

Approximately 50 young leaders from India and Germany gathered for the 2nd Indo-German Young Leaders Forum in the South Indian city of Chennai. True to the notion of networking, the many new participants were joined by alumni of the 1st Indo-German Young Leaders Forum, which took place in New Delhi in 2004.

The significance and functioning of networks were the focus of this conference. After examining the topic of networks from a scientific-theoretical perspective, renowned business representatives of both countries considered the idea of networking in the context of management. During the conference, the discussion was expanded to include the future opportunities for political cooperation between Germany and India. The combination of introductory statements from academia, business and politics, rounds of discussion and interactive group work made possible a concentrated focus on the conference theme and a high-level exchange of opinions and experiences.

The "Networking in Nature" programme took the participants away from the round table to the nearby beach in the Bay of Bengal. There, the participants, divided into four competing teams, enthusiastically set about solving the various physical and intellectual tasks assigned to them by a team of German and Indian coaches. The programme helped participants not only to get to know each other better, but also to deepen their intercultural understanding.

The conference days were supplemented by a varied programme of activities, which brought into focus the business location of Chennai and the cultural significance of Tamil Nadu. Already before the start of the conference, the participants could gain first impressions of the economic dynamism and productivity of Chennai during a visit of Tidel Park (Information Technology Centre). The important role of the local film industry was highlighted by an entertaining Film Song and Dance Show during the farewell dinner. Guided tours of the temple city of Mamallapuram and the region around Pondicherry introduced the participants to the rich history of India.