

**EMBASSY OF INDIA
BUDAPEST**

Date : 27 January 2026

PRESS RELEASE

Celebration of the 77th Republic Day of India in Budapest

The Embassy of India in Budapest hosted a reception to celebrate the 77th Republic Day of India on 26 January 2026 at the Hungarian Heritage House, Budapest, from 1700 hours to 1900 hours.

The reception was graced by Dr. Boglárka Illés, State Secretary for Bilateral Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, as the Chief Guest and official representative of the host government. The event was attended by several distinguished dignitaries, Members of Parliament, senior government officials, Ambassadors, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the Indian community, and friends of India. Approximately 350 guests attended the reception, reflecting the strong, cordial, and multifaceted relations between India and Hungary.

In his address, the Ambassador of India extended warm greetings on the occasion of India's Republic Day. He underscored the longstanding and historic ties between India and Hungary, highlighted India's remarkable progress and achievements across various sectors, and emphasized the expanding scope of bilateral cooperation between the two nations. The Ambassador also stressed the vital role of cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts in fostering deeper mutual understanding and strengthening the enduring friendship between India and Hungary.

Mr. Tibor Kapu, the Hungarian astronaut who, along with an Indian astronaut, was part of the Axiom Space Mission, was welcomed as a special guest. His presence highlighted the growing collaboration and shared aspirations of India and Hungary in the fields of science, technology, and space exploration.

The Chief Guest, Dr. Boglárka Illés, delivered a warm and thoughtful address, extending her heartfelt congratulations to the people of India on the occasion of their Republic Day. She lauded India's enduring democratic traditions, impressive economic and commercial growth, and rich cultural heritage. She also acknowledged India's significant contributions at both regional and global levels. Dr. Illés highlighted the historic and friendly ties between India and Hungary and emphasized the strong partnership between the two countries. She further noted the promising opportunities to deepen and expand bilateral relations, fostering greater cooperation and shared prosperity.

The National Anthems of India and Hungary were beautifully rendered by the Choir Group of the Institute of Arts, Communication and Music of Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), marking a memorable moment in the celebrations. A vibrant cultural programme was presented by teachers and students of the Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre, Hungarian friends, and members of the Indian community. The performances showcased India's diverse cultural heritage and were highly appreciated by the audience, adding grace and colour to the celebrations.

The event concluded with a reception, providing guests an opportunity to enjoy Indian cuisine and interact in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The Republic Day reception was a memorable and successful event, further strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between India and Hungary.

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