

**Press Release**

**Meeting of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa with H.E. Dr Martin Ney, Ambassador of Germany to India.**

The Ambassador of Germany Dr Martin Ney called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Selvi J Jayalalithaa at the Secretariat on 19.7.2016. Dr Martin Ney congratulated Hon'ble Chief Minister on her resounding victory in the Assembly Election and on assumption of office as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for a historic second consecutive term. Dr Martin Ney appreciated the expeditious action taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu in restoring normalcy after the unprecedented floods in December, 2015. Dr Ney mentioned that he visited the Volkswagen plant on the outskirts of Chennai in January, 2016, and was impressed to see how quickly the recovery had been effected.

The German Ambassador highlighted that in India, Tamil Nadu has the biggest portfolio of projects implemented with KfW assistance. The Ambassador indicated the keenness of Germany to extend assistance to the Smart City Project to be implemented in Coimbatore. The Ambassador stated that a delegation including business leaders would be visiting Coimbatore on 20.7.2016 to have further detailed discussions with the Mayor and other officials of Coimbatore City.

The Ambassador also highlighted the existing areas of co-operation between Tamil Nadu and Germany in New and Renewable Energy including establishing the Green Energy Corridor, Intra State transmission system and other urban infrastructure including storm water drainage and sewerage systems, urban mobility and transportation.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister highlighted that the efforts taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu in effectively maintaining law and order and ensuring social peace contributed significantly to making Tamil Nadu a favoured investment destination. Hon'ble Chief Minister mentioned that a number of German and other multinational automobile companies were pioneers in investing in Tamil Nadu and have contributed to making Tamil Nadu India's automobile hub.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked the German Government for the assistance extended to various projects in Tamil Nadu by KfW and the continued investment by German companies in Tamil Nadu. Hon'ble Chief Minister assured the German delegation that Tamil Nadu would continue to extend its full co-operation for German investment in the State. Hon'ble Chief Minister requested the continued co-operation and support of Germany for various developmental projects in Tamil Nadu.

The Ambassador of the Germany was accompanied by Dr (Mrs.) Gabriele Ney, Ms. Annette Baessler, Counsellor, Embassy, New Delhi, Mr. Wolfgang Mueller, Acting Consul General and Ms. Priya Ramamurthi, German Language Specialist, German Consulate. Dr. P. Rama Mohana Rao I.A.S., Chief Secretary to Government, Tmt Sheela Balakrishnan, I.A.S., (Retd.) Adviser to Government, Thiru Shiv Das Meena, IAS., Principal Secretary to Government, Public Department were present.

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