

India-The Principality of Liechtenstein Bilateral Relations

India and the Principality of Liechtenstein established diplomatic relations in 1993 and will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations in 2023. The Ambassador of India to Switzerland, resident in Berne, is concurrently accredited as Ambassador of India to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

2. Bilateral VVIP visits

➤ **Liechtenstein's Dignitary to India:**

- Hereditary Prince Alois - 2010
- Prince Hans Adam II and Hereditary Prince Alois - 2013(private visit)
- Hereditary Prince Alois -2018

➤ **Indian Dignitary to Liechtenstein:**

- MOS(External Affairs) Shri V. K. Singh - 2016

➤ **Official Visit:** 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.

➤ **Private Visit:** H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois, H.S.H. Prince Hans Adam II paid a private visit to India from October 13-19, 2013.

➤ 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.

➤ H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois also participated in the India Reception held on 23 January 2020 in Davos on the sidelines of the 50th Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum.

➤ 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, then Deputy Prime Minister and then 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.

➤ 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.

3. Economic and Commercial Relations

India-Liechtenstein Trade Figures

| Year | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| India's Exports | 0.31 | 0.20 | 0.33 | 1.23 | 1.87 | 3.45 | 4.29 | 4.32 | 2.13 | 0.41 |
| India's Imports | 0.43 | 0.98 | 1.25 | 1.09 | 1.24 | 2.98 | 1.49 | 0.30 | 4.48 | 1.79 |
| Total Trade | 0.74 | 1.18 | 1.58 | 2.32 | 3.11 | 6.43 | 5.78 | 4.62 | 6.61 | 2.2 |

(in Million USD)

➤ In 2022, the main items of India's exports were electric heating resistors; other organic compounds: cefadroxil and its salts, ibuprofane, nifedipine, ranitidine, danes salt of d(-) pheny; parts of non electric furnaces ovens etc; other medicine put up for retail sale; and vacuum pumps.

➤ The main items of India's imports were other instruments, appliances and machines; electro magnets;chucks,clamps and similar devices; other imitation jewellery of base metal w/n plated with precious metal; moulds for mineral

materials; and articles of precious or semi precious stones(natural synthetic/reconstructed).

➤ As per RBI's data, the FDI equity inflow from Liechtenstein amounted USD 103.77 million from April 2000 to March 2023. Several Liechtenstein companies have their presence in India, employing over 8000 people. Liechtenstein companies having presence in India include the following:

- i. Savannah Seeds Pvt. Ltd
- ii. Hilti Corporation
- iii. Ivoclar Vivadent AG
- iv. Umicore
- v. Oerlikon Blazers
- vi. Neutrik

4. Cultural Relations

➤ In February 2023, Mission organized an event in Vaduz, Liechtenstein to promote "One District One Product" initiative of the Government of India through an exhibition of Handicraft items, Tea, Coffee, Textiles and Silk products to showcase the richness, uniqueness and varieties of products, India can offer to the world. An Incredible India Photo Gallery of Eastern and North Eastern states to showcase the rich culture, tradition and natural landscapes of the region was also set up. Event was inaugurated by the Mayor of Vaduz.

➤ Mission hosted its Independence day reception on 24 Aug, 2022 in Liechtenstein. From the Liechtenstein side, Ms. Dominique Hasler, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education and Sports attended the event as the Chief Guest. Also present on the occasion were Chief of Protocol and senior Govt. Officials, MPs, business and cultural leads. Minister Dominique Hasler delivered the keynote address. She conveyed the congratulatory message of His Serene Highness Prince Alois for the 75th Anniversary of Indian Independence and wished the bilateral partnership between India and Liechtenstein to grow and expand in the coming years.

➤ In 2019, the Philately Department of Liechtenstein Post released a commemorative set of 3 postal stamps on Mahatma Gandhi in Vaduz, the capital of Principality of Liechtenstein.

➤ The 5th International Day of Yoga (IDY) was celebrated in June 2019 in Vaduz, Liechtenstein.

➤ To Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of the India-Liechtenstein Diplomatic relations, Mission 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.

➤ A very successful 'India Week' was organized in Liechtenstein by India Club(a not for profit organisation: President- Mr. Pankaj Agarwal), Vaduz (Liechtenstein) in collaboration with the Embassy of India, Berne, and under the patronage of Ms. Aurelia Frick, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education and Cultural Affairs of the Principality of Liechtenstein, from 17-22 May 2016. The week-long events highlighted the rich cultural heritage and business potential of India through workshops on Yoga, Kuchpudi Dance performance, ecotourism in Himalayas, screening of Bollywood movies, and the European Green India Summit (EUGIS'16) showcasing the potential of Green and renewable energy and eco-friendly business in India.

➤ **Indian Community:** There are about 5 Indians based in Liechtenstein due to the requirement that a foreigner needs to have either a Swiss or Liechtensteinian spouse for a residence permit. There could be about 50-60 Indians working in Liechtenstein but staying either in Austria or Switzerland.

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