

Press Release

Centenary celebrations of Indology in Hamburg

Celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of Indology studies in Hamburg were held on November 15, 2014 at the University of Hamburg. The event started with a symposium on the history of Indology in Germany followed by the inaugural ceremony at which Dr. Dorothee Stapelfeldt, Second Mayor and Senator for Science and Research was the Chief Guest. H.E. Mr. Vijay Gokhale, Ambassador of India and Prof. Susanne Rupp, Vice President, University of Hamburg were also present during the function. In her speech, Dr. Stapelfeldt appreciated the role of Indology in broadening the knowledge and understanding of the societies and cultures of India. Ambassador Gokhale emphasized that Indology has united the studies of ancient, medieval and modern India and has contributed to better understanding of India in Germany. Subsequently, Prof. Alexis Sanderson from University of Oxford and Prof. Dr. Monika Boehm-Tettelbach from University of Heidelberg gave their presentations on various aspects of Indology. A podium discussion on the role of South Asian Research in the present and future was held thereafter which was moderated by Dr. Hans-Georg Wieck, Hon. President of German-India Society and former Ambassador of Germany to India. Ambassador Gokhale along with other Ambassadors/Representatives of South Asian region as well as representatives of Chamber of Commerce, Museum of Ethnology, German Asia-Pacific Business Association etc participated in the podium discussion. The day ended with various cultural programmes including North Indian classical music, Bengali Folk dance and Bollywood dance. Around 300 people in and around Hamburg attended the entire event.

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