

Honourable Minister of State (Independent Charge)  
Mr Srikant Kumar Jena, M.P.  
Ireland Visit  
August 20-23, 2011

Mr Srikant Kumar Jena Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, who also holds additional charge for Chemicals & Fertilizers, was on a four day visit to Ireland from 20-23 August, 2011. He was accompanied by a delegation comprising Additional Secretary, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Mr Pankaj Jain, Director General of the Statistics Mr S. K. Das, and his Private Secretary Mr Rajesh Agarwal. The Minister's visit/meetings arranged, coordinated and facilitated by the Ireland-India Council.

20<sup>th</sup> August, 2011

The Minister and his team of delegates have been received by the Committee of Ireland-India Council (IIC) at the Dublin Airport and cordially welcomed with traditional Indian greetings. In honour of the Minister Jena and his delegation an evening reception and dinner was hosted by IIC. Delivering the welcoming speech, Chair of the IIC Mr John Kearns welcomed the Minister and his delegation at IIC centre, Dublin. Mr Kearns spoke about the IIC's work in fostering links between Ireland and India. Minister Jena in his speech talked about the historical connections, economic and trade opportunities between Ireland and India and he extended his and Indian government's support to IIC in further promoting educational, scientific, cultural and commercial links between Ireland and India.

21<sup>st</sup> August, 011

Minister and his delegation visited Kilkenny, a famous and historical city in Ireland, where he was received by the Mayor of the Kilkenny Cllr. David Fitzgerald and Mr Joe Crockett, County Manager of the Council of Kilkenny Borough Council and Kilkenny County Council. Mayor and County Manager escorted the Minister and delegation for a tour of Kilkenny Castle, Tour Guide Mr John Walsh told the Minister that castle was built for William Marshal, 4th Earl of Pembroke during the first decade of the thirteenth

century and became the principal Irish residence of the powerful Butler family for almost 600 years. Mayor Cllr. David Fitzgerald hosted the lunch.

County Manager Mr Joe Crocket escorted the Minister to Nicholas Mosse Pottery. The owner of the pottery Nick arranged factory trip and exhibited the Minister about the designing and printing of the pot. Minister Jena himself designed one pot.

22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2011

Minister Jena met Lord Mayor of Dublin Cllr. Andrew Montague in the morning and discussed historical links between Ireland and India, Lord Mayor and Minister discussed local governance system of both countries.

Minister Jena gave a talk on “Data Collection in Emerging Economies: Challenges and Prospects” at Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School. Minister Jena described the importance of data saying “If something cannot be measured it cannot be controlled and if it cannot be controlled, then it cannot be managed well”. Minister also talked about Indian statistical system. Answering a questions from audience, The Minister emphasised the need for an initiative to focus on Irish-Indian educational, business and management exchange programmes. He suggested that Irish Institutions may develop institutional links with India. Minister was received by Professor Ciarán Ó’hÓgartaigh, Dean of the Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School and Mr Prashant Shukla, Director of Ireland India Council.

In the afternoon Minister Srikant Kumar Jena visited Dublin City University. President of the DCU Professor Brian MacCraith, received the Minister and delegation. In his presentation President MacCraith informed the Minister about his India strategy and emphasised his keen interest to further develop DCU’s partnership with Indian institutions.

Minister’s third engagement of the day was the presentation of the 2011 Mahalanobis Award to Professor Victor Yohai of Argentina, in a ceremony organised at convention centre in Dublin. This award ceremony was organised by the International Statistics Institute in the side-line of 58<sup>th</sup> world statistics congress. Professor Yohai, Emeritus Professor of the University of Buenos Aires, is internationally recognized as an outstanding scientist, a generous teacher and one of the leading experts in Robust Statistics. He has provided a lifetime of ground breaking contributions to the fields of mathematical and computational Statistics with an enormous

knowledge, also beyond his main themes of research. Professor Yohai's impressive body of research includes fundamental advances in statistical thinking and numerous technical breakthroughs that span over forty years.

23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2011

In the morning at 9.30 am Minister Mr Srikant Kumar Jena called on to the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government of Ireland, Mr Phil Hogan, TD. Both Ministers discussed range of issues, especially to enhance economic and commercial exchanges between two countries.

Minister also received presentations from Mr Barry Brennan, Director, Glanbia Ingredients and Mr Gerard Keenan, Group Executive Chairman of Keenan True Technology in context of their plans to enter in Indian market.

••••

Filename: Report on Mr Srikant Kumar Jena Minister of State Ireland Visit  
Directory: C:\Users\User\Desktop\Jena  
Template: C:\Users\User\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dot  
m  
Title: Mr Srikant Kumar Jena Minister of State (Independent Charge) for  
Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, who also holds  
additional charge for Chemicals & Fertilizers, was on a four day visit to Ireland from 20-  
23 August, 2011  
Subject:  
Author: User  
Keywords:  
Comments:  
Creation Date: 26 August 2011 10:21:00  
Change Number: 9  
Last Saved On: 26 August 2011 18:37:00  
Last Saved By: User  
Total Editing Time: 47 Minutes  
Last Printed On: 26 August 2011 18:43:00  
As of Last Complete Printing  
Number of Pages: 3  
Number of Words: 774 (approx.)  
Number of Characters: 4,414 (approx.)