

Sex Worker Freedom Festival - Information for IAC 2012, Kolkata

1. The Venue

The Sex Worker Freedom Festival will take place at venue called Swabhumi. It is located in Outer East Kolkata <http://www.swabhumi.com/home.html>

Address: See Map 1 (below)

Swabhumi (the Heritage Plaza)
Eastern Metropolitan Bypass,
89C Moulana Abul Kalam Azad Sarani,
Formerly Narkeldanga Main Road Opposite Subhas Sarobar,
Kolkata 700 054,
Email: swabhumi@vsnl.com

2. Hotels

The following hotels are all located within a 20 minute taxi journey of the Swabhumi.

Name	Location	Distance from Swabhumi (Car)	Quality	Contact details
Hotel Hyatt Regency	Closest to Swabhumi	Walking distance	5 Star	Tel: +91 33 23351234 Fax: +91 33 23351235 Email: Sneha.Das@hyatt.com or kolkata.regency@hyatt.com Website: www.kolkata.regency.hyatt.com
The Hyatt Regency is offering a discounted rate of 8,500INR + 22.36% tax (10,401INR) for a double room including buffet breakfast and free wi-fi. Please quote code: NSWP1				
The Pearl Hotel	Opposite Stadium	Walking distance	High End	Tel: +91 33 23639797 Mobile: +91 9830917999 Email: sales@thepearlhotels.com
Hotel The Sojourn	Next to AMRI	5 minutes	High End	Tel: +91 33 23351462 (6 lines) / 2208 / 2209 Fax: +91 33 23351590 Email: info@hotelthesojourn.com
The Stadel	Opposite AMRI	5 minutes	High End	Tel: +91 33 23357220 Fax: +91 33 23357219 Email: info@thestadel.com
Udayachal Tourist Lodge	Salt Lake City	15 minutes	Budget	Tel: +91 33 23378246 / 23589347
Indismart Hotel	Salt lake city	16 mins	3 star	Tel: +91 33 23577550 / 59 Tel: +91 33 40101350 Fax: +91 33 23577735 Email: sales@indismart.in
Landmark Hotel	Science city	11 mins	3 star	Tel: +91 33 23455434/5/6/7 Email: landmarkhotel@sify.com or reservations@landmarkhotel.in
Sonnet Hotel	Salt Lake city	10 mins	4 star	Tel: +91 33 66339000 Fax: +91 33 66339000 Email: reservations.kol@thesonnet.com

3. Currency

- The currency in India is the Indian Rupee (INR). Symbol ₹
- Average Rate: 1USD = 51.7 INR (₹)
 1EUR = 67.75 INR (₹)
- For more currency information see: <http://www.xe.com/ucc>

4. Visa

Indian Visa requirements vary - for most countries a visa is required prior to travelling, and there is normally a visa fee. Participants should contact the India consulate in your country to establish what you need to do to get an Indian visa. Remember you will need a valid passport to apply for a Visa. The DMSC have applied to the Indian government for a meeting registration number to facilitate visa applications – delegates will be provided with the code when their registration is confirmed..

More information regarding visa requirements can be found on this website.

<http://www.projectvisa.com/>

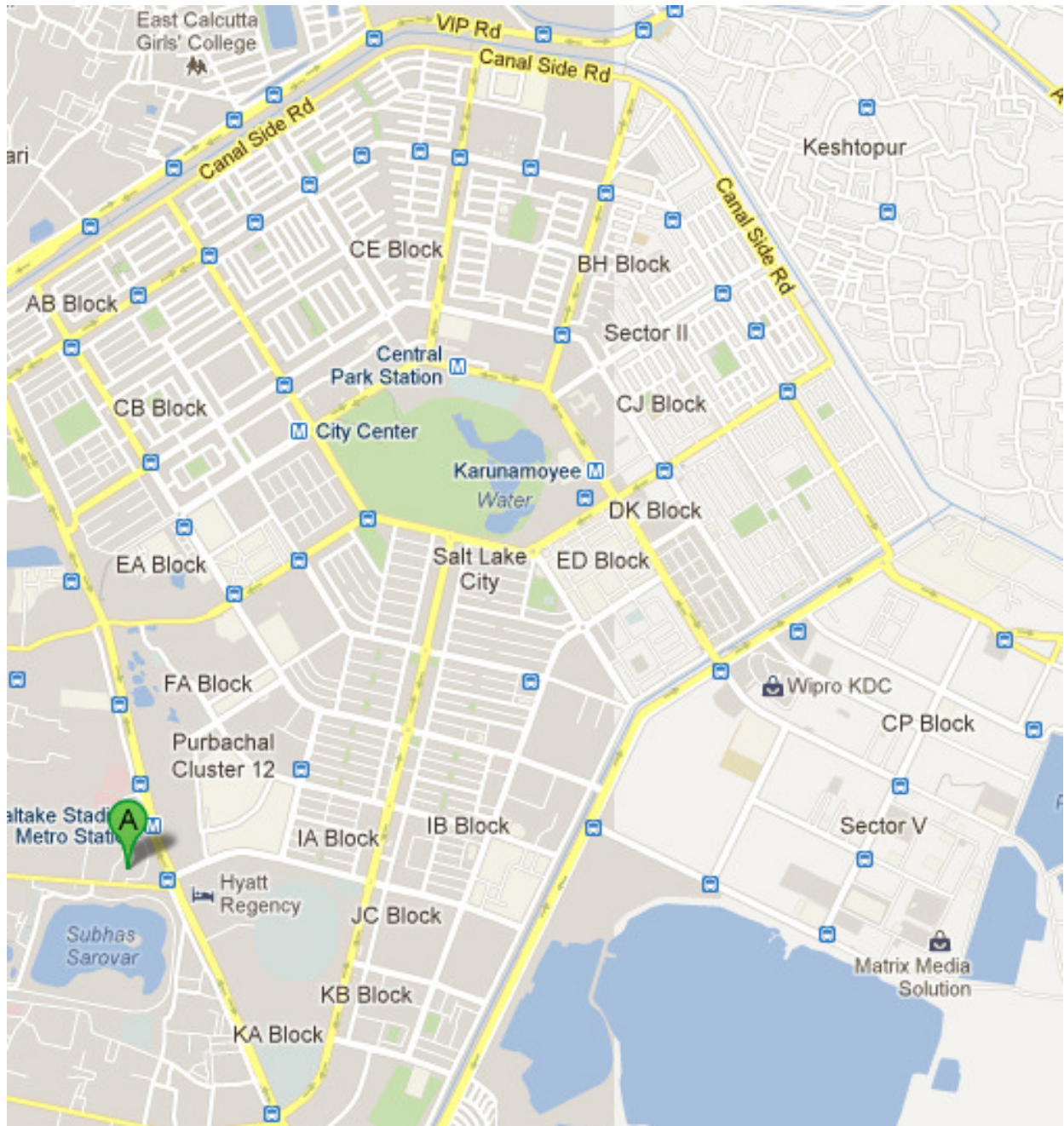
5. Climate

The average temperature in July will be 30C and humidity is very high. The monsoon season is between June and September so in July there will be heavy rainfall so bring your red umbrella.

6. Airport transport

Unless you have an airport transfer arranged to your hotel you can take the 'pre-paid' taxis from the airport – you pay at the airport before getting in the cab. Regretfully we do not have details on this but it is available at the airport.

Map 1 – showing Swabhumi Centre and surrounding area.



Salt Lake City, Kolkata

Additional Information provided by DMSC

It is just days away when you shall start your journey from your 'sweet Home' to Kolkata, 'the City of Joy', 'the City of XIX International AIDS Conference Hub', 'the City of Sex Workers' Freedom Festival'. Kolkata, previously known as Calcutta, is the Cultural Capital of India, is also the Capital of West Bengal (a province / state in India). It is the 'Home' to the World famous Bengali Sweets – Rasogolla and Misti Dahi (Sweet Curd). Do not forget to taste these when you are here and if you like them please carry back some for your relatives and friends in your country.

At present it is the Monsoon Season over here and please do not forget to carry your Umbrella or Rain Coat as it would be very necessary. You will see yellow colored 'Cab' (Taxi) which you might use to travel to different places if you like to visit any of your friends or relatives in Kolkata or you would like to see some important places. When you get up in a 'Cab', the meter will show 10.00 and after getting down at your place of destination the fare calculation is very easy, it is just twice the amount that is on the meter and then add 2.00 with it. This is in Indian Currency. They do not accept any foreign currency. The Electricity Voltage in Kolkata is 220V / 240V and we have both two and three pin plugs.

On behalf of the Organising Committee we hope you have got the requisite VISA and you are ready for the go. In case if you need any assistance please let us know at the earliest so that we may try to sort it out.

Welcome to the City of Kolkata.