



## Indian Association, Geneva

Dear Member,

The Executive Committee of the Indian Association Geneva (IAG) is pleased to present to you its annual report for the year 2019.

The engagement and participation of our members and friends of India reached new heights, all events were well attended and appreciated. During 2019, the membership strength was stable with marginal increase, big THANK YOU for support and believing in us.

### Events

The positive results of the previous two years encouraged us to continue to organize programmes over a course of the year that were popular with the IAG Membership. During 2019, IAG Committee organised or supported 18 events celebrating Indian festivals together with Indian diaspora and friends of India.

IAG Committee would like to extend their gratitude and THANK volunteers Ms. Ruby Butt, Mr. B Aditya Reddy, Ms. Yesha, Ms. Aushee M Gupta, Mr. Sanjeev Vasudeva, Ms. Anindita Ghosh and Mr. Venu Menon for their support during 2019. All events were well received and highly applauded by Indian diaspora and friends of India. Following is the list of events IAG committee organised during 2019:

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Flag Hosting ceremony on Republic Day  | 26 January   |
| 2. Annual General Meeting   | 02 February  |
| 3. India-Switzerland Ayurveda Summit"   | 16 February  |
| 4. Bollywood Night  | 02 March     |
| 5. Conversation with PV Rajagopal, initiator of JaiJagat2020                          | 17 March     |
| 6. Holi, Ugadi, Baisakhi & Easter   | 30 March     |
| 7. Anup Jalota Live in Concert  | 04 May       |
| 8. IAG Charity Event – Laal Batti Express   | 08 June      |
| 9. "What you need to know about Breast Cancer?" Talk by Mrs. Radhika Santhanakrishnan | 16 June      |
| 10. Hindi & Gujarati Daryo by Shri Niranjanbhai Pandya                                | 23 June      |
| 11. Yoga – Power of inclusiveness in conversation with Sadhguru**                     | 27 June      |
| 12. Independence Day  | 15 August    |
| 13. Ganesh Utsav**  | 07 September |
| 14. Masala Coffee – Music Band Live   | 08 September |
| 15. Namaste Geneva 2019 – A culture celebration of Indian culture                     | 21 September |
| 16. Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti  | 02 October   |
| 17. Navratri Celebrations   | 05 October   |
| 18. Diwali, Eid, Gurpurab and Christmas Celebrations                                  | 16 November  |
- \*\*supported events

The highlight of this year was two-fold, firstly we continued our newly introduced **series of talks by eminent persons** in 2018 on the theme of **\*Values and Modernity\*** to inspire and provide tools to deal with modern life challenges (see reference 3,5, 9 and 11 in the event list above). Secondly, in order to improve the quality of events, we had a privilege to host **Anup Jalota in Concert** event and **IAG Charity Event – Laal Batti Express**, life-changing experience theatre drama by Kranti NGO which empowers girls from Mumbai red-light areas to become agents of social change.

This year's Diwali, Eid, Gurburab and Christmas Celebrations was very special with live singing by Amit Sinha and Archana Mahajan, the event was immensely appreciated by members.

IAG committee in collaboration with Permanent Mission of India under the leadership of H.E. Rajiv Kumar Chander, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to UN hosted **Third edition of Namaste Geneva** show casing the rich cultural tradition of India and achievements of modern India was well attended and applauded.

### **Contribution from Permanent Mission of India and Grant-in-aid**

Both Permanent Mission of India and Indian Embassy in Berne over last 3 years has strengthen its role with Indian Association Geneva, Indian diaspora and friends of India in and around Geneva area. We are delighted to share that we have received contribution from PMI, Geneva authorised by H.E. Rajiv Kumar Chander, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to UN of 7069.50 CHF. Another grant of from Indian Embassy in Berne for 2019 is in the transfer process. Both were received to promote culture of India and bring community together.

IAG committee extends its sincere gratitude for an excellent relationship, involvement and support on continuous basis, we look forward to working together with Permanent Mission of India in Geneva and Indian Embassy in Berne.

### **Survey Results**

In December 2019, we requested all our members to participate in a survey to provide their feedback to improve future events and communication. Following are few highlights of the survey:

- **Participation:** 73 out of 248 members participated in the survey. IAG committee is highly appreciative and thankful to all 73 members for providing their valuable feedback.
- **Experience:** 61% members rated "Outstanding (7%) or "Very Good" (54%) experience with events organized by IAG over three years. Whereas 37% members rated "Satisfactory" and 2% "Poor" experience.
- **Member Top 3 most liked events:** "Navratri", "Diwali, Eid, Gurburab and Christmas celebrations" and "Anup Jalota Live in Concert"
- **Member least favoured event:** "Masala Coffee – Music Band Live"
- **Member recommendation on future events:** High orientation is towards Bollywood professional / upcoming singer or artist live concert and performance, followed by Indian classical concert, Musical party/evening, Presentation of prominent Indian guest and speakers, Summer picnic, Separate Diwali and Christmas celebration, Event for local talent, Durga Pooja and Onam, Spiritual events including Yoga, Teaching Indian languages, Ramlila with kids, Regular meet-or-greet or coffee with new members
- **Volunteer:** 64% members willing to volunteer for IAG events. IAG committee look forward to hearing and participation from you
- **Performance:** 14% members would like to perform at IAG events. We request you to please get in touch with IAG committee member.

- **Membership directory:** 58% members prefer to receive only soft copy of membership directory where as 18% members prefer to receive only hard copy. 21% members prefer to receive both hard and soft copy of membership directory and 3% don't want to receive a copy of membership directory.
- **Communication:** one of the suggestions from members is to create additional channel for communication over whatsapp group

Based on the above-mentioned feedback, IAG committee will define actions during 2020 calendar year. In case, members would like to provide further input, you are advised to get in touch with IAG committee members.

### **Sponsorship**

Big thanks to our following sponsors for their continuous support, with their support we were able to publish our Membership directory and upgrade IT infrastructure:

- **Platinum Sponsor:** Hinduja Bank and Small World Money Transfers
- **Gold Sponsor** : Madhura Marche and Restaurant Jardin de Malyar (France)
- **Silver Sponsor** : Jean Logistics Consulting
- **Bronze Sponsor** : King Curry and BrianOBrain

See our website page: <https://indianassociationgeneva.com/sponsors> for additional details

Members can proactively support IAG committee to seek advertisement from companies, small and middle size establishment, restaurants, airlines, educational and creative institutes like to reach our community through advertising in our annual directory, please contact IAG committee for further information.

### **Member Mobile App**

On 1 March 2017, IAG modernize IT infrastructure with an aim to provide seamless experience where an application can take care of reservations and payments for an event in advance with a single click. During 2018, we have launched new Member App. The new app can be download from Apple store "**Wild Apricot**" for members. The new app allows

- **check, modify and maintain** their **profiles** up-to-date, no more manual errors
- **consult Membership directory** at their fingertips
- **send Email** or **Call** to other members
- **book events** and **pay online**, straight through process helps minimizing food wastage and eliminating queues at the venue

This year we almost doubled our online transactions, thereby reducing cash and paper transactions drastically, this shows the trust and intent from our membership in the new online system. We thank all our members for their continuous support in undergoing digital transformation.

### **Financial Report**

A synopsis of the Financial Report is provided below. This year we achieved a strong parity in our planning with a very small excess of income over expenditure. We were able to increase income compared to last year and deliver several more high quality programs staying within the income. This was

all done successfully thanks to the success of our programmes, contribution from Permanent Mission of India and support from various sponsors

<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Excess of Income</b>
CHF 49,785	CHF 49,422	CHF 363

**THANK YOU**

Last but not least, I would like to thank members and their families who have helped us carry out the various programmes and activities. My colleagues in the Executive Committee deserve special thanks for their hard work, dedication and willingness to cooperate and work together.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Maneesh Wadhwa

President – Indian Association Geneva