

**Embassy of India  
Berne**

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**India-The Principality of Liechtenstein Relations**

India and the Principality of Liechtenstein established diplomatic relations in 1993 and celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations in 2018. The Ambassador of India to Switzerland, resident in Berne, is concurrently accredited as Ambassador of India to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

**High-level visits**

2. In the first ever high level official visit from either side, H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein, accompanied by his spouse H.R.H. Princess Sophie and 11-member official delegation, including the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Education, and Culture and 10-member business delegation visited India from 14-20 November, 2010 at the invitation of Hon'ble Vice-President of India. During the visit, Prince Alois met President Smt. Pratibha Patil, Vice-President Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee, UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Leader of Opposition Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Minister of State of External Affairs Smt. Preneet Kaur. The delegation visited the India International Trade Fair in Delhi. H.S.H. Prince Hans Adam II, father of H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois, had toured India a few years ago on a private visit. Along with H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois, H.S.H. Prince Hans Adam II again paid a private visit to India from October 13-19, 2013.

3. H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois visited India and met Rashtrapatiji Shri Ram Nath Kovind on 12 October 2018 and EAM on 10 October 2018 in New Delhi.

4. The Minister of State for External Affairs, General (Dr.) Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd), visited Principality of Liechtenstein, in a first ever Ministerial visit from India to Liechtenstein on 18-19 April 2016. He met Mr. Thomas Zwiefelhofer, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs, Justice and Economic Affairs of Liechtenstein on 18 April 2016 and Ms. Aurelia Frick, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education and Cultural Affairs on 19 April 2016. He paid a Courtesy call on His Serene Highness Hereditary Prince Alois of the Principality of Liechtenstein, at Vaduz Castle on 19 April 2016.

5. EAM met Dr. Aurelia C.K. Frick, Foreign Minister, Principality of Liechtenstein on the margins of the High Level Segment of UNGA during 73rd Session of the United National General Assembly on 24 September 2018.

**Economic and Commercial**

6. Bilateral trade, which rose to almost US\$ 5 million in 2008-2009, dipped in the recent few years followed by an upsurge in 2017-18. As per the data from the Deptt. of Commerce, GOI, bilateral trade was US\$ 4.39 million in 2017-18. The % change in trade compared to 2016-17 was 176.04 %. India's exports were US\$ 2.80 million while the imports were US\$ 1.6 million. The latest trade figures are given below:

(In Million US\$)

<b>Year</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19 (April-Oct)</b>
India's Exports	0.14	0.27	0.32	0.19	0.82	0.73	2.80	2.17
India's Imports	0.64	0.85	0.47	1.17	1.81	0.86	1.6	0.45
Total Trade	0.78	1.12	0.79	1.36	2.63	1.59	4.39	2.62
% Growth	101.3	44.5	(-) 30.6	74.5	46.3	-20.24	176.04	

7. The main items of India's exports are glass and glassware, articles of stone, plaster etc., games and sports – parts and accessories, dyes and paints, etc. The main items of India's imports are Mechanical Appliances and Parts thereof, Electrical Machinery and Equipment, pharmaceutical products, glass and glassware, medical surgical and other precision instruments etc.

8. As per RBI's data, the FDI inflow from Liechtenstein amounts to US\$ 27.52 million from April 2000 to June, 2018. Several Liechtenstein companies have their presence in India, employing over 8000 people. Liechtenstein companies having presence in India include the following:

- Savannah Seeds Pvt. Ltd
- Hilti Corporation
- Ivoclar Vivadent AG
- Umicore
- Oerlikon Blazers
- Swarovski
- Neutrik

## **Culture**

9. The 4th International Day of Yoga (IDY) was celebrated on 18 June 2018 in Vaduz, Liechtenstein. An Ayurveda Festival was also organised by the Embassy coinciding with the International Day of Yoga celebration in Vaduz. Ambassador Shri Sibi George hosted the Independence Day Reception in Vaduz, Liechtenstein on September 7, 2018. Celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the India-Liechtenstein Diplomatic relations, the Embassy of India, Berne organised *Festival of India* events in Liechtenstein: in Vaduz [Bharatnatyam; 7 September 2018] and in Schaan [Dhrupad; 8 November 2018]. Ayurveda lounges were set up on the sidelines of both these events.

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**December 2018**