

# 'Germany a favoured destination for students'

**HT Correspondent**

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MEMBERS OF Germany-based Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation (AVHF) and Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) visited the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-K) as a part of a goodwill mission on Saturday. The members had a meeting with the office bearers and the members of the Humboldt Club at the Institute.

Members included Uirich Podewils (DAAD) and Dr Gerrit Limberg (AVHF). Dr Gerold Heinrichs from International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research Germany was also accompanying the team.

Talking to newsmen, the members of the two organisations said that as a result of increasing International academic mobility, the number of foreign students enrolled in German Institutions of Higher Education has reached a record number of 246334 in the

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Members said that after the USA and the UK, Germany was the third important destination for global students. The universities of applied sciences have experienced an increase in enrollment of foreign students. They said that Germany continued to attract not only American students but Indian students as well.

academic year 2004-5. This adds up to a total of 12.5 per cent foreign students.

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Indian students.

In the past four years, the number of Indians studying in Germany has increased three times and has risen from 1412 in 2001 to 4249 in 2005. After China and Republic of Korea, India was the third largest Asian country which sent a large number of students to Germany.

The members said the number of Indian students studying in Germany was expected to increase further in future. U Podewils said, "It is not the quantity that counts, our object is to attract only the brightest students."

The members will visit JNU, Delhi University and Banaras Hindu University. The President of the Humboldt Club De S Sircar, Secretary Dr RP Singh treasurer Dr Vankar and the member Dr Gautam Biswas greeted the distinguished members. The Club at IIT-K has about thirty three members.