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THE CONSULAR CHRONICLES



Hon. Consular Corps
Diplomatique-India
NEWSLETTER



India

Celebrates its
Independence Day

WITH COMPLIMENTS FROM

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Wishing all a very Happy Independence Day

This issue covers a few of the activities from all Chapters and the Nation in Focus is UKRAINE. The ancient Citadel of Machu Picchu in Peru is our Special Feature.

We do hope you enjoy reading this issue and look forward to your valuable suggestions to help improve.

Best Wishes

Suresh Vaswani
Vice President HCCD-India
Hon.Consul of Benin

WELCOME TO HCCD-INDIA

We welcome the following members

CHENNAI CHAPTER

Hon. Mr.Yashwanth Kumar Venkataraman	El-Salvador
Hon. Mr. N. Ramachandran	Latvia
Hon. Ms. Suhasini Mani Ratnam	Luxembourg
Hon. Mr. Ramaswami Manikam	Ethiopia
Hon. Mr. N. Sukumar	Zambia
Hon. Mr. Meiyappan Balasubramanian	Paraguay
Hon. Mr. Amit Goel	Slovenia
Hon. Mr. Ashok R. Thakkar	Senegal

MUMBAI CHAPTER

Hon. Mr. Ammeet Agarwal	DR CONGO
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FORTHCOMING EVENT

18th
August
2017

HCCD-India
Board Meeting
New Delhi
followed by

Welcome Dinner for All
New Ambassadors and Consul Generals at Delhi



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Mr. Devendra Bharna, Exec. Vice President Oberoi Hotels and Mr. Gul Kripalani, welcoming Chief Guest, Mrs. Amruta Fadnavis

MUMBAI

The Oberoi Melting Pot (TOMP)

TOMP is a cultural charity fundraising event where the Consulates of different countries in Mumbai showcase their traditions, customs and culture, through cuisine, dance, etc and contribute to a noble cause by setting up stalls in the Regal Room. Cultural performances, a live band, and an open bar are other highlights of the evening to raise funds for selected worthy causes.

This very popular event gives the various participating Consulates of different countries a great opportunity to present their traditional food, drinks and specialties and introduce visitors to their rich heritage. In addition this event creates a great spirit of bonhomie, bringing together the expatriate and local communities for a worthwhile charitable cause, while celebrating culture, cuisine and tradition.



Mr. Devendra Bharna and Mr. Gul Kripalani along with Dean of CCAM, and Consul General of Italy, Mr. Ugo Ciarlatani, Mr. Sumit Mullick, Addl. Secretary Protocol Mrs. Fadnavis, Mrs. Rajashree Birla, Hon. Consul General of the Philippines, Mrs. Piloo Tata Chairperson, MK Tata Trust, Mr. Madhusudan Agrawal, Hon. Consul of Uganda and Dr. Mukesh Batra, President, Rotary Club of Bombay

This is a part of our Diplomatic Community's CSR initiative taking into account the social, economic and environmental impact and consideration of human rights.

Our Chief Guest at this year's TOMP was Mrs. Amruta Fadnavis, wife of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Devendra Fadnavis.

The Guests of Honour were:

- Mr. Sumit Mullick, Addl. Protocol Secretary and now Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra
- Mrs. Rajashree Birla, Hon. Consul General of the Philippines
- Mrs. Piloo Tata Chairperson, MK Tata Trust
- Mr. Madhusudan Agrawal, Hon. Consul of Uganda

The funds for charity are raised through entry ticket sales, auctions, raffles, souvenir advertisements, etc, and the proceeds go to various NGOs selected by the three partners mentioned above.

The NGOs utilize the funds raised through this initiative in bringing about a positive and lasting change in the communities that they are currently working in and bring about social and environmental well being.

For 2017, the Committee had decided that, the following four NGOs will receive following percentages of the net collection of TOMP 2017:

- 1) Asha Sadan
- 2) Fight Hunger Foundation
- 3) K B Haji Bachooali Charitable Hospital
- 4) United Way - Join the fight against hunger



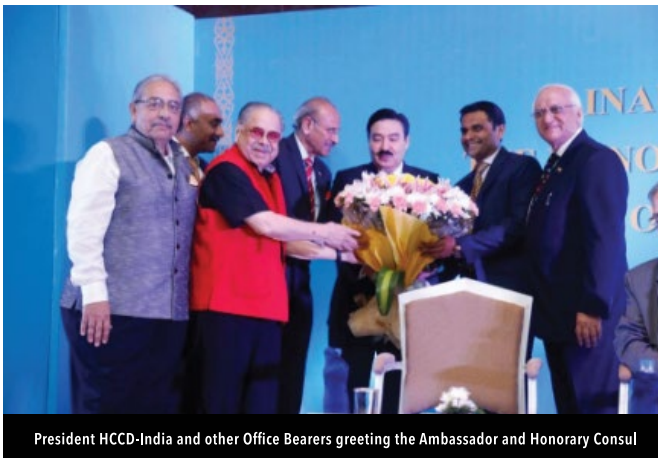
The South African Pavilion



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CHENNAI

Honorary Consulate of Kazakhstan at Chennai
Mr. Suraj Shantakumar has assumed office of Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Kazakhstan and will represent Southern India. The inauguration of the Honorary Consulate office was done by His Excellency Mr. Bulat Sarsenbayev, the Ambassador of Kazakhstan and Hon'ble Justice Mr.R.K. Agarwal, Judge, Supreme Court of India was the Chief Guest during the inaugural function held on 26th April at ITC Grand Chola in Chennai. The event was attended by Mr. Vivek Burman- President HCCD-India, other office bearers from Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore.



President HCCD-India and other Office Bearers greeting the Ambassador and Honorary Consul



H.E Mr. Bulat Sarsenbayev - Ambassador of Kazakhstan with Mr. Suraj Shantakumar



H.E Ambassador with Hon'ble Justice Mr.R.K. Agarwal - Judge Supreme Court of India

Also, a Reception was held on 24th of April at Vivanta by Taj in Coimbatore for celebrating the occasion of the opening of the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The function was inaugurated by His Excellency Mr. Bulat Sarsenbayev and Mr. Shyam Jaju, the Vice President, BJP was the Chief Guest. Many prominent dignitaries graced the occasion in both the venues.

A BOARD MEETING OF HCCD-INDIA WAS HELD AT CHENNAI BEFORE THE INAUGURATION.

COLDEST CAPITAL

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, reaches lows of -49
The capital, in fact, is the coldest capital city on Earth, and if the sunshine of Spain can give you blisters, the ice here can make you shrivel and curl into a shivering ball. Wear lots of camel hair, like the locals and then stay indoors!



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DELHI

Activities of Hony. Consular Corps Diplomatique – India

HCCD-India organized New Year and Consular Day in which Ambassadors, High Commissioners, MEA Officials, Hony. Consuls and other VIPs participated. On this occasion Hon'ble Mr. Vivek Burman, Hony. Consul General of Nicaragua and President of HCCD-India was decorated with the 3rd Bhai Mohan Singh Trophy.

Hon'ble Mr. Gul Kriplani, Hony. Consul General of Iceland and Sr. Vice President of HCCD-India was decorated with the Consul of the Year Trophy. The function was also attended by many VIPs and who's who of Delhi.



On 10th February, 2017 HCCD-India organised New Year and Consular Day. On this day Hon'ble Mr. Gul Kriplani was decorated with Consul of the Year Trophy. Seen in the picture High Commissioner of Cyprus, Hon'ble Mr. Vivek Burman and Hon'ble Mr. K. L. Ganju

THE HCCD-INDIA IS ALSO ORGANIZING A WELCOME DINNER FOR THE NEW HIGH COMMISSIONERS / AMBASSADORS ON 18TH AUGUST, 2017. THE HON'BLE MEMBERS OF THE HCCD-INDIA HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THE SAID FUNCTION.



On 10th February, 2017 HCCD-India celebrated New Year and Consular Day. Ambassador of Egypt and Tunisia attended the function apart from many other Ambassadors, High Commissioner and VIPs

THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD

A very frequent geographical question is: How many countries are in the world? The answer isn't that simple because it depends on who's doing the counting. The United Nations, for example, recognizes more than 240 countries and territories. The United States, however, officially recognizes fewer than 200 nations. Ultimately, the best answer is that there are 196 countries in the world.



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KOLKATA

By Hon'ble Mr. Yash Poddar

The CCK (Consular Corps of Kolkata) is a representative association of the Diplomatic and Honorary Consuls of Kolkata.

Recently a number of senior colleagues have finished their tenure here and are returning to their respective countries. The Consul General of Germany held a farewell lunch at the Taj Bengal in June. He has been a very popular and active person, and a very large number of consuls attended the event.

Regretfully the members of CCK will miss the Consul Generals of Bangladesh, Royal Bhutan, Germany, Myanmar, Russian Federation as well as senior Consular officers of British Deputy High Commission, Royal Thai, and a few from USA as well as Chief of Alliance Francaise and UNICEF. Those leaving Kolkata are quite disappointed as they enjoyed immensely the friendly environment as well as the socio-cultural quality of the city.

However, we look forward eagerly to the arrival of their replacements in a few weeks.



BANGALORE

BANGALORE CHAPTER WELCOMES CONSUL GENERALS OF GERMANY AND CANADA



The Members of the Bangalore Chapter had a Grand Cocktail and Dinner in Honor of the newly appointed Consul Generals of Germany and Canada – H.E. Mrs. Margit Hellwig-Boette and H.E. Mrs. Jennifer Daubeny respectively.



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Ms. Andrea Christ- Deputy Consul of Germany
Mr. Remi Rouillon - Deputy Consul of France
Mr. Ziv Shalvi - Deputy Chief of Mission of Israel
Mr. Stanley Gomes - Consul & Senior Trade Commissioner -
High Commission of Canada

A FAREWELL PARTY WAS GIVEN IN HONOR OF FOUR DIPLOMATS WHO COMPLETED THEIR ASSIGNMENTS AT BANGALORE

SAARC

The seven founding member countries are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Afghanistan joined SAARC in 2007.



NATION IN FOCUS - UKRAINE



Mr. Kamal K Singh
Honorary Consul General of Ukraine

UKRAINE

The bread basket of Europe, aspiring to be the food basket of the world



Origin of Name

"Ukraine" name originates from general Slavic "Ukraine", "borderland", which primarily referred to Kiev Rus border territories - Pereyaslav Principality. Later on "Ukraina" (eng. Ukraine) name referred to borderlands with Polish Kingdom and North-East Rus.

Introduction

Ukraine today is a sovereign state in South East Europe, and Kiev is its capital and largest city. It is bordered by Russia to the east and northeast, Belarus to the northwest, Poland and Slovakia to the west, Hungary, Romania, and Moldova to the southwest, and the Black Sea and Sea of Azov to the south and southeast and includes the peninsula of Crimea.

Ukraine consists of 27 regions which are twenty-four provinces and one autonomous republic, Crimea. Additionally, the cities of Kiev, the capital, and Sevastopol, both have a special legal status.

Ukraine has an area of 603,700 sq. kms making it the largest country entirely within Europe and the 46th largest country in the world. It has a population of about approx. 47.7 Million.

The state language of Ukraine is Ukrainian. Russian is also widely spoken, especially in eastern and southern Ukraine. Most native Ukrainian speakers know Russian as a second language.

The landscape of Ukraine consists mostly of fertile plains and plateaus, crossed by rivers such as the Dnieper, Seversky Donets, Dniester and the Southern Bug as they flow south into the Black Sea and the smaller Sea of Azov. Ukraine's only mountains are the Carpathian Mountains in the west, the highest being the Hora Hoverla at 2,061 metres.

Ukraine has a temperate climate, with the exception of the southern coast of Crimea which has a subtropical climate. Average winter temperature ranges from -8° to -12° C. Average summer temperature ranges from +18° to +25° C. Western Ukraine, particularly in the Carpathian Mountains, receives around 47.2 inches of rainfall annually, while Crimea and the coastal areas of the Black Sea receive around 15.7 inches.

History

Ukraine was known as "KievanRus" up until the 16th century. In the 9th century, Kiev was the major political and cultural center in eastern Europe.

KievanRus reached the height of its power in the 10th century and adopted Byzantine Christianity. The Mongol conquest in 1240 ended Kievan power.

From the 13th to the 16th century, Kiev was under the influence of Poland and Western Europe. In 1654, Ukraine signed the Treaty of Pereyasav which recognized the suzerainty of Moscow. After the Russian Revolution, Ukraine declared its independence from Russia on January 28, 1918. With the Red Army being victorious over Kiev, in 1920 Ukraine became a Soviet republic. In 1922, Ukraine became one of the founders of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. When President Leonid Kravchuk was elected by the Ukrainian parliament in 1990, he vowed to seek Ukrainian sovereignty. Ukraine declared its independence on Aug. 24, 1991.



Industries

Since January 1, 2016, Ukraine has received liberal access conditions to the EU market countries, based on the Agreement on Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area between Ukraine and the European Union.

Ukraine is the geographical center of Europe and has a developed transit infrastructure. There are 4 out of 10 European transport corridors as well as 8 major seaports, in particular Odessa and Ilyichivsk. More than 40 thousand km of pipelines with 87% of gas pipelines and 13% of oil pipelines have been built in Ukraine. Commercial sea ports of Ukraine - Odessa and Ilyichivsk are among the largest ports in the world;

Ukraine is richly endowed with 'chernozem' (also known as black soil), one of the most fertile soils worldwide. Thirty percent of the world's black soil is in Ukraine, where wheat, barley, rapeseed and sunflowers grow in abundance. Ukraine ranks first in the world for the export of sunflower oil. Today agriculture is one of the most promising sectors of the country's economy. Ukraine has a powerful mining and metallurgical complex. Ukraine is amongst the top ten countries as major producers of ferrous metals in the world. It has the world's largest reserves of manganese ore (11% of world reserves), the largest production of kaolin (18% of the world production), and 4% of the world production of iron ore. Machine-building is the largest Ukrainian industrial sector. Ukraine enterprises are involved in metals, oil, chemical, mining, power generation, rolling, road construction & vehicles, farm machinery & equipment, equipment for the food industry, metal-cutting machine tools and instrumentation.

Ukrainian enterprises provide manufacturing of steam and hydraulic turbines for nuclear, thermal and hydroelectric power. Ukrainian gas turbines for ships, power plants and gas pipelines, as well as equipment for the oil, gas, nuclear and chemical industries are of high demand in the world market.

The Ukrainian shipbuilding industry is a complex of colleges, universities and research centers; experienced design bureaus; 9 shipbuilding yards with different capacities and specialization; and a number of ship repair yards.

Ukraine has a sizable industry devoted to chemical & petrochemical products and these constitute a major export commodity. They produce mineral fertilizers, sulfuric acid, coke products, synthetic fibers, caustic soda and petrochemicals. The industrial plants are mainly in cities of Kyiv, Korosten, Sumy and Fastiv.

Ukraine ranks seventh in the world and fifth in Europe in terms of the number of nuclear reactors operated, total capacity and electricity produced. Three types of generation facilities are operated in Ukraine, including thermal power plants, hydroelectric plants and nuclear power plants. The role of wind and helium power plants is growing.

Well-known is Ukraine's ability to develop and manufacture complicated science-intensive and high technological machines and equipment. In particular, it is one of the top six countries in the world that can provide manufacturing of a plane from designing to building in the aerospace industry.

Ukraine ranks first in Europe by the volume of IT outsourcing services for maintenance, support and modernization of IT infrastructure, which is provided by specialized companies whose core business includes programming, website development, software support and maintenance of equipment. Ukraine has more than 100 R&D centers operated by such global high-tech companies as Cisco, Oracle, Rakuten & Samsung.

Education

Ukraine is ranked the 4th most educated nation in the world, over 99.7% of Ukrainians are literate and over 70% have a secondary or higher education. The largest Ukrainian cities, including Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odessa, Dnipropetrovsk and Lviv, are educational hubs as talented young people strive for higher education and job opportunities.

Two Ukrainian universities based in Kyiv, Taras Shevchenko and Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, appear in the TOP-500 world universities ranking. Ukraine produces over 130,000 engineers and about 16,000 IT graduates each year.



Thousands of international students from more than 110 different countries are getting their higher education in Ukraine today. Ukraine is one of the most preferred destinations in the world for Medical Education. Students from over 70 countries come to Ukraine every year to study medicine. Medical Council of India has certified 9 Ukrainian universities.

Tourism

Ukraine has a unique mixture of attractions - the seaside, mountains, rivers & lakes, marvelous cities and authentic countryside. Ukraine is among leading countries in Europe to engage in ecotourism, sports tourism, cultural tourism, winter tourism, food tourism, festival tourism & sea tourism.

Among the main attractions of Ukraine are the National Park Oleshkovsky Sands, Shatsky Lakes, Black Sea coast, Carpathian Mountains and many others. The city of Lvov is among the top 10 European cities recommended to visit.

Carpathian Mountains are considered to be the Green Pearl of Ukraine. It is one of the most popular resorts and tourist centers of the country. Truskavets is the most unique and attractive balneological health resort in Ukraine. It is situated in a picturesque valley to the north of the Eastern Carpathian foothills at an altitude of 350 meters above sea level.

Bukovel ski resort is Ukraine's first European-class resort, with a couple high-speed chair lifts, meticulously groomed slopes and snow-making machines, turnstiles for letting skiers through lines, and ubiquitous security personnel.

Ukraine – India Relations

Ukraine and India have strong relations especially in trade, education, cultural exchange, cooperation in science and technology, defence and other areas. The two countries have signed 21 bilateral agreements, including Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation, Agreements on Cooperation in Science and Technology, Cooperation in Space Research, Avoidance of Double Taxation and on Promotion and Protection of Investments. Ukraine and India enjoy friendly relations at bilateral level as well as actively cooperate at the international arena.

There are several opportunities for collaboration between India and Ukraine in terms of supply and maintenance of military aircraft, missiles, air defence systems, battle tanks and gas turbines for marine applications. The agreement between Ukraine's Antonov State Company and a large Indian conglomerate for upgrade of IAF's AN-32 fleet and manufacturing of aircraft for both military and commercial has opened a new chapter in Indo-Ukraine relationship

The major export commodity items of Ukraine to India are: fats and oils of vegetable origin; ferrous metallurgy; nuclear reactors, boilers and machinery; fertilizers; inorganic chemicals.

The major import commodity items of India to Ukraine are: pharmaceutical products; organic chemicals; plastics and polymers; ferrous metals and articles thereof; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes.

WORLD'S HOTTEST COUNTRY

Libya

The temperatures in Libya are so high that the people there are known to get affected by it in the form of some skin blisters or diseases. The record for the highest temperature ever recorded in the world was in Libya. It was in 1922 and the temperature recorded there was 57.8°C!



SPECIAL FOCUS



MACHU PICCHU

Peru, situated on the west central coast of South America, has diverse characteristics including a variety of climates, a vast territorial expanse, significant natural resources, people with great skills, and a solid economic and industrial background. Today, Peru continues to be considered one of the world's leading emerging markets, with a solid economic stability based on an uninterrupted annual growth over the past 15 years of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These factors make Peru an excellent partner in trade, industrial investments, mining and tourism.

Peru is undoubtedly a privileged country for its great natural beauty, its cultural and historic legacy and its mega-diversified territory.

It is ranked among the world's ten most preferred destinations with Machu Picchu, recently declared as one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World, at the top. For Indian tourists, who are constantly looking for new and exotic destinations, Machu Picchu is a must see when visiting Peru.

The ancient citadel of Machu Picchu, in the southern Peruvian Andes, is Cusco's main attraction. Discovered in 1911 by US explorer Hiram Bingham, the citadel is considered to be the most extraordinary example of landscape architecture in the world. Machu Picchu ("old mountain" in Quechua) is located at the top of a mountain that overlooks the deep Urubamba River canyon, in the midst of the tropical jungle.



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Experience Peru and discover a wealth of different worlds, all with their own individual landscapes, sounds, colours and tastes; travel back in time to ancient civilizations and share the great cultural heritage of the Peruvian people.

It is believed to have been a centre of worship and astronomical observation or the private estate of the Pachacútec Inca family. Machu Picchu is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983.

While it is true that Peru inevitably evokes images of Machu Picchu and the Inca Empire, Peru has much more to offer; it is so diverse that it can be found the desired destination for each and every traveller: nature, history, adventure, luxury and comfort. Peru has 84 of the World's 117 life zones and is within the 10 most biologically diverse countries in the world. It has well-known tourist destinations which have been declared world heritage sites by UNESCO: Caral, Chavin de Huantar, Chan Chan, the Nazca Lines, Huascaran National Park, The Manu National Park, The Rio Abiseo National Park, and the cities of Cusco, Arequipa, Lima, among others.

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