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INFORMATION NOTE

RBI-OECD Workshop Delivering Financial Literacy: Challenges, Approaches and Instruments

22-23 March 2010, Bangalore/India

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Information Note for Participants

The RBI-OECD Workshop Delivering Financial Literacy: Challenges, Approaches and Instruments will take place on 22-23 March 2010 in Bangalore, India. This conference is co-organised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) with sponsorship by the Government of Japan.

Venue

The Workshop will be held at the **ITC Royal Gardenia, Bengaluru, India**

Address: No.1, Residency Road, Bengaluru 560 001, India

Tel. : (91) (80) 2211 9898

Fax : (91) (80) 2211 9999

Email : reservations.itcroyalgardenia@itcwelcomgroup.in

Website: <http://www.itcwelcomgroup.in/Hotels/itcroyalgardenia.aspx>

Registration

Please note that participation is by invitation only. Those invited to register **by the OECD**, please do so by filling out the registration form for this event available at: [online registration form](#) **by 15 February 2010**.

If necessary, please use the complete url link above:

[\[http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=3519ee26a712499d8a63c062208352bd\]](http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=3519ee26a712499d8a63c062208352bd)

Meals and Social Events

Lunch

Lunch for the participants will be provided on both days of the Workshop i.e., on March 22 and 23, 2010.

March 23, 2010: Lunch hosted by the OECD.

Dinner

March 21, 2010: Dinner hosted by the Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka.

March 22, 2010: Dinner hosted by Mr. V.K. Sharma, Executive Director, RBI.

Dress Code

Dress code during the Workshop will be business-casual.

Accommodation and hotel booking

The workshop will be held at the ITC Royal Gardenia in Bangalore. **The ITC Royal Gardenia** is being tagged as a 7 star hotel, ITC Royal Gardenia is situated in the heart of Bengaluru. All the main commercial and leisure hubs of the city are within easy reach of this hotel. The hotel offers 292 large and well equipped rooms, including 13 suites and a Presidential suite.

We have obtained a negotiated rate with the **ITC Royal Gardenia**, Bengaluru, where a block booking has been made for registered participants of this Workshop. Some rooms have also been blocked for the Workshop participants at Hotel Chancery Pavilion and Hotel Chancery. Kindly note the deadline for booking in all the hotels and book your accommodation well in advance.

Reservations at the hotels must be made latest by February 28, 2010. After this date, the group booking made for the Workshop participants will no longer be held and reservations thereafter will be subject to availability.

Neither OECD nor RBI can be responsible for any costs associated with participants' hotel rooms. Each participant is responsible for the reservation and payment of his/her hotel room and all incidental charges by his/her personal credit card.

ITC Royal Gardenia

(36 km from the airport, conference venue)

No.1, Residency Road, Bengaluru 560 001

Website: <http://www.itcwelcomgroup.in/Hotels/itcroyalgardenia.aspx>

Email: reservations.itcroyalgardenia@itcwelcomgroup.in

Please copy sudeshna.ghosh@itcwelcomgroup.in

Contact person: **Sneh/Shubhra** at the reservations department

Tel: + 91 80 222 69898 and/or Tel: + 91 80 222 80867, and/or

Tel: + 91 80 222 80868 and/or Tel: + 91 80 2211 9898

Guest Contact Centre: (8am to 8pm on all days)

Tel: +91 80 222 698 98

Fax: +91 80 222 804 8980

- Prices /Rates and cancellation policy

Classic/Tower room & above: INR 9,500 & above (around USD 205)

ITC One INR 14,000 (around USD 302)

Buffet breakfast at the coffee shop and one meal is included in the price.

*Local taxes of 10% will be charged with the room rates

** *Prices in USD could be reviewed with the currency changes*

Working Languages

The official language of the Workshop will be English. The Workshop documentation will be in English.

Passports and visas for India

Valid passports are required for all participants entering India. Please also note that a visa is required for most nationalities to enter India and it is strongly recommended that participants verify requirements with the embassy/consulate in his/her country.

In order to get updated information on how to get your visa, please refer to your local Indian Consulate which contact you may find on the following link: <http://www.immigrationindia.nic.in> or www.meaindia.nic.in

Registered participants who require an official invitation letter for visa purposes should contact RBI by sending an email to finlitworkshop2010@rbi.org.in.

Bengaluru/Bangalore Airport

Bengaluru Airport meets the standards set by Airports Authority of India, International Civil Aviation Organisation and International Air transport Association.

Internet services: All passenger areas inside the terminal are WiFi enabled.

Medical care: The airport provides a medical centre run by Columbia Asia Hospitals and provides world-class medical assistance in case of an emergency. The medical centre operates 24 hours, 7 days a week. The centre is fully equipped with an emergency room and a pharmacy to meet any emergency.

Contact Details of Bengaluru International Airport Limited

Tel: +91 (80) 6678 2425

Fax: +91 (80) 6678 3366

Email: feedback@bialairport.com

24 hrs General Enquiry & Flight Enquiry - +91 (80) 66782251 / 2255

For any queries on Lost & Found items please mail to Lostndfound@bialairport.com

Visit http://www.bengaluruairport.com/portal/page/portal/BIAL_PageGroup/BIAL_ARR_HOME

for further information.

Transfer

Please do contact the hotel where you will stay for their transport facilities offers to the airport. From the airport, the distance for the 3 hotels: the ITC Royal Gardenia is 36 km, the Chancery Pavilion Hotel is 37 km from and the Chancery Hotel is 36 km.

Further Enquiries

If you have any questions, please contact:

Ms. Flore-Anne Messy, OECD, e-mail: flore-anne.messy@oecd.org, Tel: + 33 1 4524 9656

Ms. Killawala Alpana, RBI, e-mail: alpanakillawala@rbi.org.in Tel: +91 22 2266 0502

For further logistical information or enquiries about this conference, please contact:

- *For OECD participants:*

Ms. Angelique Servin, OECD, email: angelique.servin@oecd.org

Fax: +33 1 45 24 18 33 and +33 1 44 30 63 08

- *For RBI/Indian participants:*

- Mr. Ashok Narain, email: ashoknarain@rbi.org.in

- Ms. Sabeeta Badkar, email: sabeetabadkar@rbi.org.in

<http://www.rbi.org.in/rbioecd/>

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Language: English

Insurance and Medical Cover

The Workshop organisers do not take the responsibility for medical, travel or life insurance, and participants are advised to hold valid international personal insurance policies.

Water and Food: Bottled water recommended.

Malaria/Yellow Fever/Dengue

For the list of countries requiring yellow fever vaccination to get into India, kindly check <http://www.immigrationindia.nic.in/> (Select "Health Regulations").

Tipping: No specific rules

Electrical Appliances: 220V

Climate

Bengaluru enjoys a relatively mild climate through out the year. Temperature - highest maximum of 33°C to lowest minimum of 8°C.

Currency and Exchange Rate

Currency - Rupees (Rs.)(INR)

For latest exchange rates please see:

<http://www.xe.com/ucc/convert.cgi?Amount=1&From=INR&To=EUR&x=35&y=10>

Communications

To make an international call, dial: 00 + country code + area code + telephone number.

To dial into India:

00-91-80-local number (Bengaluru)

00-91-22-local number (Mumbai)

Time Difference

The difference between GMT and IST is +5:30:05 hours. (for country specific details please visit

http://time_zone.tripod.com/timezones2.htm or <http://www.timeanddate.com/time/>

Smoking

Due to legislation, the policy is no smoking in any area of the Workshop. Smoking is, however, allowed on the smoking floors of the hotel.

TOURISM - Useful Contacts Integrated Centre for Tourist Attendance

Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC)

49, 2nd Floor, Khanija Bhavan,
Race Course Road,
Bengaluru 560 001 India
Tel: +91 80 2235 2901
Email: info@karnatakaholidays.net

Karnataka Tourism House

A One-Stop-Shop
No. 8, Papanna Lane, St. Mark's Road,
Bengaluru 560 001 India
Tel: +91 80 4346 4351
Email: kth@karnatakaholidays.net

Badami House

Central Reservation Counter
Opp . Bhruhut Bangalore Mahanagar Palike Office, N.R. Square,
Bengaluru 560 002 India
Tel: +91 80 4334 4334
Fax: 080-4334 4353
(Open on all working days from 10 am to 5 pm.)

General Information about India

India, officially the **Republic of India** is the seventh-largest country in terms of geographical area, the second-most populous country, and the largest democracy in the world. Bounded by the Indian Ocean in the south, the Arabian Sea in the west, the Bay of Bengal in the east and the Himalayas in the north, India is a subcontinent with a 5000-year old history, a civilization representing unity in diversity. India is a republic consisting of 28 states and 7 union territories and one of the fastest growing economies. A pluralistic, multilingual, and multiethnic society, India is also home to a diversity of wildlife in a variety of protected habitats.

Information about Bengaluru

Bengaluru is the state capital of Karnataka in South India. It has pleasant weather throughout the year and because of its lush green cover is known as the “Garden City”. It is a cosmopolitan and multilingual city which welcomes everyone. The city was only known within India till a couple of decades ago and has now found its place in the World Map because of its software industry which has earned it the name “Silicon City”.

Languages

Regional Language: Kannada

Spoken Languages: English, Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Hindi, Urdu.