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MARKET STATS

संसेक्स	33,261 ▲ 42.68
निफ्टी 50	10,312 ▲ 9.00
सोना (एमसीएक्स) (₹/10 ...)	29,504.00 ▼ -31.00
यूएसडॉलरभारतीय ...	64.90 ▼ -0.05

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Applying for a Schengen visa? You don't need an agent, just keep these points in mind

BY ET CONTRIBUTORS | UPDATED: OCT 03, 2017, 04:06 PM IST

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By Shikhar Aggarwal

Today, Europe stands as a premier dream destination for Indians to visit, hence in the recent years, the demand for **Schengen visa** for Indian passport holders has risen at a rapid scale. As per the statistics from the Internal Migration and Affairs of the European Commission, more than 700,000 applications for Schengen visas were submitted by Indians in 2015.

For the uninitiated, a schengen visa is the document issued to any individual looking to visit any region within the Schengen states. The Schengen area is comprised of 26 countries that have agreed to allow free movement of their citizens within this area as a single country. Of the 26 countries bound by the Schengen agreement, 22 are part of the European Union (EU) and the other 4 are part of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

The countries in the Schengen area include Spain, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

A Schengen visa is an authorisation issued for:

- Transit through or an intended stay in the territory of the Schengen states for a duration of no more than 90 days in 180 days period (short stay visa).
- Transit through the international transit areas of airports of the Schengen states (Airport transit visa)



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