COUNTRY FACT SHEET

Republic of India

2016

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I. CHECKLIST

1. To do before the return
The returnee should:
- request documents from the German authorities that might be needed later on.

  - Certificate of education/vocational skills undergone during the stay (if any)

  - Certificate of work/employment (if any)

  - Certification of time spent at detention center (if any)

  - Medical fitness certificate or medical prescription (if any)

- take into consideration the following information concerning the arrival at the airport and the onward journey.

  - If one needs to get to a small town, low-cost airlines may not have connections. One may have to rely on major airlines such as Indian Airlines or Jet Airways.

  - Flying low-cost to a larger city and taking a train could be ideal. The airlines may provide lower fares for tickets booked earlier than departure dates.

  - Usually the allowed free baggage limit is 15kg on most airlines.

  - Railways tickets are available off counters at most railway stations as well as online. Tatkal (urgent) quota seats are available in many trains and bookings can be made a day before the departure date. However, due to high demand, the availability of seats is not ensured.

  - Indian Railways website: http://www.indianrail.gov.in/ Ticket booking: https://www.irctc.co.in/eticketing/loginHome.jsf

  - Roads in metropolitan cities and towns are good and well-marked. State Transport buses are the most economical way to travel to places, particularly to those not on the rail network. Every state has its own public transport bus service which primarily connects intra-state and inter-state routes.

- check vaccinations (especially for children) and make sure to be up-to-date on routine vaccines before departure. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine and the yearly flu shot.

2. To do immediately after the return
The returnee should:
- take into consideration the following information concerning (re-)registrations:

  - No registration is required for Indian nationals with any authority. The bureau of immigration may conduct a brief interview at the airport upon arrival.

  - Pension insurance / employee pension schemes are generally provided by employers. If already registered earlier, no re-registration is required.

  - Health insurance is available on payment of a premium. Government health schemes generally cover only people categorized as being below the poverty line.

- contact the local village level administrative unit (gram panchayat), Block Development officer or District magistrate office to understand the ongoing government schemes in that area.

- enroll herself/himself in the employment websites/local employment exchange for availing the employment opportunities.

- get information about the ongoing skill development program by the Government of India to upgrade her/his skills.

II. HEALTH CARE

1. **Health care system**
   a. **General information on the health care system**
      The structure of India's healthcare system is multifaceted, consisting of various types of providers practicing in different systems of medicine and facilities within different ownership structures. Under the Indian Constitution, individual states are given primary authority over most aspects of healthcare, including public health and hospitals. An estimated 80% of public healthcare funding comes from the states. The private sector also plays an important role in India's healthcare delivery.
   b. **Access, especially for returnees**
      - The government sponsored socially orientated Universal Health Insurance scheme only covers Indian citizens who are below poverty line.
        http://www.rsby.gov.in/about_rsby.aspx)
      - Health insurance for the general population is available through various private and public companies on payment of premiums which differ according to the plans. Some of the prominent health insurance providers are General Insurance, Bharti AAA, HDFC ERGO, Bajaj, Religare, Apollo Munich, New India Assurance, Max Bupa etc. More information can be found on the websites of these insurance providers.
      - List of major programs run by Ministry of health can be found at http://www.mohfw.nic.in/index4.php?lang=1&level=0&linkid=316&lid=1610
   c. **Benefits and costs**
      - The Government hospitals and primary health centers provide healthcare free of cost or at a very minimum charges. There are numerous charitable institutions which also provide affordable treatment.
      - The private healthcare sector is comparatively expensive and most healthcare expenses are paid out of pocket by patients and their families, rather than through insurance. Generally, a valid identity proof (Adhaar card, Voter ID, PAN, driving license) may be required to avail these facilities.
2. **Medical treatment and availability and costs of medication**
   a. **Medical facilities and doctors**
      - Public health centers and sub centers are the most basic unit of public health system. These are generally single physician run clinics which also facilitate minor surgeries. These centers are generally available near all the villages in India. There are more than 23,000 PHCs in India.
      - Community Health Centers are available as basic health unit in the urban areas. Taluk hospitals are controlled by state government and respective taluks (administrative unit smaller than district).
      - District level hospitals, medical colleges and specialized centers have facilities to treat all kinds of health issues.
      - A list of some of the major hospital can be found at:
        https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_hospitals_in_India
   b. **Procedures of admission**
      - A patient desiring any treatment at a public/private hospital is required to initially go for a consultation with the relevant medical practitioner or a specialist. On the recommendation of the doctor for admission of the patient in the hospital, the family of the same or the patient him/herself registers with the admissions department of the hospital and submits the request for admission for further treatment.
      - The admission procedure generally involves the submission of the documents including medical history of the patient, recommendation of the doctor for admission in the hospital, and the appropriate fees that need to be deposited based on the nature of the treatment for which the patient has been recommended.
      - Following the completion of the admission forms that need to be filled in prior to admission of the patient in the hospital and the deposit of the applicable fees for treatment which includes the room rent and other fees pertaining to surgical equipments, medical tests and prescribed medications.
   c. **Availability and costs of medication**
      Pharmacies are abundant in India and can be found even in remote towns. India is the largest manufacture of generic medicine and the cost of essential medicines are controlled

by the Government to make it widely available.

III. LABOR MARKET AND EMPLOYMENT

1. **Labor market situation and assistance to find employment**
   a. **Labor force**
   India has a labor force of 497 million according to the World Bank (2014). Most of the workforce employed in the unorganized sector is employed by the private sector.
   The unemployment rate amongst the youth in India totals at 10.5% with male and female accounting for 10.4% and 10.5 % respectively.
   b. **Average income**
   India's per capita income (nominal) was $ 1,582 in 2015, as per the World Bank, while its per capita income on purchasing power parity (PPP) basis was US$ 6,088.6
   c. **Unemployment rate**
   India has the second largest workforce in the world with 478.3 million (2012) employed people, 40-45% of its current. In addition, India is adding a 12.8 million people to its workforce per annum. Though India has the second largest labor force in the world, the unemployment rate stands at 10%.

2. **Ways / assistance to find employment**
   - Some of the major online job portals are: www.naurki.com | www.monsterindia.com | www.timesjob.com | www.placementindia.com | www.jobsadhead.com
   - The Government has set up over 900 Employment Exchanges all over the country to facilitate the recruitment of suitable candidates into various sectors. Job seekers register themselves with these Employment Exchanges and get notified as soon as any vacancy in the Government sector matches their desired profile.
   - The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is an Indian job guarantee scheme, providing a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage per day.
   - The Commissions or Directorates of Industries are the nodal agencies in the different States which assist and guide new entrepreneurs in starting up an industrial unit in the concerned State. A list of the state government employment directorate can be found at http://www.dget.nic.in/asp/sempdir.htm

3. **Unemployment assistance**
   Some state governments provide unemployment support to persons registered at employment exchanges for more than three years. The local district commissioner or employment exchanges should be contacted for more information.

4. **Further education possibilities and vocational trainings**
   - Returnees may access further education or skill training in addition to their basic education by registering with the variety of skill courses. These are being offered under the aegis of the Ministry of Skills and Entreprenuership, Government of India. Returnees may find the appropriate course that suit them and the relevant registering authority by visiting the government portal called Skill India at the website: http://skillindia.gov.in/.
   - Returnees may also access further education or complete their basic education through open education institutes. A detailed information on the same is available at All India Council for Open Education (AICOE) (www.aicoe.in) or National Institute of Open Schooling (www.nios.ac.in). The returnee may choose from the variety of institutes or universities offering distance learning courses, for instance, Indira Gandi National Open University (IGNOU) more information on the university is available on the website www.ignou.ac.in.

IV. HOUSING

1. **Housing situation**
   a. **Average rent, running costs/utilities** (e.g. electricity, water, etc.)
   The prices of property in major cities are at par with most of the global cities. Rent rates are relatively higher in cities than in villages.
      - An average one bedroom apartment in big cities in India like New Delhi and Mumbai would cost approximately INR 9000-12000. The cost of a two or three bedroom apartment would vary between INR 15000-30,000 depending upon the location of the

house and the city. The prices would get relatively reasonable as one would move towards the towns and villages.

b. **Demand and supply**
House prices in India are rapidly rising due to the lack of a well-developed market and a chronic shortage of housing, estimated at 18.8 million units in 2012, mainly in urban areas Most houses are provided on rent through property brokers who are generally unorganized and cover a small locality. Usually one month rent is taken as refundable advance by the house owner as a security deposit. The police verification of the tenant is mandatory but apart from major cities it is hardly implemented in small town and villages.

c. **Housing facilities for returnees / social housing**
Temporary housing assistance is provided to returnees for a few days wherein a returnee is accommodated in a rental house or a guest house within a reasonable expense which is generally borne by the sending country.

2. **Ways / assistance to find accommodation**
Various websites such as 99acres.com and magicbricks.com provide an India options for buying or renting flats.

3. **Social grants for housing**
The Government is running a number of schemes for housing but most of them are limited to the population living below poverty line. These schemes are generally implemented by state governments. Further information may be found at http://india.gov.in/topics/housing.

V. SOCIAL WELFARE

1. **Social welfare system**
   a. **General information on the welfare system**
   - The National and State Governments offer a number of social security schemes and programs. However, these are mostly targeted towards under-privileged groups such as population below poverty line.
   - These programs are generally implemented though village level administrative units called Panchayat. For more information contact the Panchayat / office of the district commissioner or the website of state / central government may be visited.

2. **Pension system**
   a. **General information on the pension system**
   The employee pension scheme is mandatory and is attached to the employment. The national social assistance program covers only the population below poverty line or physically challenged. The National Pension System (NPS) is a voluntary, defined contribution retirement savings scheme designed to enable the subscribers to make optimum decisions regarding their future through systematic savings during their working life. More information can be found at
   https://npscra.nsdl.co.in/download/pdf/NPS%20Booklet.pdf.

3. **Vulnerable groups**
   a. **General information on vulnerable groups**
   The vulnerable groups may include disabled and people living below poverty line in India. Based on their type of vulnerability, the groups are entitled to avail various benefits under government schemes which includes reservations in government jobs, subsidized health care facilities and subsidized ration/food items. Further information on government schemes may be available from the office of respective District Magistrate.

   b. **Assistance for vulnerable persons**
   There are various programs for vulnerable persons run by both the central government and the state government. Further information of such schemes can be collected from the office of respective District Magistrate.

VI. EDUCATION

1. **Educational system**
General information on the system
Most cities and towns have both government and private schools. However, the cost and quality of education may vary. The academic year in most parts of India starts in June/July. Interested students should therefore apply well in advance.

Educational level	Age
Child care / nursery school	0-3
Kindergarten	3-6
Primary level	
Primary School	6-10
Secondary level	
e.g. middle school	10-15
e.g. high school, vocational training, etc.	15-19
Higher education	
e.g. college, university, professional school, etc.	from 19 onwards

- Primary schools (grade 1 to 8) are available in most villages. For high school education (Grade 9 to 12), children might have to go to nearby village/town. Contact respective State Boards for Education for details on recognized schools.
- Colleges and vocational training institutes are located at block and district level. Most of the major cities have universities. With 700 universities and more than 35,000 affiliated colleges enrolling more than 20 million students, Indian higher education is a large and complex system.
- Distance education is also available through 66 institutions functioning in 60 universities besides 11 open universities imparting education.
- Information of all universities, colleges, boards and vocational training institutions can be found at http://mhrd.gov.in/institutions.

2. **Access and registration procedure, especially for returnees**
   For admission generally these documents are required:
   - Application/registration form
   - Passport size photographs, mark sheet and pass certificate
   - Proof of date of birth (usually in the form of your tenth standard mark sheet or pass certificate which contains date of birth)
   - School leaving certificate, transfer certificate (issued by the last school attended)
   - Domicile certificate/ residential proof or certificate, provisional certificate (if applying to a college outside home state), character certificate (usually from the institution last attended)
   - Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe/other Backward Caste certificates (if applied under these categories), Community Certificate (if applied for such a quota)
   - Gap students are required to obtain an affidavit from a court in certain jurisdictions
   - Migration certificate

3. **Costs, loans and stipends**
   a. **General information on tuition fees**
      Costs of education differ widely. Government and government aided institution provide education at a very minimal rate whereas education in private institutions is comparatively very expensive.
   b. **Access and requirements to stipends and/or loans for covering tuition**
      - Students who are unable to afford their tuition fees may be eligible for Student Loans which are provided by various public and private banks after determining the eligibility of the individual students for the loans. Student loans are generally provided at a subsidized rate of interest by the banks.
      - To avail such loans, the students must fulfil the criteria based on submission of all academic documents and assuring the bank of the credibility of the course of study proposed to be undertaken by the student.
      - Further information may be obtained by directly contacting the bank of choice.

4. **Approval and verification of foreign diplomas**
   The Evaluation Division of the inter university board at Delhi is entrusted with the task of equivalence of degrees awarded by the accredited foreign universities for the purpose of admission to higher studies.

VII. CONTACT INFORMATION AND USEFUL LINKS

1. International, Non-governmental, Humanitarian Organizations

International Organization for Migration (IOM) F- 5 Kailash Colony, New Delhi - 110048 E-mail: iomnewdelhi@iom.int Tel: +91-11-40532401/03	**UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees** B-2/16, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi - 110057 E-mail: indne@unhcr.org Tel: +91-11-43530444
Overseas Workers Resources Center and MRC VFS, Global Service Private Limited, Second floor, Plot no-218, Udyog Vihar, Phase-4, Gurgaon, Haryana-122016 E-mail: helpline@owrc.in Tel: 1800113090	

2. Medical Facilities, e.g. hospitals etc.

AIIMS-All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Gvt) Ansari Nagar East, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi E-mail: ms@aiims.ac.in Tel: +91-11-26588500, 26588900, 26588700 Website: www.aiims.edu	**Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Hospital** (Gvt) Delhi Gate, Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 110002 E-mail: lnhmsoffice@gmail.com Tel: +91-11-23232400 Website:http://www.delhi.gov.in/
Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals (Private) Sarita Vihar, Delhi Mathura Road, New Delhi - 110076 E-mail: helpdesk_delhi@apollohospitals.com Tel: +(91)-11-26925858 / 26925801 Fax: +(91)-11-26825563	**Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute & Research Center** Sector - V Rohini Delhi - 110 085. Tel: +91-11-47022222 Website: www.rgci.org