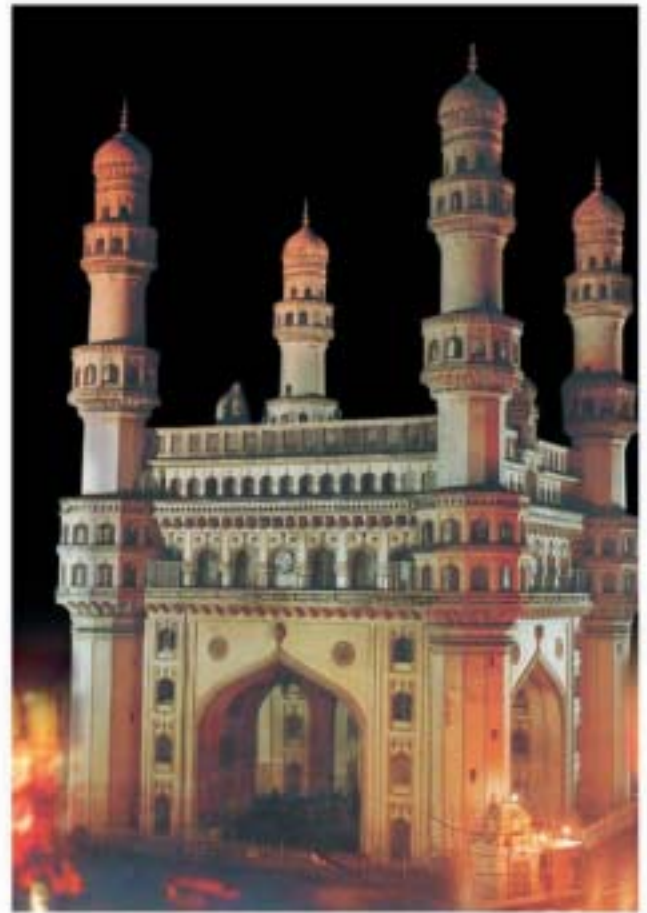


Living in Hyderabad



Hyderabad is one of the fastest growing cities in India with a wealth of cultural and intellectual activities. The city is cosmopolitan, and is richly endowed with a variety of cultures. The city presents an attractive blend of old world charm together with the ebullience of growth and enterprise. Graceful mosques, ornate palaces, brisk bazaars and grand forts rub shoulders with large glass and chrome temples of commerce and technology.

Hyderabad offers a mix of tradition and progress with an easy, pleasant lifestyle. It has a good standard of living, while the cost of living is comparatively lower than most Indian cities. Hyderabad has excellent telecommunications network, reliable public transport and is well connected to other parts of the country by rail, air and road. An administrative and commercial center and a transportation hub, the city has well developed educational, health care and recreational and entertainment facilities.

The Hyderabadi culture is rich and varied, and the people are gracious, warm and hospitable. Hyderabad is renowned for its pearls, glass bangles and cuisine. Hyderabad is a multilingual city. The state language is Telugu but many are conversant in Hindi and Urdu also. English is now commonly spoken in Hyderabad.

Hyderabad is at an altitude of 536 metres with mean summer temperature going upto a maximum of 42 degrees Celsius and the minimum average temperature being around 22 degrees. The maximum winter temperature is around 22 degrees Celsius with the minimum going down to around 12 degrees. Light woollens are required during early mornings and late evenings, in winter. The rainy season has moderate rains between July to September and is manageable.

Hyderabad offers housing for all budgets. Students can either rent houses/flats/rooms or stay as a paying guest. The city offers a choice between furnished and unfurnished places, and short term and long term rentals. The quality of housing varies. You can find old, traditional colonial houses, but these are rare and expensive. They also require a lot of upkeep and staff. Apartments, both low rise and high rise, are the most common and most economical. Students generally prefer to rent out single rooms or share an apartment with other students.

Rents vary according to the location in the city, number of bedrooms and condition of the house/flat. It is hard to get accurate data on rental prices. An informal survey of accommodation facilities in Hyderabad indicates that the rent for middle income apartments and houses are in the range of Rs. 2500 to 6000 per month within the city. Single rooms with attached bathrooms will cost between Rs. 1000 and 2500. Paying guest facilities are available with or without meals in the range of Rs. 1500 to 3000. Rentals are cheaper in the suburbs.

The rental process is usually straightforward. Houses and rooms are rented to companies or individuals on an 11 month basis with a lease agreement. A rental deposit is standard and the deposit expected equals 2 or 3 months of the rent. The lease usually specifies an annual increase of, say, 10 percent.

To ensure that students have somewhere to stay on arrival, the Institute will arrange temporary accommodation in budget hotels. Students are responsible for paying the full cost of their temporary accommodation, which can range from Rs. 250 to Rs. 300 per day. The Housing Assistant at the Institute will be able to assist students with their housing needs. For more details contact:

Mr. Ajay Shinde,

Housing Assistant.

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