



May 2010

Applications for Visa for Nuclear Scientists

Dear Applicant,

thank you very much for your interest in visiting the Federal Republic of Germany as a Nuclear Scientist. The following information is meant to explain the process for the appropriate visa application.

All foreign nationals who wish to visit Germany as a Nuclear Scientist require a visa prior to their departure. Applicants residing in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu or Pondicherry have to submit their respective visa applications to the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Chennai. Please note that the place of issue of your passport is of no relevance in this regard.

In order to start the application process, please contact any of the German Application Centers in Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Cochin managed by "VFS Global Services Pvt. Ltd". Please note that you are required to present a complete set of application documents there for a preliminary check.

After the document check an **appointment for the mandatory visa interview** in the German Consulate General in Chennai will be scheduled. **Frequent travellers** (holder of at least two Schengen Visas issued within the last 24 months, at least one of these visas issued by any German Embassy/Consulate worldwide) may submit their applications via an Application Center without scheduling an appointment for a visa interview. This option, however, is not available for first time applicants or applicants with a recent reject from any German Mission. Applications may not be submitted by courier, regular post, fax or e-mail. Please refer to the homepage of the German Consulate General at www.chennai.diplo.de for further information.

For its services "VFS Global Services Pvt. Ltd" is charging a service fee of 607 Rupees (incl. taxes) per application. This fee is not related in any way to the visa fee itself.

After receipt of your visa application the German Consulate General will decide if your application meets the basic criteria for a Nuclear Scientist Visa. In this case your application will be forwarded to the competent office in Germany for approval. Otherwise, you will receive a reject letter. After the competent Office in Germany has notified the German Consulate General in Chennai of its decision, you will be contacted in writing.

This **visa process** might take **up to 4 weeks**. Since all applications will have to be referred to the competent Office in Germany, the Consulate has no influence on the actual processing time. Applications should, therefore, be submitted at least 1 month prior to the intended departure for Germany. Simultaneous applications for visiting visa in order to "bridge" the processing time of the Nuclear Scientist Visa cannot be entertained.

The **Visa Fee** for a Visa for Nuclear Scientists is € 60,-. The visa fee has to be paid in Rupees by **Demand Draft** in the name of the "Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chennai" on the day of application. The Demand Draft must be payable in Chennai and may not be older than two months. Only Demand Drafts from the Indian Bank, Canara Bank, RBS or Deutsche Bank will be accepted. Demand Drafts with incorrect amounts will not be accepted. Fees cannot be paid in cash. Please refer to the homepage of the German Consulate General at www.chennai.diplo.de in order to find out the current amount of the visa fee in Rupees. Please note that the visa fee is **not refundable**, even when the visa is refused.

In order to ensure that your application can be processed without delay, please submit the following mandatory documents:

- valid **Passport** (issued within the last 10 years) at least 3 months validity after return and two empty pages
- **2 Passport Pictures** according to biometric specifications, 1 attached to each application form, 1 loose (For further details regarding biometric specifications of photos please refer to the German Consulate General's homepage at www.chennai.diplo.de)
- **Schengen Visa Application Form** (Please ensure that you signed the form and add your complete Indian address incl. pin code and Tel./Fax/e-mail under your signature.)
- **Declaration on True and Complete Information**, signed and dated
- **Declaration on Travel Health Insurance**, signed and dated
- your **Cover Letter** explaining the reason for your visa application (original)
- **Letter of your Employer**, confirming employment, salary, travel plan and coverage of travel costs (original)
- **Letter of inviting organisation**, in German language confirming invitation and coverage of travel costs / Travel Health Insurance – if applicable (original)
- **Questionnaire (ATOM) and Curriculum Vitae** (typed, Original and one A4 sized copy)
- **flight reservation**, also indicating travel within the Schengen Area (tickets are not necessary)
- **Travel Health Insurance**, validity has to match travel dates (longer validity is recommended)
- **Copy of your passport's data pages** (A4 sized copy)
- **Demand Draft** for Visa Fee

All required forms / declarations as well as this information sheet may be downloaded from the visa page of the German Consulate General's homepage at www.chennai.diplo.de.

Please note that the German Consulate General reserves the right to ask for additional documents in single cases.

Besides, the submission of the above mentioned documents does not guarantee the issue of a visa. Submission of an incomplete set of documentation or refusal to attend the mandatory visa interview will lead to a reject of your visa application.

Even though a visa might have been granted, Border Control Authorities at the port of entry reserve the right to deny entry into the Federal Republic of Germany. Once a visa has been issued, the purpose of the trip may not be altered.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Visa Section of the German Consulate General in Chennai!