

# Newsletter- February, 2017

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## ***Iris Becker officially represents the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg in Maharashtra!***

***January, 2017***

*A high profile delegation of 120 participants from the State of Baden- Wuerttemberg visited Pune and Mumbai from 22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017 under the leadership of Minister President Winfried Kretschmann, the Chief Minister for the State of Baden- Wuerttemberg.*

*Karlsruhe took a pioneering role in paving the way for internationalization and networking. The Karlsruhe representation office in Pune, headed by Ms. Iris Becker of Lets bridge IT, is so well received that the state of Baden-Württemberg has now officially announced Ms Becker to represent the entire state in Maharashtra. In the course of the delegation trip in Pune, Minister President Winfried Kretschmann stressed that, "we are happy to be associated with Iris Becker and hand over the representation and bring it to effect immediately," a move which strategically fits between the existing partnerships of Karlsruhe- Pune and Baden -Wuerttemberg and Maharashtra. The event was held at Goethe Institute on 24<sup>th</sup> Jan evening with an elaborate cultural program and welcome of the delegates.*



MP Kretschmann officially announces and honors Ms. Iris Becker

## ***Minister President Winfried Kretschmann's successful delegation visit to Pune & Mumbai***

***January, 2017***

*Here are some of the highlights of the successful delegation visit to Pune and Mumbai from Baden-Wuerttemberg. We want to take this opportunity to thank our cherished partners and being a part of this success story.*

- ***Smart City workshop with Pune Municipal Corporation in Pune: (24<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2017)***

*This event was organized by Let's bridge IT in association with MCCIA and PMC on behalf of Baden- Wuerttemberg International (BW-i). The theme was Smart Cities and focused on topics like Energy management and storage, infrastructure and transport and mobility, green building solutions. Mr. Kunal Kumar, Municipal Commissioner of Pune stressed Pune's potential to be the Number 1 Smart City of India with support of its German partners.*



Kumar addressing the Smart City event in Westin Pune

- **MoU Signing between Gathagram Pune and Hochschule Karlsruhe: (24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017)**

*Pune has made a firm commitment to the future and is considered as one of the most successful SmartCities in India - and Karlsruhe is an important partner in many projects. Recent example: With "Gathagram" in Pune, India's first climatic settlement for 30,000 people is under construction and know-how from Karlsruhe is very much in demand for this future project.*

*Professor Bernhard Lenz, Hochschule Karlsruhe, agreed on a Technology and Business collaboration with Mr. Sandeep Sonigra, Head of the Gathagram Project. The goal is to optimize the city planning in a way that the temperature can be reduced to a minimum on the road surfaces, facades and places. This helps to significantly reduce energy consumption for indoor air conditioning.*



Mr. Sonigra and Mr. Benz at the MoU signing in Westin, Pune

- **Delivering Change Foundation and ZKM Event: (25<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017)**

*Mr. Abhijeet Pawar, Chairman of Delivering Change Foundation hosted an evening reception in Mumbai in the honor of MP Kretschmann and his delegation and Mr. Devendra Fadnavis was the Chief Guest for the evening. The dinner was also to celebrate the new found collaboration between DCF and Center for Art and Media (ZKM), Karlsruhe.*



MP Kretschmann with Shri. Fadnavis at DCF Event in Mumbai

- **Stuttgart meets Mumbai Wine Festival: (27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017)**

*Building bridges between cultures is now more important than ever. Andreas Lapp, successful entrepreneur and Honorary Consul of Baden-Wuerttemberg and Rhineland-Pfalz in India demonstrated for the 13th time this year by inviting around 2,000 guests from business, politics, film and media, tourism, education and gastronomy to the "Stuttgart meets Mumbai" Wine Festival in Mumbai.*



Kretschmann visits the Karlsruhe stand during Wine festival

**Black forest Tourism delegation visits Pune and Mumbai  
January, 2017**

*The tourism board of Karlsruhe and Black forest were on their maiden journey to India to introduce and promote the beautiful region of the Black forest in southern tip of Germany.*

- **Workshop with Travel Agents Association of India in MCCIA: (24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017)**

*The agenda of the event was to get in touch with leading tour operators in Pune and promote Black Forest as a tourist destination to Indian tourists. This workshop was held in association with MCCIA and organised by Let's bridge IT. Around 30 travel companies were in attendance and intend to eventually promote the beautiful region of Blackforest locally.*



At Let's bridge IT office



Tourism Workshop at MCCIA, in traditional Black Forest outfit!

- **Visit to Sanjay Gnadhi National Park in Mumbai: (26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017)**

*Mr. Klaus Hoffmann, Managing Director of Karlsruhe Tourism Board was the special Guest of Honor to inaugurate a map of the park. The specialised tour of the park included a visit to the conservation and rehab center for the leopards, tigers followed by a guided tour of the Kanheri caves. The SGNP team showed excellent videos of how the local tribes have been made aware of living with leopards. Such awareness*

*programs and initiatives have greatly contributed in reducing the casualties caused by these wild leopards to a great extent.*



Mr. Hoffmann at the inauguration in park

## ***Business German Course at Fergusson College!***

***February, 2017***

*On Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017, a two-week long Business German Course in Pune's Fergusson College came to an end. It was set up with a purpose to acquire different skills to better match the needs of German companies. It span over a total of 45 hours and focused on learning different tasks like conducting a telephone interview or writing a job application with German standards. During the course, the students had a chance to visit one of Pune's biggest German companies-Volkswagen. The course was initiated by Ms. Iris Becker of Let's bridge IT and Mrs. Amruta Gole, HoD German, Fergusson College and conducted by Mrs Susanne Martin, Ms. Jana Binfet and Ms. Tessie George. The diploma pedagogue and Human Resource professionals noted personal development and immense self confidence amongst the students attending this course.*

Students with Chief Guest Stefanie Feicht, Sakal Media Group on closing day



## ***Upcoming Cooperation Activities India Summer Festival in Karlsruhe!***

### ***July 2017***

*The INDIA SUMMER DAYS will take place in Karlsruhe for the first time under the patronage of MP Kretschmann in partnership with Sakal Media Group and most probably Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation. The Indo- German business day will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> July and festival on 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2017, during the VORFEST of DAS FEST in the Günther-Klotz-Anlage. Visitors will get to experience the great variety of Indian culture and tradition in an authentic way. The focus is on the Maharashtra region from the heart of India's partner region of Baden-Wuerttemberg. Well-known artists, musicians and experts for yoga and Ayurveda will make their way to Karlsruhe.*

*India Summer Festival will be followed by **14. Indian Film Festival in Stuttgart** from 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2017. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us for further information.*