EMBASSY OF INDIA, BUDAPEST

भारत का राजदूतावास, ब्डापेस्ट



JANUARY 2021

REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA CELEBRATED IN HUNGARY AND BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA



The 72nd Republic Day of India was celebrated at the Embassy premises on 26 Jan 2021. The programme started with the unfurling of national flag by Ambassador Kumar Tuhin followed by the singing of national anthem. Ambassador read the President's Address to the Nation on the eve of the Republic Day. A vibrant cultural programme was presented, consisting of a fusion of Tabla with Handpan, Patriotic Songs sung by members of the Indian community and two Indian fusion dance performances by Hungarian artists. Ambassador also felicitated the two Hungarian winners of the '*Incredible India dance contest'*



held recently. The entire programme was live streamed on the Embassy's social media pages to enable the members of the Indian community and



friends of India to virtually join the celebrations (due to pandemic, physical participation at the Embassy was restricted). Republic Day programme video can be seen at this link on Embassy's Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/IndiaInHungary/videos/551694749121574 Later in the day, a mesmerising musical extravaganza of Bosnian artists of 'Association of Artists Bellart' who performed on popular Hindi songs was also live streamed; well Known opera singer of Bosnia Ms. Aida Corbadzic was



one of them. See this performace on Embassy's YouTube at https://youtu.be/GOGMaUL7cic.

Republic Day 2021 picture album is here https://www.facebook.com/pg/IndiaInHungary/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1526988647490630

INDIA HUNGARY FOREIGN OFFICE CONSULTATION



The 10th round of India-Hungary Foreign Office Consultations was held on January 19, 2021 in Budapest. The Indian delegation was led by Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Vikas Swarup and the Hungarian side was led by Dy. State Secretary for development of Eastern Relations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Dr. András Baranyi. The Indian delegation also called on Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade H.E, Mr. Péter Szijjártó.

There was a discussion on respective national approaches to mitigate the impact of covid 19



pandemic and on vaccines. The Hungarian side conveyed that they have initiated the process to join the International Solar Alliance and hoped it would be completed at an early date.

The Press Release issued by the Embassy is at: https://www.eoibudapest.gov.in/newsImage/1612194341 3104 Press%20Release English corrected.pdf

FOREIGN SECRETARY OF INDIA WRITES OPINION PIECE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Foreign Secretary of India Shri Harsh V. Shringla wrote an opinion piece on climate change, inter alia, stating that five years after the Paris Agreement, India is among the few developing countries that are not

only meeting their "green" targets but are aspiring to more ambitious climate goals. Full article is available



at the link below:

 $\frac{https://www.eoibudapest.gov.in/docs/9adae869b7f87e}{ade3d0ac4073d7e84e19b4bd4d.pdf}$

INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL ON OBN TV IN BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

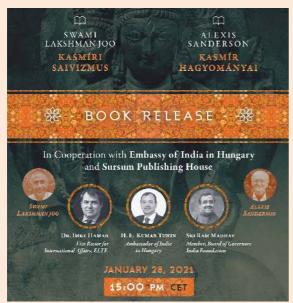
OBN TV Channel of Bosnia and Herzegovina launched the Indian Film Festival on its channel with the superhit film 'SAAHO' followed by 'Indu Sarkar' by well know director from India, Madhur Bhandarkar, and 'Thinking of Him' on Rabindra Nath Tagore. This year due to the pandemic the festival was launched on TV channels of Hungary and BiH continuing the tradition to bring critically acclaimed Indian films to a wider audience.



BOOKS RELEASED ON SHAIVISM IN KASHMIR

This month saw two important books on 'Shaivism in Kashmir' released in the Hungarian language. The books were written by notable scholar & mystic Swamy Laxman Joo as well as treatises on Shaivism by indologist & writer Alexis Sanderson. In an online event in collaboration with the Sursum Publications of Hungary, Ambassador Kumar Tuhin together with the guests of

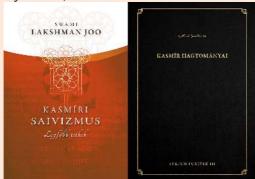
honour Sri Ram Madhav, Member Board of Governor, India Foundation and Dr. Imre Hamar, Vice Rector of ELTE University released the books in the presence of the translators & editors. The



event also had Sanskritologist Dezső Csaba who spoke at length on his study of Shaivism and its development in the $20^{\rm th}$ century. The books



'Shaivism in Kashmir' by Swamy Laxman Joo and 'Kasmir Hagyomanyai' by Alexis Sanderson have been translated by Zoltan Laki and Zsolt Repasi. The event was made more colourful by films & musical presentations by artists Panni Somi, Dr. Chirayu Bhole, Gabor Korosi and Tomas Nemeth.



https://youtu.be/1ZXQ-qOhN0E

SECOND EPISODE OF INDIA HUNGARY DIALOGUE

On Jan 26th, the second episode of India Hungary Dialogue was streamed live. Ambassador Kumar Tuhin had a conversation with Dr. Péter Sztáray, State Secretary for Security Policy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade on a wide range of issues, covering in particular the economic and trade relations between the two countries.



The interview can be watched at https://youtu.be/iEWh56z930g

PROVISIONS RELATING TO FARMERS IN BUDGET 2021 OF GOVT OF INDIA





NITI Aayog papers on understanding the implications of India's New Farm Laws can be seen at

https://www.eoibudapest.gov.in/docs/200aec855 d5d91a5f86b5dd3ca3ba02cc88032b0.pdf

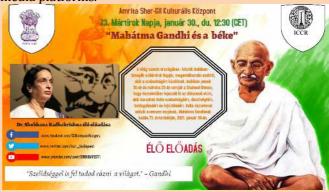
ACTIVITIES OF CULTURAL CENTRE

Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre organized a colourful New Year Virtual dance & music programme followed by the Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas and Vishwa Hindi Diwas celebrations that were conducted virtually by the Centre. Messages, Poetry Recitation and special webinars by the Hindi course teachers and students marked the World Hindi Day on Jan 9th.

In Bosnia & Herzegovina, Virtual Yoga Course was launched which witnessed a huge response from all over the country from cities like Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Mostar etc., took place. The course has been launched in collaboration with the Bosnia-India Friendship Society with the active support of its President, Dunja Masic. Local yoga teacher Velida Tupković Salihović is conducting the classes according to the common yoga protocol of the Ayush Ministry.

On Jan 30th, marking the Martyr's Day, live streaming of lecture 'Tryst with Destiny' by Dr.

Shobhna Radhakrishna was done on all Embassy social media platforms.



PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS

The 16th edition of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention was held virtually on 9th January 2021.



PBD Convention had three segments. It was inaugurated by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and featured a keynote address by the Chief Guest, H.E. Mr. Chandrikapersad Santokhi, Hon'ble President of the Republic of Suriname. The winners of the online Bharat ko Janiye Quiz for the youth were announced. The list of PBD Samman 2021 awards can be seen at the link:

https://mea.gov.in/press-

releases.htm?dtl/33381/Pravasi Bharativa Samman Aw ards2021

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