

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENTS :

WHAT IS THE VOLTAGE OF POWER SUPPLY AVAILABLE ?

230 Volts

WHAT IS THE TYPE OF CONNECTOR PLUGS ARE USED IN INDIA ?

2pin/3pin round connectors are used

TELEPHONE :

HOW TO REACH ACCV ORGANIZERS ?

Please contact the following numbers

(1) 91-40-23001969 and dial the extension for 190.

(2) 91-98494-81652

HOW TO MAKE INTERNATIONAL CALLS AND CALLS WITHIN INDIA ?

There are several manned telephone booths located throughout the city. A display-meter shows the time and the amount of money being charged. The operators of the booth will be eager to help visitors make calls. Also, they usually carry change. You can pay them after the call is made.

HOW TO USE CELLPHONES ?

If you have a tri-band GSM phone, you can use it in India. You may purchase a pre-paid card for the cellphone for extremely low prices (about Rs.150 INR) and purchase talktime at an additional charge depending on your need. You have to provide a photocopy of your passport for identification purposes.

EMAIL AND INTERNET :

ARE THERE ANY INTERNET CAFES ?

Yes. There are several. But internet bandwidth is very low in India. The connectivity at some cafes is very slow. You may use "Reliance WebWorld" - a high-bandwidth internet cafe. At a charge of Rs.100, you get a browsing time of 3 hours.

CAN I ACCESS INTERNET FROM THE CONFERENCE VENUE ?

We shall provide several workstations where you may access the email/web. Wireless access from laptops will be available at a charge from Taj Krishna.

FOOD AND WATER :

WHAT TO EAT ?

Hyderabad is famous for its biryani (a spicy preparation of rice and meat), but that's not all. The traditional Hyderabadi cuisine is both spicy and oily. Several delicacies of meat/poultry/vegetables are available. The Andhra cuisine (from the name of the region) is markedly distinct from the cuisine of the city, but is more fiery and gets as hot as the weather in India.

WHAT NOT TO EAT ?

Most visitors from outside the country avoid eating raw salads and cut fruits from street vendors.

WHAT TO DRINK ?

The tap water in India is not potable in general. Visitors who want to be careful are recommended to drink bottled water (called "mineral-water bottles"). When you visit a shop for some freshly made tropical fruit juices, please request the person to use packaged water for the preparation. Further several popular soft-drinks and soda (Coca-cola, Pepsi etc..) are available in bottles and cans.

WHAT NOT TO DRINK ?

Many visitors believe water is the major source of illness . Typically, the water is not potable. So please avoid drinking water from tumblers and coolers in restaurants, unless if it is UV-purified.

TRAVEL INSTRUCTIONS :

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A VISA ?

All non-Indian citizens are required to have an Indian visa to enter the country. Please apply for a tourist visa. Allow yourself sufficient time (say 2-3 weeks) to procure an appropriate visa from your nearest Indian consulate. You are advised to apply for a visitor visa. Conference visa may require more documentation which some consular officers are known to ask.

Here is a list of the addresses and contact information of several Indian consulates worldwide.

<http://www.highcommissionofindia.com/Thc/Html/indmission.htm>

Here you can find a directory of the websites of Indian Missions.

<http://goidirectory.nic.in/missions.htm>

Please visit this site for more information including an online copy of the application form for Indian visa.

<http://mha.nic.in/visap.htm>

ACCV Secretariat will provide the registration confirmation letter, if required.

Please contact [accv2006 \[at\] iiit.ac.in](mailto:accv2006@iiit.ac.in) .

HOW DO I REACH HYDERABAD BY AIR ?

The participants are strongly advised to make early bookings for the flights in order to avoid the inevitable rush in the Christmas and the holiday season.

Direct International flights to Hyderabad are available from Air India, KLM Lufthansa, Emirates, Kuwait, Sri Lankan Silk Air and Singapore Airlines via Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Dubai, Kuwait, Colombo, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Muscat and many other cities.

Some websites of the airlines are below :

<http://www.airindia.com/>

<http://www.klm.com/>

<http://www.lufthansa.com/>

<http://www.emirates.com/>

<http://www.kuwait-airways.com/>

<http://www.srilankan.aero/>

<http://www.silkair.com/>

<http://www.singaporeair.com/>

Delhi is known to have fog problems in this time of the year. So if the visitors have a choice, they are recommended to opt for flights through Bombay.

You may also take flights to major cities in India – Bombay (Mumbai), New Delhi, Calcutta (Kolkata), Madras (Chennai), from which daily flights to Hyderabad are available. Please visit Indian Airlines, Jet Airways, Air Deccan, Kingfisher Airlines, Go Air airlines and Air Sahara for domestic air services.

Some websites of the domestic airlines are given below :

<http://indian-airlines.nic.in/>
<http://www.jetairways.com/>
<http://www.airdeccan.net/>
<http://www.airsahara.net/>
<http://www.flykingfisher.com/>
<http://www.goair.in/>

LOCAL TRANSPORT :

HOW TO HIRE A PRE-PAID TAXI ?

Metered Taxi services are available throughout the city. The fare is typically Rs.10 per KM with a minimum of Rs. 60 for the first 4 KMs.

The following list of cab services can be reached through telephone.

Call Taxi: +91 40 55316000
Call Cabs: +91 40 55251313
Cel Cabs: +91 40 23242526
Orange Cabs: +91 40 55315555

HOW TO HIRE AUTO RICKSHAWS (TUK-TUKS) ?

These are generally avoidable. But in case of emergency, they are extremely convenient, provided the driver is headed in the same direction as you intend to. The minimum meter is Rs.10/-. Seven seater auto-rickshaws operate in the city periphery and Rs.5/- will get you far and away.

CAN I RENT A CAR ?

Yes, provided you have an international driving license or one which is valid in India.

The following services provide car-rentals.

Akbar Travels +91 (40) 55177777, +91 (40) 55177778
Hertz Travels +91 (40) 55311929

In addition several of such facilities are located throughout the city. The local telephone numbers are 8-digit. Please add 2 in the front if a 7-digit telephone number is mentioned.

<http://www.fullhyderabad.com/scripts/listings.php3?section=CarRentals&subCategoryTitle=Car+Rentals§ionTitle=Auto>

However, we would like to warn you that driving in India is an experience in itself. We recommend to rent for a car with a chauffer (Typically cost less than Rs 2000 or \$40 per day)

WEATHER :

WHAT IS THE TYPICAL RANGE OF TEMPERATURES ?

January is an extremely pleasant time to be in Hyderabad. The temperatures range from 11 degrees to 25 degrees celcius (50 degrees to 77 degrees fahrenheit).

CLOTHING :

SHOULD I BRING ANY PROTECTIVE CLOTHING ?

You may choose to bring a sweater / woolen clothing for use at night time.

SHOULD I TAKE ANY CULTURAL PRECAUTIONS IN DRESSING ?

Indians typically don't wear very skimpy clothes though that is changing in large cities like Hyderabad. Use your

dissertation if you don't want to stand out.

TIME ZONE :

The Indian Standard Time (IST) is observed throughout India and it is 5 1/2 hours ahead of GMT

CURRENCY :

The Indian currency is Rupee (INR). Foreign currency such as US Dollars are not accepted in the local market. So you are advised to consult with a currency exchange, such as Thomas-Cook. They have offices in the Hyderabad airport.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS :

Please contact the organizers in case of any emergency.

(91-40-23001967 ext. 190)

(91-98494-81652)

MEDICAL/HEALTH :

Medical care in most cities in India is excellent and economical. If you need any attention, the hotel will be able to arrange for you to visit a good doctor or have a good doctor visit you in your room. Hospitals such as the ones given below are recommended in the unlikely event that you require some care.

Yashoda Hospitals : 24547070, 24555555, 23319999

(Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad)

Care Hospitals : 6516000, 6517000

(Bhaskara Plaza, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad)

Apollo Hospitals : 23608376, 23607777

(First Floor, Life Sciences, Apollo Hospital Complex

Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad)

LOCAL GEOGRAPHY :

You will receive a simple map of the Hyderabad city in your conference kit which will indicate the important hotels and venues.

The Conference Venue is at Hotel Taj Krishna, and is at the centre of the city, on Road Number 1, Banjara Hills. The welcome reception and tutorials on 13th January are conducted in IIIT, and located 12 KM away in Gachibowli.

The airport is in Begumpet and at 4 KM distance from the conference venue.

LOCAL LANGUAGE DETAILS :

You can use English to communicate with most of the people. However, you are advised to speak slowly and distinctly since Indians are not accustomed to foreign accents.

ACCV TRANSPORT FROM SELECTED HOTELS :

ACCV organizes a pick-up from each of these hotels in the morning (at about 8:00 AM)

Kakatiya Sheraton, Taj Residency, Taj Banjara, Golconda, Mariott, Green Park

Please contact with your hotel reception about the exact timings of the pick-up. You are requested to be present in the hotel lobby at the pick-up time to make it convenient for the fellow attendees.

Attendees staying in IIIT, HCU and Vasant Kuteer will have to start earlier (at around 7:30 AM) Please contact the reception about the exact pick-up time.

You are advised to have your breakfast and early morning tea before you attend the conference in the morning.

ACCV also arranges one trip for drop-back to each of the hotels. Please make yourself available at the end of the conference (at about 6:30 PM) to avail this transport.

LOCAL SPECIALITIES :

Hyderabad, among the largest metropolis of India and the state capital of Andhra Pradesh, has the atmosphere of an Arabian Nights fairy tale with elegant palaces, erstwhile stately homes and crowded bazaars. Hyderabad is attached to its twin city, Secunderbad. The twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderbad are separated by the Husain Sagar, an artificial lake.

The palaces and buildings, houses and tenements, gardens and streets have a history and an architectural individuality of their own, which makes Hyderabad a city of enchantment. Hyderabad has rich history and culture with monuments, mosques, temples, a rich and varied heritage in arts, crafts and dance. The city's important landmarks include Charminar, a 16th century gateway, the Salar Jung Museum which exhibits priceless treasures alongside trivia that made up the personal collection of the owner, Mecca Mosque and Golconda Fort.

You can make use of the packaged tour trips provided by the Tourism Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh. They start at 8:00 AM in the morning and finish by 5:30 PM in the evening.

Location : Central Reservation Office, Tank Bund Road.
Telephone : 23453036, 23450165

Tour (1) : Birla Mandir, Qutb Shahi Tombs, Golconda Fort, Gandipet Reservoir, Salarjung Museum, Charminar & Mecca Masjid, Nehru Zoological Park, Buddha Purnima, Lumbini Park

Tour (2) : Gunfoundry, Paigah Tombs, Asmangadh, Malakpet, Dilsukhnagar, Salarjung Museum, Charminar & Mecca Masjid, State Archeological Museum