

The central topic of the 3rd Indo-German Young Leaders Forum was "Shared Responsibilities: Business, Society and the State".

The choice of this topic was motivated by the fact that Germany and India, driven by globalisation, both have introduced reforms towards more privatisation and liberalisation. Irrespective of their different social and economic structures, in both countries those developments have raised questions about the (new) role of the state and of business as well as the productive interaction of different social forces.

Approximately 45 young leaders from India and Germany came together for three days in the Bavarian Chiemgau region to discuss the above mentioned issues. As in the years before, the participants also included some representatives of the Young Indians. Renowned representatives from politics, business and academia stated their points of view in short presentations, thereby initiating the discussions both at the roundtable and in small break-out groups.

Mr Erwin Huber, the Bavarian State Minister of Economic Affairs, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology, provided an interesting insight into Bavaria as a business location. A special highlight of the conference was the speech by Ms Ambika Soni, Minister of Tourism and Culture of the Republic of India: Taking her area of responsibility as an example, the Minister talked about both the successes and failures of the Indian Government regarding the introduced reforms. During the lively discussion, the Minister also faced up to the questions of the participants.

The "Networking in Nature" programme on the first day of the conference aimed to initiate personal encounters and dialogue between the participants on an informal level. The participants were divided into four teams, each of which had to solve various intellectual and physical tasks. The adventure was concluded in a mountain hut in the Bavarian Alps. The cheerful and warm atmosphere, in which the participants engaged with each other, facilitated the discussions to come.