

AMRIT

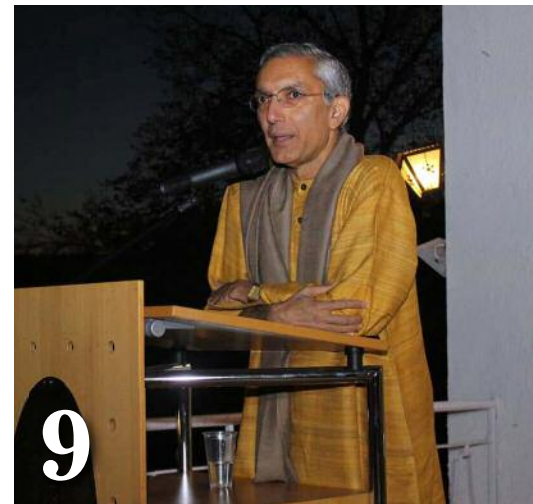
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आज़ादी

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Contents



Bilateral	3
Culture	10
Feature	16
Yoga Corner	18
Children's Corner	19

AMRIT

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Visit to Bijeljina



LEFT: Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra at the medieval Tavna Monastery in Bijeljina.

RIGHT: Ambassador in meeting with Mr. Milorad Dodik, President of the Republika Srpska

Upon the invitation of Mayor Mico Micic, Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra visited Bijeljina to celebrate the Festival of St. Panteleimon's Day, the central event of the year for the people of the city in Bosnia.

Ambassador called upon Mayor Micic to discuss the possible avenues of cultural and economic cooperation between the two nations, to inform him about the scholarship spots India offers annually to Bosnian citizens. Ambassador Chhabra attended the Mayor's official reception for members of the visiting delegations. As part of the Festivities, Ambassador paid his tribute at the Fallen soldiers monument and along with Mrs. Kavita

Chhabra attended the St. Panteleimon's spiritual evening and the concert of local musicians. The next day started with the Liturgy in St. George Church and a procession through the streets in the City center with political leaders, public figures, visiting delegations and members of the orthodox church attending. The spiritual programme concluded with the ceremony of breaking the ritual bread.

Despite the fully-packed agenda of their stay in Bijeljina, Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra had a chance to visit the medieval Tavna Monastery, the St. Paraskeva Monastery and also the Ethno-village complex 'Stanisic', which is one of the main tourist attractions of the city. ■

INDEPENDENCE DAY OF INDIA

On the Day of Independence, 15 August the morning started with the ceremonious flag hoisting and the singing of the national anthem with the guests forming a harmonious choir all singing Jana Gana Mana together. Following the opening, Ambassador read out aloud Hon'ble President's Message to the Nation.

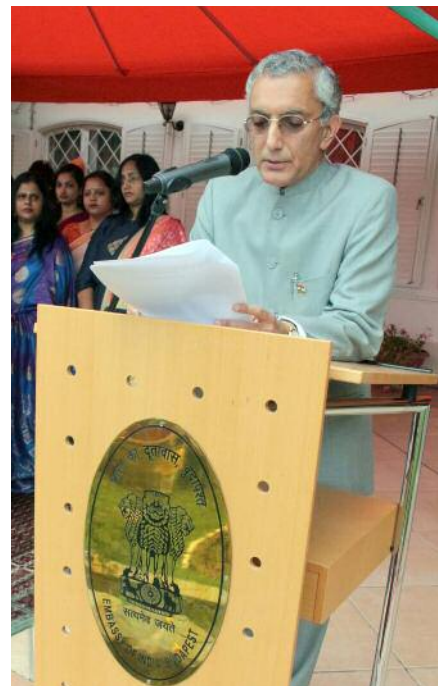
In his personal speech, Ambassador greeted all the people gathered in the garden of the Residence and expressed his great pride and happiness over seeing so many fellow

countrymen and—women and friends of India coming together to celebrate this joyous occasion. Furthermore, he gave an overview of the successful work achieved by the Mission over the past year. He specifically highlighted the immensely popular events of the 3rd Ganga-Danube Cultural Festival and 4th International Day of Yoga Celebrations in no less than 22 cities of Hungary organised in June this year. Ambassador also announced that finishing his 3 years of tenure in Budapest, he is leaving the country in October.

With members of the local Indian community; from



LEFT: Ambassador leading the choir in singing the National Anthem.



RIGHT: Ambassador reading Hon'ble President's message to the Nation

businessmen to students, friends and family, and also friends of India from the business associates to various ambassadors of all fields of Indian culture, over 100 people attended the

ceremony. The press corps was also present to later report on the event. The programme ended with light refreshments and soft drinks. ■

Former PM of India passed away



Condolence book at the Embassy

The Embassy of India announces with profound sorrow the passing away of Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister of India on August 16, 2018 in New Delhi, India. The Republic of India observed seven days of state mourning from August 16 to 22, 2018. ■

Sadhbhavna Diwas Pledge



Members of the Mission reading the pledge

Ambassador administered the Sadhbhavna Diwas pledge to all India based staff of the Mission on 17 August, since the 20th was closed holiday for the Mission. ■

Installation of Biometrics System



Ambassador meeting Mr. Prashant Dwivedi NIC-Scientist

Ambassador Rahul Chhabra and Prashant Dwivedi NIC-Scientist, who visited Embassy of India, Budapest for the installation of Biometrics system for the visa applicants and has successfully started the system on 24 August. ■

India participated at World Boxing Championship

The Indian Boxing Team from Boxing Federation of India (BFI) participated in the AIBA Youth Women's & Men's World Championship held in Budapest from August 21 to August 31, 2018 at the Duna Aréna venue.

His Excellency Rahul Chhabra, Ambassador of India to Hungary and Bosnia & Herzegovina along with his wife, Mrs. Kavita Chhabra visited Duna Aréna to cheer on the sportsmen and –women representing their nation. Concluding the day of tournaments, they also met the members of the delegation. The participants were encouraged by the personal presence of His Excellency during the boxing bouts.

We are pleased to announce that the Indian boxing contingent at the AIBA Youth Championship put up a commendable performance winning a total of 10 medals. The women boxers won a total of 2 gold, 2 silver & 2 bronze, while the men boxers won 4 bronze. ■



Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra with the Indian Boxing Team



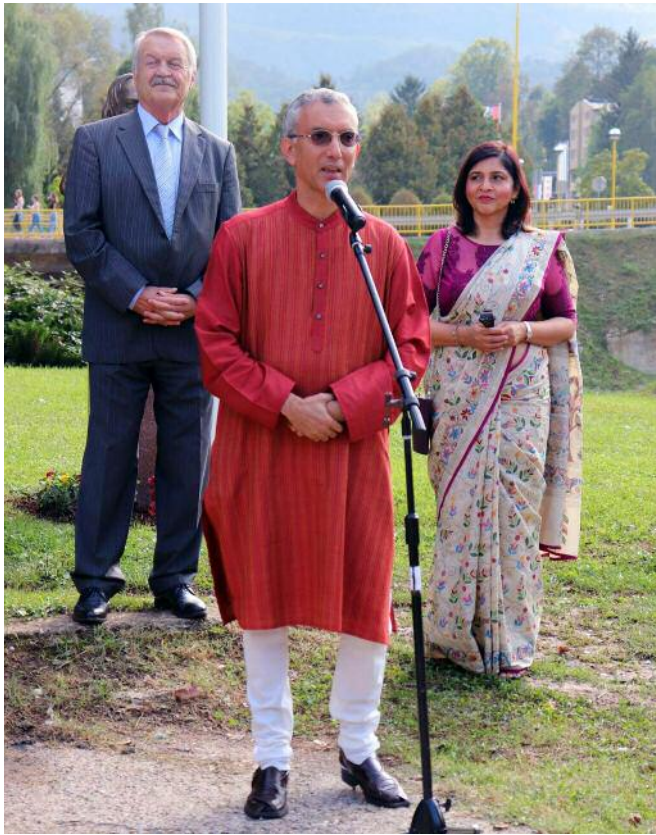
The winning contingent is seen here with Mr. N. Venkataraman, Second Secretary & Head of Chancery and Mr. Thangpau, ASO of Embassy of India, Budapest

Visit to Milici & Bijeljina

First to organise a prelude to the auspicious celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi commencing on 2nd October, Ambassador Rahul Chhabra unveiled the bust of Gandhiji and Rabindranath Tagore in the Park of the Greats of the city of Milici, Bosnia-Herzegovina on 4 September 2018. The Park created by the local company 'Boksit' to express their gratitude to the prominent figures who contributed immeasurably to the development of human civilization features five separate exhibits: Park of Serbian, Russian, European, Chinese and the most recently added Indian Greats represented by Mahatma Gandhiji and Rabindranath Tagore. Amongst the 44 busts Aristotle, da



Unveiling the bust of Mahatma Gandhiji



Ambassador addressing the guests
on the auspicious occasion

Vinci, Einstein, Tesla, Tolstoy, Gagarin etc. have found a home to enrich the beautiful, green park in Milici.

Mr. Rajko Dukic, MA, President of 'Boksit' joined Ambassador to unveil and present together the new additions to the Park. The joyous occasion marks not only the beginning of the celebration of the Mahatma's birthday, but also the Year of Non-Violence declared by the UN in honour of one of the greatest leaders in modern Indian history. In his speech Ambassador emphasized the significance of India's journey to freedom through non-violence headed by Gandhiji and presented this path to lead by example to all the nations currently suffering from conflicts.



Ambassador with Mayor Mićo Mičić (left) and Mr. Miloš Stevanović, City Manager at the press conference

The event was also attended by Mr. Momir Lazarevic, Mayor of Milici, Mr. Branislav Novakovic, President of the Municipality Assembly of Milici, Mr. Radovan Viskovic, Member of the Parliament and Ms. Gordana Zaric, CEO and JSC of Boisit, Milici.

At the end of the official ceremony Ambassador presented Mr. Rajko Dukic with a certificate to thank him for his efforts in installing the busts of the two great Indian leaders which has contributed immensely to strengthening the friendship between the two nations. The ceremony was followed by an evening of Indian culture featuring a classical Indian music concert by the duo of Mr. Zoltán Lantos (violin) and Mr. Rajesh Gangani (tabla), an enchanting Kathak performance by Ms. Sonali Roy and a film screening.

On 6 September, 2018, Embassy of India organized India Day in Bijeljina, Bosnia & Herzegovina at Semberija Cultural Centre. The programme was part of the pre-events of the celebrations of the 150th Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Ambassador Rahul Chhabra and Mayor of Bijeljina, Mr Mićo Mičić held a press conference during the evening. Ambassador informed the media about the available scholarship schemes and the plans for future economic cooperation with Bosnia.

Signing of MOU with ELTE University

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Eötvös Loránd University for the establishment of the ICCR Chair for Hindi

language. Ambassador of India, H.E. Rahul Chhabra signed the MoU on behalf of ICCR and Prof. Dr. Imre Hamar, Vice-Rector of International Affairs signed the MoU on behalf of ELTE University. There were also present: Mr



T.P.S. Rawat, Director of Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre, Dr Máté Ittzés, Head of Department of Indian Studies and Dr Mária Négyesi, former Head of Dept. of Indian Studies. ■

Ambassador and Prof. Dr. Imre Hamar, Vice-Rector of International Affairs holding the signed documents in the company of Dr. Mária Négyesi, former and Dr. Máté Ittzés current Head of Department of Indian Studies

Farewell reception



LEFT: Archbishop Michael A. Blume, Apostolic Nuncio, Head of the Diplomatic Corps delivering his speech to bid farewell to Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra on behalf of the Diplomatic Community. **RIGHT:** Ambassador addressing the guests



Completing his tenure of 3 years as Ambassador of India to Hungary, H.E. Ambassador Rahul Chhabra and Mrs. Kavita Chhabra are leaving Budapest next month. To bid farewell to the members of the Diplomatic Corps, Ministry officials, political leaders, heads and representatives of distinguished business and cultural institutes, Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra hosted a dinner on Wednesday, 19 September. In his capacity as head of the Diplomatic Community, H.E. Archbishop Michael A. Blume, Apostolic Nuncio delivered a speech highlighting the initiatives and achievements accomplished by Ambassador in the last three years, whilst bidding him and Mrs. Chhabra farewell and wishing them a blessed and successful tenure in their new post in Kenya. After his speech, Archbishop Blume handed Ambassador a commemorative gift on behalf of the Diplomatic Corps. In his address, Ambassador thanked everyone for their kindness and friendship he and Mrs.



Mrs. Kavita Chhabra with members of the Diplomatic Spouses of Budapest

Chhabra had enjoyed during their stay in Budapest and expressed his gratitude to the Foreign Ministry of Hungary for their continuing support. ■

Visit of the DSB at Hopp Ferenc Museum



Dr. Györgyi Fajcsák, Director and
Mr. Róbert Válczi, Curator greeting the guests



Ladies on the guided tour in the Museum

On 25 September, 2018, a guided tour was organized for the Diplomatic Spouses of Budapest in Hopp Ferenc Museum, hosted by Madam Kavita Chhabra and the Museum. Following the greetings of Dr Györgyi Fajcsák, Director of Hopp Ferenc Museum and introduction given by Mr Róbert Válczi, Indologist and curator of the exhibition titled GODDESS | WOMAN - Devi Cults and Traditional Female Roles in India, the group enjoyed a beautiful tour in the rooms listening to the story of different aspects of Indian Goddess. The programme was followed by Indian refreshments in the garden of the museum. ■

Meeting with Speaker of the Parliament at Saudi National Day

On 27 September, 2018, H.E. Rahul Chhabra, Ambassador of India met Honorable László Kövér, Speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary at the Saudi National Day, where they had a discussion about the forthcoming celebration of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in Hungarian Parliament on 2 October, 2018. Celebrations in Hungarian Parliament will include floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, the presentation of Gandhiji's favourite bhajan "Vaishnava Jana Toh" sung by prominent singer Ms Jennifer Mága, and the simultaneous release of commemorative stamps on Mahatma Gandhi and special yoga session for Members of Parliament. ■



Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra with Mr. László Kövér,
Hon'ble Speaker of the National Assembly

Visit of World Skills India delegation



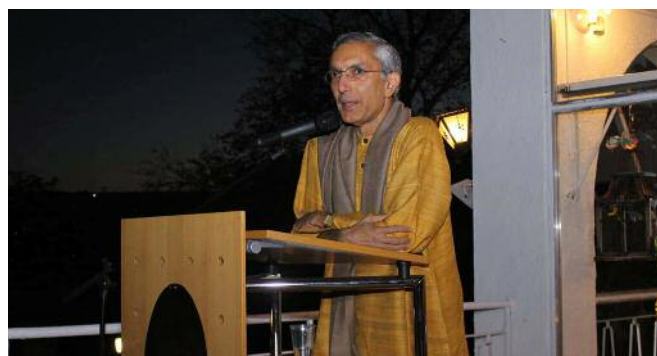
LEFT: Members of the delegation with Mr. Sanjeev Manchanda, SS (Pol&Comm). **RIGHT:** Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra hosting high-tea for members of the delegation at India House

Embassy of India participated in UN World Tourism Day and EuroSkills competition in Budapest. A 6-member delegation consisting of Shri Gyan Bhushan, Joint Secretary and Economic Adviser, Ministry of Tourism and Tourism Company called 'TTS 6TH WOW' from Hyderabad participated in the UNWTO Day. India is scheduled to be the host of next UNWTO Day and is also competing as a

'Guest country' in the ongoing EuroSkills competition at Hungexpo. A 19-member delegation led by Shri R. K. Gupta, Director, MSDE visited Budapest, which provided a good opportunity to see the Indian skill competitors in action. On 29th September World Skills India delegation called on Ambassador Rahul Chhabra, who hosted a high-tea reception for the visitors and handed over the certificates for the competitors and the experts. ■

Farewell dinner at India House

On 28 September, Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra hosted a dinner at Indian House to bid farewell to members of the Indian community and Hungarian friends who have dedicated their lives to study, teach, and promote Indian culture. In his speech, Ambassador thanked all guests; from businessman to students and ladies alike for their friendship and never-failing support during his three years of tenure bringing the warmth of home to their Hungarian residency, while also lending their assistance and tremendous help in running major events like the annual International Day of Yoga and Ganges-Danube Cultural Festival. The evening also served as a celebratory conclusion to the highly successful International Day of Yoga and Ganges-Danube Cultural Festival of 2018. Members of the Mission attending the event also bid farewell to Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra; on their behalf, Ms. Anita Adamecz, Social Secretary to Ambassador gave a speech. Besides remembering all the achievements Ambassador has accomplished, she also reminisced about fond memories, exciting adventures and wished Ambassador and Mrs. Chhabra all success and great times in their new posting in Kenya. On behalf of the guests, Ms. Anikó Szelle, interpreter also delivered a speech composed of her experiences and memories of the last three years. The evening concluded with a delicious dinner of Indian dishes and the traditional Hungarian dessert, 'Kürtöskalács' (Chimney Cake) in a joyous and lively company. ■



Ambassador delivering his speech to say farewell to the Indian Community and Hungarian friends



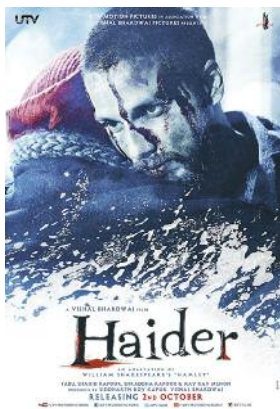
Guests listening to Ambassador's speech

AMRITA SHER-GIL CULTURAL CENTRE

Details of the activities of the Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre, Budapest, during the month of August and September, 2018 are as under:

Indian Film Club

On first and third Friday of every month films are screened under the aegis of "Indian Cine Club" at the auditorium of Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre in Embassy Premises for Hungarian fans. Because of the summer holiday only one film screening was held in ASCC on 10 August, 2018: Haider (Hindi, 2014). From September-December some feature films will be screened in ASCC and some of the films will be screened in Ferenc Hopp Museum as per the agreement with the museum which is hosting Indian exhibition titled Goddess – Woman – Devi cults and traditional female roles in India. In September ASCC screened 'Bareilly ki barfi' (Hindi, 2017) and in



Haider



Bareilly ki Barfi



Dum lagake Haisha

Ferenc Hopp Museum Dum Lagake Haisha (2017, Hindi) was screened.

Around 15-20 persons attended the

screening in ASCC and 50 in Ferenc Hopp Museum. Before the screening documentaries provided by XP Division were screened for the audience. ■

OCCASIONAL PROGRAMMES in ASCC

Dance performance by Gaura-vani group (ISKCON)

11 September, 2018

After the summer break in July-August the opening occasional programme of September-December period was held in the Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre (ASCC) on 11th September, 2018 in the Auditorium. The classical dance group of ISKCON of Hungary was invited to perform on stage.

The programme started with a Bharatanatyam dance performance titled Alarippu. This is the usual starting item of a classical performance to greet the Gods. This was followed by Odissi items, depicting the life of Krishna. These were solo items performed by one of the members. The second half of the show was a dance drama done by the whole



Dancers performing



Audience enjoying the performance



Alarippu item



Odissi piece on Krishna



Zoltán Lantos and Pt Rajesh Gangani performing



Audience applauding



Dance drama scenes

group, on the life of Krishna from his childhood to other parts of his life. The drama included a Kalia-Naag as well. All the evening was very colourful and audience enjoyed the performance. In the end of the show the artists received gifts from Director (ASCC).

Opening of Everness Festival 2018 13 September, 2018



Mr TPS Rawat, Director speaking on the occasion



Captain Rahul Bali announcing the forthcoming film festival



Sonali Roy performing



Bubble game during the programme

On 13 September 2018 with the collaboration of Embassy of India, Budapest and ASCC the Opening of Everness Festival was held in Alsóörs. At the beginning Mr. T.P.S. Rawat, Director of ASCC greeted the audience. Mr. Zoltán Lantos, world famous violinist, and Pt. Rajesh Gangani, Tabla teacher and performer of ASCC gave an amazing music concert. During the technical break Captain Rahul Bali, curator of the Indian Film Festival Hungary announced the film festival of India in Hungary from 4-10 October, 2018 to the audience. In the second part of the program Ms. Sonali Roy, Kathak teacher and performer presented a wonderful Kathak dance performance.

Opening ceremony of Thursday lecture series & Hindi classes and Hindi Pakhwara 20 September, 2018



Sonali Roy performing

Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre organized a celebration in contribution with ELTE University on 20 September to open the Hindi classes and lecture series held by scholars on India. The programme started with the welcome speech by Mr Vijay Kumar,



Calligraphy competition



Dr Mária Négyesi speaking



Group photo



Mr Kumar presenting gifts



Hindi poems by students

Attache. He was followed by Dr Mária Négyesi, Head of Dept. of Indology Department, who introduced "Thursday lectures series" to new audience, and also informed the audience about the Hindi classes in Hungary. The programme continued with cultural programme: Ms Sonali Roy, Kathak artist performed on stage. Students of Indology Dept. came on stage reciting Hindi poems and there was a bhajan song showcased by one of the students. Calligraphy competition was also organized. This was followed by a lecture by Dr Peter Sagi who attended World Hindi Conference in Mauritius in September, 2018. His lecture was followed by Reception which concluded the event.

Kathak dance performance by Sonali Roy 25 September, 2018

The second occasional programme



Pt Rajesh Gangani and Sonali Roy performing



Sonali Roy performing



Madam Kavita Chhabra and TPS Rawat presenting bouquets

in September was a dance performance by Sonali Roy, Kathak teacher-cum-performer in ASCC. Sonali has joined as the new India-based Kathak teacher. She is a graceful kathak Dancer of Lucknow Gharana trained by Guru Shri Santosh Kumar Chatterjee in Kolkata. She got the privilege of learning Kathak from the great Maestro Padmavibhusan Pandit Birju Maharaj, the living legend. She has been awarded several times and performed in India and abroad. At present she trains Hungarian and Indian kathak students every day at ASCC.

She held a very colourful and graceful evening in the Centre and gave a glimpse of different aspects of Kathak dance through Abhinaya, pure dance and sufi items as well. The audience was enchanted with Sonali's performance. Altogether 80 people came to watch the show.

Occasional programmes in Bosnia & Herzegovina in August-September

Cultural evening on the occasion of unveiling Gandhi & Tagore bust in Milici

5 September, 2018



Ambassador Chhabra and Rajko Dukic, President of Boksit



Audience watching the show



Sonali Roy performing



Zoltán Lantos playing violin, Pt Rajesh Gangani playing on tabla

On the occasion of the unveiling of the busts of Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore in the Park of Greats in Milici, the Embassy of India organized a cultural evening. As prelude of the event, Ambassador presented Mr. Rajko Dukic, President of the local company 'Boksit' with a certificate to thank him for his efforts in installing the busts of the two great Indian leaders. The programme started with the enchanting classical Indian music concert of Mr. Zoltán Lantos playing the violin and Pt. Rajesh Gangani on tabla. Following the beautiful melodies of the duo, Ms. Sonali Roy took the stage and presented a magical Kathak dance performance. The evening concluded with the screening of the blockbuster Bollywood feature, 3 Idiots. The event was attended by Mr. Rajko Dukic, President of 'Boksit', Mr. Momir Lazarevic, Mayor of Milici, Mr. Branslav Novakovic, President of the Municipality Assembly of Milici, Mr. Radovan Viskovic, Member of the Parliament and Ms. Gordana Zaric, CEO and JSC of Boksit, Milici and other local dignitaries.

India Day in Bijeljina 6 September, 2018



Audience watching the show

On 6 September, 2018, Embassy of India organized India Day in Bijeljina, Bosnia & Herzegovina at Semberija Cultural Centre. The programme was part of the pre-events of the celebrations of the 150th Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Ambassador



Ambassador at the Press conference



Indian music by Zoltán Lantos and Rajesh Gangani

Rahul Chhabra and Mayor of Bijeljina, Mr Mićo Mićić held a press conference during the evening. The programme started with a presentation given by Mr T.P.S. Rawat, Director of Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre on India and its diverse culture. In the second part of his presentation he spoke about relations of Bosnia & Herzegovina and India. After the presentation Indian music was showcased on stage. The world-famous violinist, Mr Zoltán Lantos played together with Tabla player Pt Rajesh Gangani. They gave a beautiful fusion based on Indian music and rhythms enchanting the audience with harmony of their duett. They were followed by the India-based Kathak teacher-cum-performer of Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre Ms Sonali Roy. Sonali from Lucknow Gharana recently joined the centre and performed the first time in BiH. Her graceful dance was very appreciated by the audience. The cultural programme concluded with film screening of 3 Idiots, a famous Bollywood comedy screened with Bosnian subtitles. ■



Indiai Filmhét

Indian Film Week

2018. október 4-10.



Puskin mozi (1053, Budapest, Kossuth Lajos u. 18.) **19 óra**

04. Imtiaz Ali: Harry és Szédzsál

(Jab Harry Met Sejal
2017, hindi)

05. Umesh Shukla: 102 éves fiatal

(102 Not Out
2018, hindi)

06. Tigraňshu Dhulia: Az úr, a feleség és a gengszter 3

(Saheb Biwi Aur
Gangster 3
2018, hindi)

07. S.S. Rajamouli: Báhubali – A kezdet

(Bahubali: The Beginning
2015, hindi)

08. Mikhil Musale: Rádzsú rosszkor, rossz helyen

(Wrong Side Raju
2016, hindi)

09. Dharmendra Suresh Desai: Rusztam

(Rustom
2016, hindi)

10. S.S. Rajamouli: Báhubali – A befejezés

(Bahubali – The Conclusion
2017, hindi)

<http://www.eoibudapest.gov.in/> • www.facebook.com/ICCBudapestHungary • www.iffw.co.in • <https://www.facebook.com/indianfilmfestivalhungary/>





SPREADING THE FRAGRANCE OF INDIA Via CINEMA


 Embassy of India
Hungary

INDIAN FILM
FESTIVAL
WORLDWIDE
IFFW


 INDIAN
FILM
FESTIVAL
HUNGARY
4th - 10th October 2018

4th - 10th October 2018
 Puskin Mozi, Budapest, Kossuth Lajos u. 18, 1053






INDIAN ECONOMY

India's strong economy continues to lead global growth

India's economy is picking up and growth prospects look bright—partly thanks to the implementation of recent policies, such as the nationwide goods and services tax. As one of the world's fastest-growing economies—accounting for about 15 percent of global growth—India's economy has helped to lift millions out of poverty.

But to sustain rapid growth and raise incomes for the country's 1.3 billion people, India will need to build on the success of its reforms, the IMF said in its annual assessment of the Indian economy.

IMF Country Focus interviewed Ranil Salgado, the head of the IMF team for India, to discuss a few of these key recommendations, as well as the report's overall findings, according to Imf.

Looking at this year's economic assessment, you've likened the Indian economy to an elephant starting to run. Can you explain what you mean?

India's economy is gaining momentum, thanks to the implementation of several recent noteworthy policies—such as the enactment of the long-awaited goods and services tax, and the country opening up more to foreign investors. Therefore, we expect economic growth to pick up to about 7.3 percent for fiscal year 2018/19—meaning the year that runs from April of 2018 through March 2019—from 6.7 percent in the year prior. Meanwhile, inflation has edged higher, in part due to a reduction of economic slack.

To sustain and build on these policies and to harness the demographic dividend associated with a growing working-age population (which constitutes about two-thirds of the total population), India needs to reinvigorate reform efforts to keep the growth and jobs engine running. This is critical in a country where per capita income is about ,000 U.S. dollars, still well below that of other large emerging economies.

The recent cash shortages after the currency demonetization, as well as transitional costs from the introduction of the goods and services tax weighed heavily on economic performance. Now that a recovery is underway, how will the goods and services tax help the Indian economy?

The goods and services tax created a unified national market for the first time by lowering internal barriers to trade—effectively establishing a free trade agreement for a market of over 1.3 billion people. The tax is also expected to increase the amount of economic activity taking place in the formal sector of the economy—leading to better quality and more reliable jobs. As a result, the goods and services tax should improve productivity and boost medium-term potential growth, while also creating room for the government to increase much needed social and infrastructure spending.

A key concern for India's economy is the health of the banking system. What can be done on this front?

The country has recently implemented a new insolvency and bankruptcy code, which should make it

easier for creditors to seek repayment from debtors who are in arrears. The bankruptcy code is already shifting the power balance between debtors and creditors and improving corporate repayment discipline. In addition to the bankruptcy code, the central bank and government have taken steps to improve banks' recognition of bad assets and to recapitalize public sector banks. Ultimately, these efforts will help to solidify bank balance sheets and support the flow of credit to the rapidly expanding economy.

Another key area of reform is to strengthen governance in public sector banks to complement the reforms in the financial sector already underway.

This is needed, for example, to improve incentives to enhance the efficiency of bank operations and foster more disciplined lending practices by banks. A first step would be to strengthen the quality and independence of these banks' boards, and privatization could also eventually be considered.

You mentioned that India is working to attract more foreign direct investment. Why is this important for the economy?

India can benefit from improving its integration with global markets. The country has made a lot of progress, in that most foreign investments are now allowed to enter sectors of the Indian economy under what is known as “the automatic route.” This amounts to a meaningful reduction in bureaucratic oversight, and greatly increases access to the Indian market for foreign investors.

However, more can be done to sustain the recent foreign direct investment inflows and remove trade barriers—which remain significant in the country.

These include:

reducing trade documentation requirements and procedures; lowering tariffs; continuing to improve the business climate; and improving governance.

India has a young and growing youth population, and about two-thirds of the total population is of

working age (between 15 and 64). What can the country do to create more jobs and reap the demographic dividend?

One way to support job creation is by improving labor market regulations. Numerous, outdated, and restrictive laws prevent firms from expanding to operate at an efficient scale, lead to a misallocation of resources, and push economic activity into the informal and unregulated parts of the economy.

‘As a byproduct, these rigidities

make it harder for women to join the work force, and make growth less inclusive. For instance, female labor force participation in India is among the lowest in the region and has fallen even further recently.

A reform and streamlining of the complicated web of labor laws would go in the same direction as the goods and services tax, by further promoting employment in the formal economy, and would help sustain growth. ■

—*The Financial, The Financial, Thursday, 09 August.*

India overtakes China to become the world's fastest growing economy in Q1 2018

While the International Monetary Fund may have revised its estimates for India's growth this year, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) announced that the Indian economy grew by 8.2% between the months of April to June. This puts India at the helm as the world's fastest growing economy beating China's top spot, which witnessed a growth of 6.7%.

The Finance Minister tweeted that the reforms put in place by government as well as the fiscal prudence shown by the regulators that are allowing the economy to grow even in the midst of global turmoil. That being said, overtaking China might have a lot to do with the ongoing trade war between the Asian nation and the United States.

The Economics Affairs Secretary, Subhash Chandra Garg, stated that India seems to be on track in its goal of meeting more than 7.5% growth

for FY2018-19.

The driving forces behind this growth are the country's manufacturing and the consistent increase in the demand of consumption goods. A report published by the Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) analysed that the import substitution of cell phone manufacturing results in saving of ₹3 trillion for India.

Growth without the benefits

The main benefits of a growing economy, in theory, are employment generation, higher living standards, stimulating new investments, and a greater fiscal dividend. But the fact of the matter is that despite growth, the positive externalities are yet to present themselves.

It's not that jobs aren't being created or that investments aren't increasing, but their pace is at parity with the growth trajectory. The most recent report by the International

Labour Organisation (ILO) highlights how India's growth hasn't been inclusive with a gaping rural-urban divide as well as a gender-wage inequality.

And, speaking of foreign direct investment (FDI), while there has been a steady increase, it's important to remember that it's largely due to 'preferential' tax treaties between India and countries like Mauritius and Singapore. The top three sectors to gain from FDI have been services, telecommunications and computer services.

While long-term benefits are yet to pick their pace, in the short run we can see that the rupee has already strengthened against the dollar since the news of India's growth broke on Friday. It has increased to trading at ₹70.84 a dollar from ₹71 a dollar at market opening on Monday. ■

—*Prabhjote Gill, Business Insider, Tuesday, 04 September*

TRATAKA- HOW TO PRACTICE YOGIC GAZING MEDITATION

Trataka, a word from Sanskrit meaning “to gaze”, is a form of one-pointed focus meditation, in which you concentrate on a single object. The object may be seen on the outside, in your environment, or on the inside where it is pictured in your mind. The idea is that you naturally relax as your mind becomes quiet, since inner chatter and fleeting thoughts cease during meditation.

Whether you are gazing externally or internally, you eventually begin to visually blank out other objects. As you do so, sushumna occurs, where by your brain becomes isolated from the usual memories, thoughts and feelings that come and go naturally. Additionally, trataka is said to aid vision by keeping eyes healthy, relieve depression and insomnia, reduce allergies and fatigue, and enhance energy levels. Lastly, practicing trataka can also enhance intuition and open up access to a higher state of consciousness.

Bahiranga: External gazing

Most people use a candle flame as a focus point, but you can concentrate on whatever you want. A fountain, the sunset, a flower or a leaf can be used. A plain object may be easier to apply your attention to than one with great detail. Find a central point on which to concentrate your vision. If you are looking at a candle flame, your focal point could be the wick inside the flame because it won't distract you by flickering.

Make sure you are sitting in a comfortable, meditative pose and won't be disturbed as you gaze at your focal point. Thoughts may arise initially, but allow them to pass without paying them attention. Don't mentally force them to leave, just see them in the same way you



would notice passing strangers, if you were sitting on a park bench.

Antaranga: Internal gazing

When you are ready, begin antaranga, also known as internal gazing. Close your eyes and notice the after image, or memory of the external image, in your mind's eye. Keep watching it with a steady, fixed gaze, applying attention to the central point. If your vision wanders, bring it back to the middle of the image again.

Alternatively, you may choose to

begin meditation with antaranga, going straight into internal attention instead of gazing at an external point. Perhaps you will begin with an imaginary picture of a candle, a star, the moon, or a bright white light that glows in the area of your third eye, just inside your head between your eyebrows. The aim is to become one with a chosen focal point, so you don't recognize any difference between it and you. At such a time, you can travel beyond your ego.

—Ankita Sood
Yoga and Lifestyle Expert

A kutya és a kecske története

Gyűjtötte

Schäferné Földvári Ilona

Könyv címe

Mese a lótuszvirágról

Kiadó

Móra Ferenc

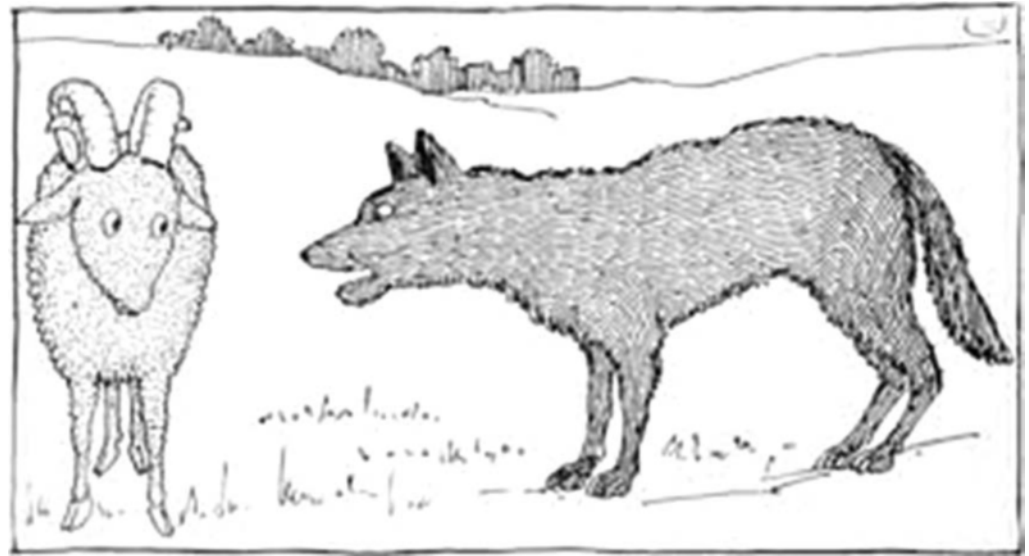
Könyvkiadó

Kiadás helye

Budapest

Kiadás éve

1980



Az emberek nem is sejtik, hogy valamikor réges-régen a kutyának két hatalmas, szép szarv díszítette homlokát, amíg a kecske el nem csente tőle. Igazat szólva a kecske mindig ilyen gyönyörű pár szarvra vágyott. Egy faluban óriási sütés-főzés volt. Az uraság nagy vendégsereget várt estére, egymás után teltek meg az üstök, kondérok ínycsiklandozó tyúklevesel, libapecsenyével, disznóhússal, szarvas pörkölttel. A szakács hurkát, kolbászt is töltött. Egy koszorú kolbászt kisütött egy piros lábasban, és lefedte kockás ruhával, hogy ki ne hűljön. Fáradt volt, lefeküdt aludni. A kutya megérezte a kolbászszagot. Nem tudott ellenállni a

finom illatnak, de nagy szarva miatt nem fért be a konyhaajtón. Óvatosan levette, és a konyha küszöbére tette pompás szarvát, és szarvátlanul besompolygott kolbászt enni. Fogyton-fogyott a kolbázkoszorú, amikor jött a kecske. Megpillantotta a régóta áhított, pompás szarvakat, felkapta, a fejére illesztette, és se szó, se beszéd elrohant. Amikor a nagy lakomázás után a kutya fényesre gömbölyödve lopakodott ki a konyhából, szarvának csak hűlt helyét találta. És rémülten vette észre a messziben vágatató, sebes lábú kecskét az ő szarvával. Hiába üldözte nyomába sem ért elnehezült pocakjával. Azóta nincs a kutyának szarva, s ettől a perctől kezdve örökre megszűnt a barátság a kecske és a kutya között. ■

JOKES

Marty, the juggler, is driving to his next performance on Highway 277 in Texas. Suddenly he hears police sirens and a moment later the cop in the cruiser signals for him to stop.

The cop checks out the inside of the car and asks, "What are these matches and lighter fluid doing in your car?"

Marty answers, "I'm a juggler and I juggle flaming torches in my act."

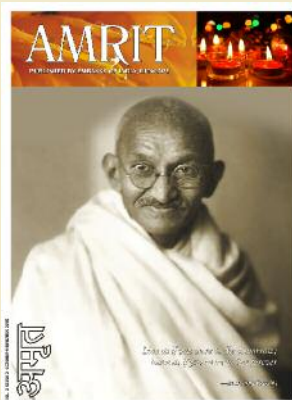
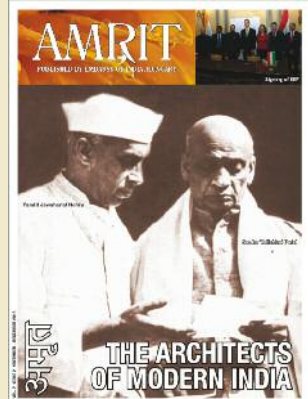
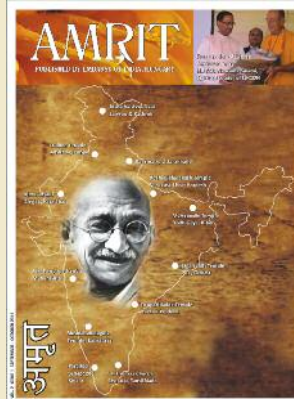
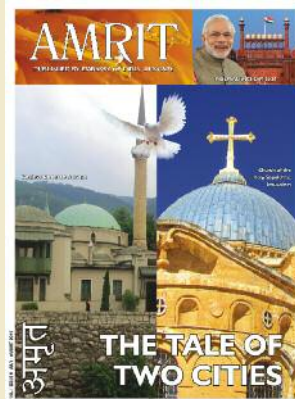
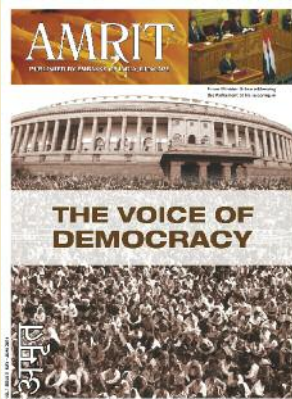
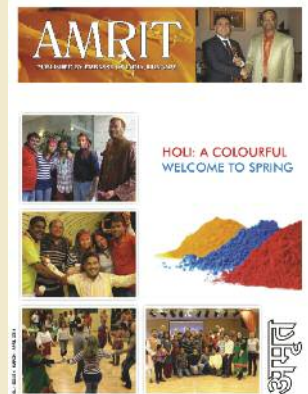
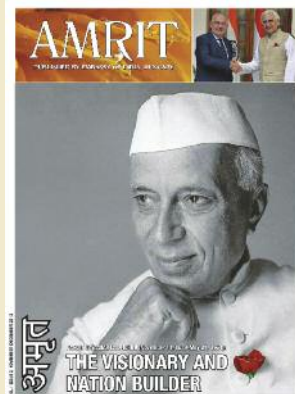
"Oh yeah?" says the doubtful cop. "Let's see you do it."

Marty gets out and starts juggling the blazing torches masterfully.

A couple driving by slows down to watch.

"Wow," says the driver to his wife. "I'm glad I quit drinking. Look at the test they're giving now!"

Some of the previous issues of *Amrit*



SEVAGRAM

Sevagram (meaning "A village for/of service") is the name of a village in the state of Maharashtra, India. It was the place of Mohandas Gandhi's (Gandhiji's) ashram and his residence from 1936 to his death in 1948.

Sevagram is a small village, located about 8 km from Wardha. Mahatma Gandhi set up his ashram in the outskirts of the village when barely 1,000 people lived there. Seth Jamnalal Bajaj of Wardha, a disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, made available to the ashram about 300 acres (1.2 km²) of land. Near the ashram there is a museum where artifacts of India's freedom struggle are preserved.

History

When Gandhi started his padayatra (foot march) in 1930 from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi for the Salt Satyagraha, he decided not to return to Sabarmati till India achieved independence. Gandhi was imprisoned for more than two years. On his release he spent sometime travelling around India. He decided to make a village in Central India his headquarters. He came to Wardha in 1934, at the invitation of his follower and industrialist, Jamnalal Bajaj and stayed in one of the rooms at Jamnalal's bungalow (Bajajwadi)[3] at Wardha and in the Prarthana mandir of Mahila Ashram for sometime.

In April 1936, Gandhiji established his residence in a village called Segaoon[5] at the outskirts of Wardha, which he renamed as Sevagram, which means 'village of service'. Gandhiji was 67 years old when he came to Sevagram. The small homes which were built in the ashram for Gandhi and Kasturba, and his followers were similar to the typical village homes. The ashram employed some harijans in the common kitchen to break the caste barrier. Vinoba Bhave's Param Dham Ashram is located on the banks of the Dhaam river close by. Many decisions on important national matters and movements were taken at Sevagram. It became the central place for a number of institutions for the nation building activities devised by Gandhiji to suit the inherent strength of this country.

Sevagram is 8 km from Wardha town in Maharashtra and 75 km from Nagpur. In spite of many practical difficulties, Gandhiji decided to settle here. Though he did not have any intentions of keeping anybody with him except his wife Kasturba, pressure of work necessitated more colleagues



with him till Sevagram Ashram became a full-fledged institution. There were no facilities at Sevagram, not even a post or telegraph office. The letters used to be brought from Wardha. There was another village in this region named Shegaon, made famous by the residence of Saint Gajanan Maharaj. So, Gandhiji's letters used to get misdirected. Therefore, it was decided in 1940 to rename this village as Sevagram[6] or 'the village of service'.

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