

Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre (ASCC)
Embassy of India
Budapest

(Press Release)

**Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre celebrates the World Day for Cultural
Diversity for Dialogue and Development**

(28 May 2024) Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre (ASCC), Embassy of India, Budapest, organized a special cultural evening titled “अनेकता में एकता-Unity in Diversity” to commemorate the ‘World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development’.

The celebrations, held at the ASCC premises, commenced with a warm welcome by the Director of ASCC, Dr. Mukesh Kumar Srivastava. The event was inaugurated by the Ambassador of India, His Excellency Mr Partha Satpathy, who emphasized the importance of “Cultural Unity”. He highlighted that ‘one facet of diplomacy is that it is like an orchestra, which has different instruments with different tuning, yet when they are synchronized, we hear the symphony’. He further added, ‘In the context of diplomacy, culture is a conductor as it is not transient; it does not change with politics or economics. It defines the character of the country, and it identifies the countries. Therefore, culture when it is used as a plank in diplomacy can yield wonderful results.’ A notable highlight of the program was his recorded song, “Mile Sur Mera Tumhara, To Sur Bane Hamara” (When our music merges, it becomes a melody), which was played during his speech, symbolizing harmony and unity through music.

Following the inauguration, ASCC presented a captivating cultural program. The program began with the performance by two times Guinness World Record Holder, Pianist Mr. Thurzó Zoltán, who also played the National Anthem of India. The performances, which included a variety of Indian music and dance, showcased the vibrant essence of Indian cultural heritage.

The program was not only a testament to ASCC’s efforts to display the beauty and diversity of Indian culture, but a unique blend of intercultural performances, including Hungarian Folk dance and fusion of Indian dance

form, Bharatanatyam and Spanish Flamenco, demonstrating how cultural diversity enriches relations between and among countries.

The cultural evening was attended by several Ambassadors, Cultural Directors representing different countries, senior officials of the Hungarian Government, former diplomats, journalists, artists, members of Indian Diaspora, and India lovers.
