EMBASSY OF INDIA, BUDAPEST

भारत का राजदूतावास, बुडापेस्ट



MAY 2020



The Govt of Hungary announced on June 17 an end to the nation's state of emergency proclaimed in the wake of Covid-19. Apart from various relaxations granted for movement and gathering of persons, now reopening of cultural institutions, such as libraries and museums, as well as cinemas and theatres has also been permitted. There is still a requirement for people visiting shops, markets, and shopping malls, or using public transport and taxis to wear face masks or otherwise cover their faces with appropriate substitutes.

As per the statement by Ms. Cecília Müller, Chief Medical Officer (on 9 June 2020), Hungary will soon leave the first wave of the epidemic behind. She also stated that the number of recovered patients is the double of the number of patients suffering from active infections.

ENTRY AND EXIT REQUIREMENTS (HUNGARY):

Travel restrictions from several countries in Europe have been eased as well as border checks between Hungary and Slovakia, and Hungary and Austria have been terminated. More information with regard to entry into Hungary can be obtained from the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing, www.bmbah.hu. Indian nationals who wish to enquire about flights operating in and out of Budapest should contact the Budapest airport and / or the airlines concerned.

Budapest Airport:

https://www.bud.hu/en/coronavirus

Twitter: @budairport

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/budapestairport

Airlines

https://www.bud.hu/en/passengers/flight and tra

vel information/flights/airlines

Apart from persons coming from the countries which have been cleared for entry into Hungary, all other foreigners need to make a request for entry permit with supporting documents on the National Police website.

https://ugyintezes.police.hu/web/guest/uj-ugyinditasa/ (in Hungarian only)

The request for entry permit can be submitted by a Hungarian or a non-Hungarian citizen. The applicant is required to prove that the purpose of the visit is especially but not exclusively - one of the following: personal presence in any judicial or official administrative procedure, business or any other activity, attendance at health-care working institution(s), attendance at academic exams, shipping activity related cross-border movement, attendance at the funeral of a close relative, etc. Submission of application is open from 13 May 2020. Diplomats and family members of diplomats bearing diplomatic passport are exempted.



Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) Phase 2++ and 3

The Ministry of External Affairs in close coordination with the Air India had launched the Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) phase 2++ with the hub and spoke model through Frankfurt airport to evacuate the stranded Indians in Germany and other European countries. Many stranded Indians in Hungary registered for the same. The Embassy of India in Budapest in close coordination with the Embassy in Berlin, the Consulate General of India in Frankfurt and the Air India has managed to accommodate the maximum number of Indians possible in these flights. The priority passengers included stranded Indians on tourist visas, business visas, pregnant ladies, those with ailing family members, etc. So far, close to 75%

of the persons who had registered with the Embassy, have already been acoomodated till VBM 2++ through the Air India flights from Frankfurt to various destinations (Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru etc.) in India.

Those Indians still stranded in Hungary & wishing to avail VBM flights from Frankfurt for evacuation to India should register at the link of E/India in Berlin": https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScE5o-mOMtzH X4kpUoxuerNGiqtLBq8oFKsSdu6Tr1HFguPw/viewform Those who had registered earlier with the Embassy (in Budapest) and still wishing to avail VBM flights are required to register again at the above link and thereafter, proceed to book tickets on the Air India Website.



One of the Indians going on VBM flights thanking the Govt of India (video on Embassy Twitter/Facebook)

The latest schedule of VBM 3 flights (as updated on June 22, 2020) can be seen at:

http://www.airindia.in/images/pdf/Revise-Newformat-VBM-Phase-3-updated-22-Jun-20-1000-Hrs-2-converted.pdf

The operation of normal commercial flights to and from India will be resumed once the requisite permission in this regard has been granted.

CONSULAR SERVICES:

Applications for passport renewals are being accepted from Indian nationals, twice a week; i.e. Monday and Thursday. Visa processing remains suspended. Please continue to check the Embassy website and Social Media pages regarding time line for restoration of normal consular services. In case any consular service is required on an emergency please basis. send an email cons.budapest@mea.gov.in with your phone number and brief description of service required. In case you need any assistance/information you can contact the Embassy at:

Phone Number: +36-1-3257742/43

Email id: cons.budapest@mea.gov.in website: www.eoibudapest.gov.in

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/IndiaInHungary

Twitter: https://twitter.com/InidaInHungary

In case of any emergency/distress, call us anytime

(24x7) at this number:

Mobile No.: +36-308517373 / +36-302765699

LOCAL CONTACTS FOR COVID-19:

The Hungarian government public hotline for COVID-19: +36-80-277-455 and +36-80-277-456. They can be contacted over email also: koronavirus@bm.gov.hu.

Website: In Hungarian: https://koronavirus.gov.hu; In

English: http://abouthungary.hu Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/koronavirus.gov.hu

List of major hospitals where coronavirus is being treated:

i. Szent Laszlo Hospital, 1097 Budapest, Albert Florian Ut 5,Tel: 06 1 455 8100

ii. Szent Janos Hospital,1125 Budapest, Dios Arok 1, Tel: 06 1 458 4500

iii. Hungarian Military Hospital (Magyar Honvedkorhaz),1134 Budapest, Robert Karoly Krt 44, Tel: 06 1 4651800

iv. South Pest Central Hospitalv. Semmelweis Hospital

FREE ONLINE AYURVEDA CONSULTATION ORGANIZED BY THE AYUSH CENTRE OF EMBASSY



The Ayush Information Centre of the Embassy organized the third free online Ayurvedic consultation successfully on May 7. The aim was to disseminate the Ayurveda Advisory with special focus on the preventive care of the COVID-19 epidemic.

WEBINAR ON "ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19"

An India-Hungary webinar on economic impact of Covid-19 on bilateral trade and economic relationship was organised on May 22, 2020. Manufacturing was focus sector with companies from automotive, pharmaceutical, packaging and electrical machinery participating in the webinar.



The current level of bilateral trade is US\$ 745 mln and Indian investments into Hungary are approximately US\$ 2.8 billion. The Indian and Hungarian companies and participating organizations shared their assessment of the current situation, measures undertaken by the two governments to provide necessary support; whereas the representatives of the national chambers of the two sides spoke more on the policy announcements and future collaboration possibilities. Ambassador of India informed the discussion of the measures taken by the government of India under "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" initiative and what could possibly be the options in the present circumstances.

Suggestions focused on a need to start investment now for the companies for harvesting returns in the time of an impending recovery; technology collaboration and supply chain realignment and joint ventures in the health-care services; academic collaboration for research and development; a joint containment strategy to boost business; backstopping the stimulus measures and also making them effective so as to sustain viability of all companies regardless of their size; need for government to take more risks to alleviate job losses and announcing of sectoral-specific support. Another important outcome of the webinar was an online B2B engagement of Indian-Hungarian companies in future and positioning India as an attractive investment destination.



WORLD CULTURE DAY CELEBRATED

On 22nd May, a webinar was organised on the occasion of 'World Culture Day' where experts representing various cultural and educational organisations in Budapest, joined and talked about how to move forward during the aftermath of covid-19 pandemic to promote culture.



Experts included Mr. Gabor Karsai from Dharma Gate Buddhist College, Mrs. Zsofia Rideg, Dramaturge, National Theatre, Dr. Norbert Revai Bere, DG, National Public Service University, Dr. Maria Negyesi, Former HOD, Deptt of India Studies, ELTE Univ, Ms. Zsuzsa Komjati, President Hungarian Yoga Association, Mr. Madhupati Dasa from ISCKON, Ms. Dunja Masic, President Bosnian-India Friendship Society, Mr. Sanjay Sharma, Bhartiya Samaj of Hungary, Mr. Robert Valoczi, Curator Ferenc Hopp Museum and many more joined the discussion conducted by Director-ASCC and explored ways to connect to promote culture through online activities. On this occasion a motivational video was released by ICCR

called, 'United We Fight' for which many well known singers of India had come together to give a tribute to the corona warriors. This was covered by Hungarian media in a big way.

TAGORE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY MARKED

On 8th May, on the occasion of birth anniversary of Nobel laureate Rabindra Nath Tagore, an online release of Indo-Argentinian feature film 'Thinking of Him' produced by Johnson Suraj & Pablo Caesar was done by Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre in collaboration with the well known cinema house Puskin Cinema. A tribute was also paid by artists through renditions of Rabindra Sangeet for the social media



GANDHI KATHA TO REMEMBER

On 29th May, a Gandhi Katha was organized by the Embassy Cultural Centre. At the beginning of the event, a message from Ambassador Kumar Tuhin on the relevance of principles and thoughts of Gandhi ji during current times was screened. Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna, a renowned speaker on Gandhian thought came live on facebook to talk on this theme and present Gandhi's thoughts. Having been deeply affected by the Spanish Flu that broke out during his times, Gandhi ji was very actively involved in the relief work during the early 20th century. Dr. Radhakrishna threw light on the measures that Mahatma had suggested to fight such a crisis.



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