful economy are the foreign trade, the industry and the SMEs. Rhineland-Palatinate has become established as an internationally successful, future-oriented business location thanks to its central location in the heart of Europe and its international borders. The economy is characterised by the five following sectors: chemistry, pharmaceutical industry, automotive, metal, machinery and equipment and the food industry.

2) Major Indian Investments in Rhineland-Palatinate

Around 10 Indian major companies are active in Rhineland-Palatinate. Among others, plastic molded goods producer Arrowplast Pvt. Ltd. has a subsidiary in the city of Landau and IT vendor Thinksoft Global Services Ltd. has a subsidiary in Bad Kreuznach. Furthermore, Ruia Group and Bharat Forge are represented in Rhineland-Palatinate.

In 2018, Sundyota Numandis an Ahmedabad based pharmaceutical company announced a strategic alliance with Finzelberg, to offer novel, natural health care products in India. Finzelberg is a business unit of the Martin Bauer Group, manufacturing phyto-pharmaceuticals and phytonutraceuticals. As a part of the alliance Sundyota Numandis will procure active ingredients from Finzelberg, undertake their formulation and development. This will be followed by manufacturing locally along with product launch and promotion to doctors and pharmaceutical companies in India.

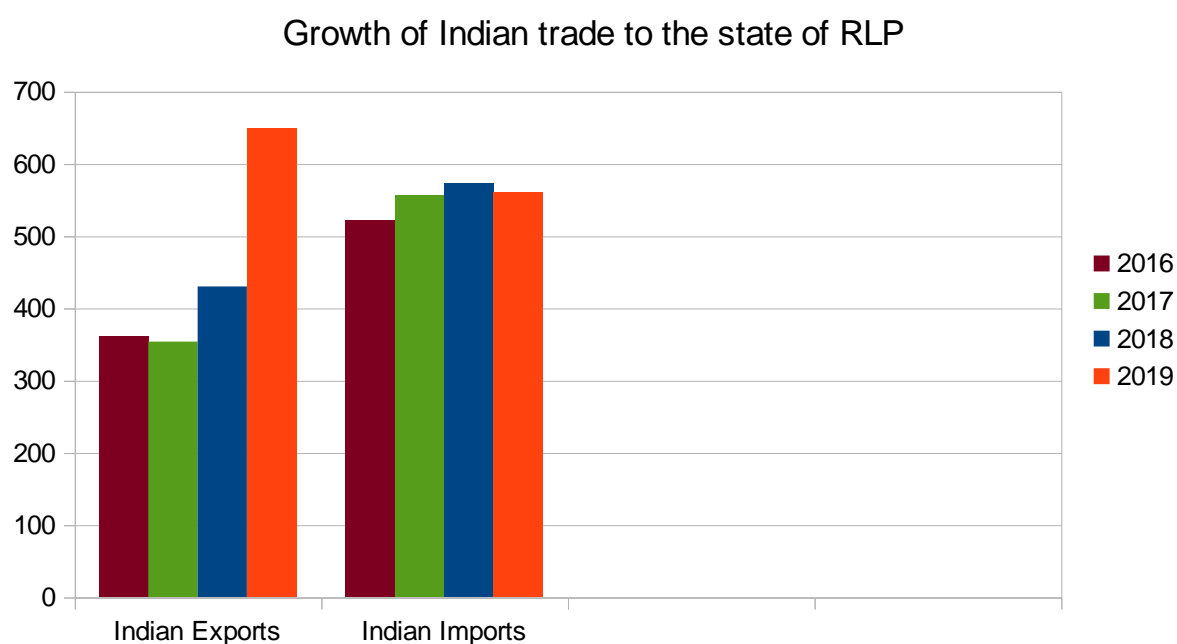
3) Activities of Selected German Majors (with Headquarters in Rhineland-Palatinate) in India

- In 2018, BASF announced launching 20 Agro-chemicals in India in five years: German chemical company BASF, headquartered in Ludwigshafen, plans to launch 20 new agricultural chemical protection products in India, a fifth of the total 100 such products it has lined up for rolling out in Asia-Pacific region in five years. The company's research and development in India is focused on key crops such as rice, cotton, soybean, corn, fruits and vegetables.
- In 2018, SCHOTT Tubing India announced further investment of 20 million euros in India: SCHOTT AG, a global pioneer in manufacturing pharmaceutical glass and packaging, has announced the launch of a new glass tank in its Indian manufacturing plant at Jambusar, Gujarat. The German technology group is further growing its production capacity through this new tank facility with a total investment of more than 20 million euros (approximately INR 180 crores). The investment came at a time when the company is celebrating 20 years of operations in India.
- Kirn-based medium-sized engineering company Simona has established a new sales subsidiary in India. The newly created organization will focus on providing products and services (semi-finished parts and pipes & fittings) for various applications, in India and also to the neighbouring region. The company's headquarters will be located in Mumbai, with regional offices in Ahmedabad, New Delhi and Chennai. (September 2016)
- Ludwigshafen-based BASF unveiled its largest construction chemicals plant in India at Nellore. This is BASF's fifth construction chemicals plant in the country. With its state-of-the-art technology and strategically located close to regional growth centers, the plant will enable BASF to respond in a timely fashion to customers' needs in the Southern part of India and to support them with high-performance solutions in the highly competitive market, according to a press release. (August 2016)
- Ludwigshafen-based chemical major BASF unveiled its largest construction chemicals plant in India at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh. This is also BASF's fifth construction chemicals plant in India. With its state-of-the-art technology, the plant will enable

BASF to respond in a timely way to customers' needs in the Southern part of India and to support them with high performance solutions in the highly competitive market, according to the company. (April 2015)

4)

Indo – Rhineland-Palatinate Trade 2016 to 2019 (In million Euro)



The total bilateral trade between Rhineland-Palatinate and India in 2019 increased by 20.58% as compared to that in 2018 and was € 1,208 million. 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. Among the 16 German states, RLP has a percentage share of 5.67% of total Indo German trade. The total volume of trade between India and Germany stood at € **21,316mn** 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%.

Top 10 Items of Indian export to RLP	Top 10 items of Indian Import from RLP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic pharmaceutical products • Prefabricated chemicals • Footwear • Jewelry, goldsmith's or silversmith's wares • Articles of leather and leather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prefabricated chemicals, not mentioned elsewhere • Pharmaceutical products • Machinery for mining, quarrying and construction • Basic pharmaceutical products

clothes (excl. footwear) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paints, varnishes and mastics • Bearings, gears, gearing and driving elements • Unmanufactured tobacco and tobacco products • Pumps and compressors • Chassis, bodies, engines, parts and accessories for motor vehicles, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical end products, not mentioned elsewhere • Machinery • Plastics • Chemical semi-finished products, not mentioned elsewhere • Articles of plastics • Semi-products of aluminum
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5) Major Trade Delegations

On 11th of June 2019 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh Sri Jai Ram Thakur, during his visit to Germany, met Dr. Volker Wissing, Minister for Agriculture, Tourism, Transport and Viticulture for the State of Rhineland-Palatinate. Hon'ble CM extended invitation to the Government of Rhineland-Palatinate to participate on the Global Investors' Meet to be held at Dharamshala in November 2019. As part of the outreach activity for attracting investment to the state, several potential areas of collaboration like Agriculture, Tourism, Transport and Infrastructure were discussed. Both sides showed keenness to enter into an MoU between the two States for possible collaboration. The meeting was also attended on the Himachal side by Hon'ble Industry Minister Sri Bikram Singh, ACS cum Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Dr Shrikant Baldi, ACS Industries Sri Manoj Kumar and several members of the Confederation of Indian Industry.

6) List of Commercial Engagements undertaken by CGI Frankfurt with the state in the recent past

- On 15th of May 2019, Consul General Ms. Pratibha Parkar met Dr. Engelbret J Günster, President Chamber of Industry and Commerce for Rheinhessen and Ms. Elvin Yilmaz, Head for International Affairs at the IHK Rheinhessen in Mainz and discussed avenues for strengthening Indo-German Collaborations.
- On the 7th of May, 2019 Consul General Ms. Pratibha Parkar and Consul (Political/ E&C & Consular), Ms. Ruby Jaspreet met with Mr. Miguel Vicente, Commissioner for Migration and Integration for the State of Rhineland Palatinate. They discussed on topics and issues pertaining to migration and integration.
- On 14th March 2019 Consul (Commerce) Ms. Ruby Jaspreet, along with the Commercial team, met Mr. Bernd Hummel, founder of Hummel group in Pirmasens. Mr. Hummel shared his experience of the success of Kangaroos and Flip*Flop brands and how they emerged as leading shoe producers in the international market.

- On 13th February, 2019 Consul General Ms. Pratibha Parkar met with Mr. Hans Beckmann, State Secretary, Ministry for Education & Prof. Dr. Salvatore Barbaro, State Secretary for Science, Higher Education and Culture at the Rhineland Palatinate Ministry for Science, Higher Education and Culture, Mainz. Consul General had a discussion about deeper and far-reaching cooperation in the field of education, especially skill development in India and Students and faculties exchange programme with both the State Secretaries.
- On 17th January, 2019 Consul General Ms. Pratibha Parkar met with the Dr. Christiane Rohleder, State Secretary of Ministry of Family, Women, Integration and Consumer Protection of the State of Rhineland -Palatinate in Mainz and had an interesting and deep dialogue on bilateral issues.

7) **Bilateral Cultural relations:** Ayurveda, the traditional healing treatment from India is very popular in the state of RLP. The 2nd European World Ayurveda Congress (2EWAC) in Koblenz was organised by European Ayurveda Association e.V. (EUAA) Germany in cooperation with the Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India from 15-16 October, 2016. The aim of the 2EWAC was to promote Ayurveda. A delegation led by Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC), AYUSH, visited Germany to attend the Ayurveda Congress. During his visit Hon'ble Minister also visited Maharishi Ayurveda Private Clinic Bad Ems. The clinic has many Indian doctors, specialized in Ayurveda. Bad Ems has an age-old spa tradition. With its famous thermal springs it is an ideal place for natural healing methods. Currently a proposal is under consideration in the Ministry of Ayush for collaboration between Ministry of Ayush, a German medical university and Maharishi Ayurveda Private Clinic, Bad Ems to carry out research studies. DIG Mainz (the German-Indian Society e.V). was founded in 1994 to foster relations between India and Germany. The endeavor of the society is to bring the German public closer to the Indian culture, religions, economy, politics, through many events, such as lectures, readings, music and dance performances over the years.

7) Cooperation in higher education and Vocational Training: Cooperation with RLP in the field of education is constructive. It has around 18 educational colleges and universities including Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, TU Kaiserslautern. Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz has department of Indology.

The universities/institutes with higher enrolment of Indian students are – Technical University of Kaiserslautern. As per the data obtained from concerned State authorities, the number of Indian students as on December 2017 in RLP is 655. Indian Students association Kaiserslautern is active in RLP.

Annexure I

Universities and colleges in Rhineland-Palatinate

Rank	University	Location
1	<u>Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz</u>	Mainz
2	<u>Technische Universität Kaiserslautern</u>	Kaiserslautern
3	<u>Universität Trier</u>	Trier
4	<u>Universität Koblenz-Landau</u>	Koblenz
5	<u>Hochschule Trier</u>	Trier
6	<u>Hochschule Kaiserslautern</u>	Kaiserslautern
7	<u>Hochschule Mainz</u>	Mainz
8	<u>WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management</u>	Vallendar
9	<u>Fachhochschule Koblenz</u>	Koblenz
10	<u>TH Bingen</u>	Bingen
11	<u>Hochschule Worms</u>	Worms
12	<u>Hochschule Ludwigshafen am Rhein</u>	Ludwigshafen
13	<u>Deutsche Universität für Verwaltungswissenschaften Speyer</u>	Speyer
14	<u>Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Vallendar</u>	Vallendar
15	<u>Katholische Hochschule Mainz</u>	Mainz
16	<u>Hochschule für öffentliche Verwaltung Rheinland-Pfalz</u>	Mayen
17	<u>Hochschule der Deutschen Bundesbank</u>	Hachenburg

Rank	University	Location
18	Hochschule für Finanzen und Landesfinanzschule	Edenkoben