

NewsLetter

A Quarterly News Letter of Embassy of India, Berne

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: The World is One Family

Bilateral Visits

Visit of Swiss Foreign Minister to India



signing of Treaty of Friendship.

Natural partnership between the world's largest democracy and one of the world's oldest democracies. EAM H.E. Sushma Swaraj welcomes Foreign Minister of Swiss Federation H.E. Ignazio Cassis in New Delhi. Both countries are celebrating 70th anniversary of the



EAM H.E. Sushma Swaraj and Swiss Foreign Minister H.E. Ignazio Cassis review the entire spectrum of our relationship at the delegation-level talks. Discussion on trade & investment,

financial and tax matters, vocational education & training, tourism, tradition medicine and consular matters.

Ambassador received Shri Shyama Charan Gupta, Hon'ble Member of Parliament of India



Shri Shyama Charan Gupta, Hon'ble Member of Parliament of India with Ambassador at the Indian Independence Day celebrations on Aug 15 in Berne.

Independence Day, 2018 (Flag Hoisting Ceremony)



Indian Independence Day Celebrations at Embassy of India to Switzerland, The Holy See and Lichtenstein. Ambassador Sibi George unfurls tricolor at India House in Berne in presence of Indian Diaspora and friends on Aug 15.

Independence Day, 2018 (Evening Reception)



Glimpses of Indian Independence Day evening Reception on Aug 15 with Indian Classical dance performance, hosted at Berne by Ambassador Sibi George. An exhibition focusing on Ayurveda, Trade & Investment was also displayed.



Engagement with Universities & Museums

University of Liechtenstein



Ambassador Sibi George and First Secretary Dr. Piyush Singh with Dr. Jürgen Brücker, President of the University of Liechtenstein and Ms. Trudi Ackermann, Head, International Office, University of Liechtenstein on August 22 at Liechtenstein.

Engagement with The Holy See



Ambassador Sibi George with HE Arch-Bishop Paul Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States (Foreign Minister) of The Holy See in Vatican on July 27.



Ambassador Sibi George with His Eminence Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Dean of the College of Cardinals and HE Msgr Joseph Murphy, Chief of Protocol of The Holy See, in Vatican on September 4.

Sangam in Rietberg Museum, Zurich



Ambassador Sibi George speaking at 'Sangam in Zurich' organized by Rietberg Museum in Zurich, Switzerland on Sept 9.

The event brought together renowned musicians, dancers, authors & painters who did residency at Alice Boner Institute in Varanasi, India.



Ambassador Sibi George with His Eminence Cardinal Fernando Filoni, Prefect of Congregation of Evangelization of Peoples of The Holy See and Grand Chancellor of Urbaniana University in Vatican.

Indian Games in Swiss Museum



Ambassador Sibi George with Dr. Ulrich Schädler, Director of Swiss Museum of Games at La Tour-de-Peilz in the Swiss Alps Canton of Vaud at Lake Geneva. The Museum houses rare collections of Games which trace their origins to ancient India.



Engagement with Lichtenstein



Glimpses from India reception hosted by Ambassador Sibi George at Vaduz to commemorate India's 72nd Independence Day and 25th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between India & The Principality of Lichtenstein.



Engagement with Indian dignitaries

Ambassador called on Hon'ble Governor of Kerala



Ambassador Sibi George called on H. E. Justice Shri P. Sathasivam, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala at Raj Bhavan at Thiruvananthapuram on July 17.

Ambassador called on Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala



Ambassador Sibi George called on Shri Pinarayi Vijayan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram on July 20.

Ambassador meets with Trivandrum Chamber of Commerce and Industry



Ambassador Sibi George with President, Office bearers and members of Trivandrum Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on July 19.

Engagement with Cantons



Ambassador Sibi George & First Secretary Dr Piyush Singh with HE Mr. Thierry Steiert, Mayor of Fribourg city.

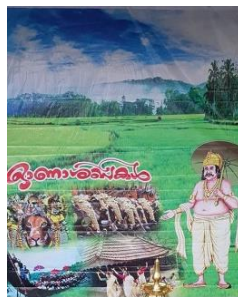
Embassy of India: Home Away from Home



Glimpses of 'Embassy of India: Home Away from Home' reception Ambassador Sibi George hosted at India House in Bern, Switzerland on Aug 28. It was an occasion to discuss the future activities of the Ministry of External Affairs and the Embassy with the Indian Diaspora and Friends of India. Further, Embassy

alongwith Indian Diaspora and friends of India had two minutes of silence to pay condolences to Kerala flood victims.

Engagement with Associations Solidarity with Kerala



Indian Diaspora and Embassy of India in Switzerland join hands to express solidarity with the victims of devastating Kerala floods. Events at India House in Berne, and by Swiss Malayali Association (SMA) Basel, Kerala Samajam in Berne and Be Friends in Zurich.



Trade and Investment

Digital India Summit: From IT to AI



Inauguration of 'Digital India Summit- from IT to AI' in Berne Switzerland on Aug 15. Special message from Hon. Minister for Electronics & IT and Law & Justice Shri Ravi

Shankar Prasad. Taking India-Swiss IT & AI cooperation forward.

Montreux International Business Club



Ambassador Sibi George speaking at the India evening organized by Montreux International Business Club at Fairmont le Montreux Palace on Aug 27.

Swiss-India Roundtable



Glimpses of Swiss-India Business Roundtable at Swissmem premises in Zurich on Sept 24; organised by Embassy of India in Berne, Swissmem, and Swiss India Chamber of Commerce.

Yoga and Ayurveda

Ayurveda at the picturesque Alps mountains



Ayurveda stall set up by Embassy of India at Vaduz in the Principality of Lichtenstein evoked huge response.



Yoga in Switzerland



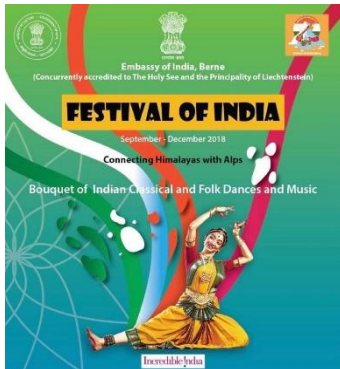
Basic yoga lessons by Teacher of Indian Culture

Ms. Hina Mehta at 'Embassy of India- Home Away from Home' reception hosted by Ambassador, in India House, Berne, Switzerland on Aug 28. Embassy conducts regular yoga lessons register at info.berne@mea.gov.in

Cultural Events

Festival of India

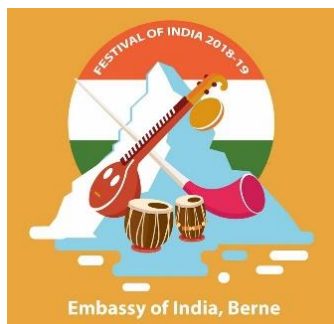
Festival of India Logo



Festival of India inauguration in Berne, Switzerland



Festival spreads across all major cities of Switzerland, from Sept to Dec 2018. Connecting Himalayas with Alps.



Honoring Shri Abhilash Jose who designed the India - Swiss fusion logo and poster for Festival of India in Switzerland and Lichtenstein. Shri Jose is a visual designer currently resident in Switzerland.

Some more glimpses of Festival of India in Bern and Vaduz

Festival of India inauguration in Lichtenstein



Glimpses of Festival of India in Vaduz. Celebrating 25th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between India and the Principality of Lichtenstein on Sep 7.

Other Events

Interaction with Indian Students



Embassy as Home Away From Home: Ambassador Sibi George interacting with incoming Indian students joining courses at top higher education institutions in Zurich at a programme by Indian Student's Association in Zurich (InSAZ).

Ambassador with Indian School Students at CERN, Switzerland



Congratulations to bright young students of R.N. Podar School, Mumbai for winning the prestigious CERN Beamline for Schools Competition 2018. Ambassador Sibi

George & DG CERN Dr. Fabiola Gianotti with the winning team at CERN Headquarters, Geneva.

Felicitating winners of 100 YEARS OF Champaran Satyagraha Quiz



Ambassador Sibi George & Swiss Member of Parliament Nik Gugger felicitating winners of '100 Years of Champaran Satyagraha' Quiz at a reception at India House in Berne on Aug 28.

Indian sports talent in Switzerland (Khelega India Toh Bhadega India)

Swiss Open Gstaad



Cheering up Indian players at Swiss Open Gstaad Tennis Tournament in Gstaad, Switzerland.

Indian sports talent in Switzerland



Ambassador Sibi George at Zurich with Mr. Neeraj Chopra, winner of the historic gold medal in Men's Javelin Throw at Asian Games 2018 held in Jakarta. Congratulations who brought a great and memorable performance at IAAF Diamond League 2018 finals in Zurich (Aug 30).

Sadbhavana Pledge



Ambassador administered the 'Sadbhavana Pledge' to the officials of Embassy of India to Switzerland, The Holy See and Lichtenstein on the occasion of the birth anniversary of late Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi on Aug 20.

Swiss National Day Celebrations



At the Swiss National Day celebrations on Aug 1 at Rütli Meadow at Canton of Uri overlooking Lake Lucerne, where the legendary pledge of alliance which led to the foundation of Switzerland

was pronounced in 1291.

Visit of Journalists from India, Bhutan and Switzerland to India House



Team of visiting journalists from India and Bhutan at India House in Bern, Switzerland with Ambassador Sibi George and other senior officials of the Embassy of India, public diplomacy officer of the Embassy of Switzerland in New Delhi and official of 'Presence Suisse' which is organizing their visit to Switzerland.

Hindi Diwas Celebration



Hindi Diwas Celebration: Opening of Hindi Pakhwada from September 14-28 at Embassy of India, Berne.

Swachh Bharat Shramadaan



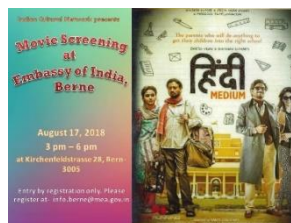
Glimpses of Swachhata Hi Seva-2018 at Embassy of India to Switzerland, The Holy See and Lichtenstein. Swachhata pledge followed by cleanliness drive in chancery.

Visit of IRS Officers to Switzerland



Ambassador Sibi George with officers of the 71st batch of Indian Revenue Service (IRS) who were on a visit to Switzerland.

Movie Screening at Embassy of India



Embassy of India to Switzerland, the Holy See and Lichtenstein is screening Indian movies at regular intervals. Keep following our social media pages for regular updates.

Summer Camp



Inauguration of 'Summer Camp' for children of Embassy officials organized by Embassy of India Spouses Association in collaboration with Embassy of India - Indian Cultural Network in Berne. The camp (Aug 6-10) focused on Indian Culture, Indian Languages, Indian Art and Yoga. Successful conclusion of 'Summer Camp' with a Painting workshop on Worli Art and Swiss landscape. The Camp organized by Embassy of India Spouses Association and Indian Cultural Network included Yoga, Hindi and Sanskrit Classes, Interactive sessions on Indian Culture and Festivals, Introduction to Diplomacy and International Relations, Public Speaking and Library Sessions.

Bidding Farewell



Bidding farewell to two colleagues leaving Embassy of India in Switzerland for next assignment on completion of their tenure.



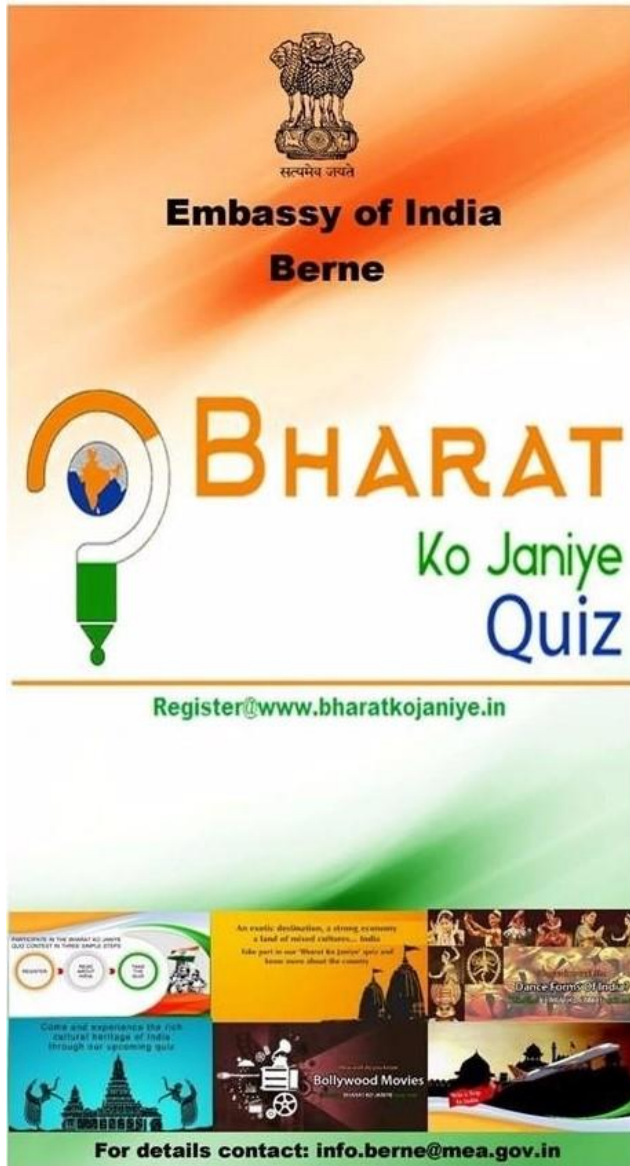
Bidding farewell to First Secretary Shri Bhaskar Bhatt who is leaving Embassy of India in Switzerland for next assignment on completion of his tenure. Also welcoming Shri Rajiv Kumar, Second Secretary (Consular & Culture)

15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas



15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas- "Role of Indian Diaspora in Building a New India" Registration open at www.pbdindia.gov.in

Bharat ko Janiye Quiz



The poster for the Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz features the Indian national emblem at the top, followed by the text "Embassy of India Berne". Below this is a large graphic of a question mark where the dot is a map of India. The text "BHARAT Ko Janiye Quiz" is prominently displayed. At the bottom, it says "Register @ www.bharatkojaniye.in". A small inset at the bottom shows various cultural and historical aspects of India, including a map, a temple, a film reel, and a ship.

For details contact: info.berne@mea.gov.in

First round of the @BharatKoJaniye Quiz will be open from Oct 16 to Nov 15. Last date for registration has been extended till Nov 15, 2018. Winners will get all expense paid 15-day trip to India. For details, bharatkojaniye.in



परदेश में आपका दोस्त: भारतीय दूतावास
Indian Embassy: Home away from Home

Message from Ambassador



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to send you the 3rd edition of the Newsletter of the Embassy. I am happy to note that I have received very encouraging feedbacks from you on this endeavour.

India is changing rapidly. We have jumped 23 spots to secure 77th rank in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business this year. In the last 2 years, we have jumped 53 spots which is a tremendous achievement.

Each and every Indian is a part of this success story, including Indian diaspora abroad. Let us work tirelessly in making positive contribution to India's development with the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'-The world is one family-always underpinning our efforts. I look forward to your feedback and suggestions.

Sibi George



The poster for the Festival of India, September-December 2018, features the Indian national emblem and the text "Embassy of India, Berne (Concurrently accredited to The Holy See and the Principality of Liechtenstein)". The main title "FESTIVAL OF INDIA" is in large, bold letters. Below it, it says "September - December 2018" and "Connecting Himalayas with Alps". The theme is "Bouquet of Indian Classical and Folk Dances and Music". The poster includes a vibrant illustration of a woman in traditional Indian attire performing a dance, with a colorful background of swirling lines and patterns. The "Incredible India" logo is at the bottom.