The International Day Of Yog was celebrated on June 21 this year under the theme ‘Yog From Home’ and ‘Yog With Family’. The Embassy of India organized a series of online activities in the run-up to the main event on June 21. Several webinars were conducted where speakers included the Ambassador of India and eminent persons like Deputy Mayor of Balatonfüred, Director of Heart Hospital in Balatonfüred, Director General of National University of Public Service Ludovika, Budapest, Principal of International School of Budapest, etc. Many live Yog Sessions were conducted. These Webinars were conducted for ISB School Budapest, Heart Hospital in Balatonfüred, Tata Consultancy Services, Hungary, National University of Public Service Ludovika, Dharma Gate Buddhist University as well as lecture cum demos on Yogic Diet in Budapest and Yog For Women in Sarajevo.

Special video messages were received from the Mayors/Deputy Mayors of important cities where Yog events were conducted. These video messages were subtitled in English and publicised on social media platforms and in print/audio visual media. The Mayors’ offices also posted Ambassador’s messages on their official sites and platforms. Also, messages were received from the Brand Ambassadors of Yoga, Ms. Andrea Bozo, famous actor, Ms. Boglarka Csosz, Model & Actor, and Amela Kreso, a well-known singer of Mostar.

The main event in Budapest was organised at the iconic Hero’s Square, a venue in the centre of the historic city. Yog Teacher Ankita Sood Live Streamed one-hour common yoga protocol on facebook and this was also shared on all social media platforms and received thousands of views.

A special song was recorded and played during the
live session on ‘Yog Sutra’. During the entire day, 15 Yog Schools live streamed on the facebook page of the Embassy, their ‘Live Yoga’ based on different themes like Yoga for mental Peace, Yoga for Children, Yoga For Senior Citizens and so on. On June 21 from 9 am till 5 pm, the Embassy’s online platforms were connected with the people of Hungary and Bosnia & Herzegovina as well as the Indian diaspora who sent their pictures doing yoga at home.

The Embassy had announced Quizzes, Essay and Poster Contests on topics related with Yoga at eminent Universities and Schools of Hungary and Bosnia & Herzegovina. Several entries were received and winners were given prizes and certificates.

There was also a global Yoga Video Blogging contest announced by the Ayush Ministry in which many entries have been received from the citizens of Hungary. There was extensive media coverage in both Hungary and Bosnia & Herzegovina which also included articles by Ambassador of India H.E. Mr. Kumar Tuhin in some leading magazines.

WEBINAR ON ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19

In continuation of the India-Hungary webinar on economic impact of Covid 19 organised on May 22 focussing on the manufacturing sector, the Embassy organised the 2nd India-Hungary webinar on June 9. The “services” was the focused sector and companies from environmental services, IT and IT enabled services, educational services, travel tourism and trade, retail exhibition, and other business and non-business services participated. Prominent Chambers of Commerce viz. Services Export Promotion Council of India and Hungarian Export Promotion Agency also participated. The main objective of the webinar was to reach out to the businesses and experts to seek their feedback on the disruption caused by Covid-19 and ascertain inputs for the way forward.

The services form an important part of India-Hungary bilateral trade of USD 745 million; the prominent being the business services, transportation-travel and computer and information services. Major Indian companies like TATA Consultancy Services (TCS) and Tech Mahindra are present in Hungary in IT services sector and participated in the webinar, while Mahindra “Waste to Worth” participated from India. 1000 UT travel agency, nominated by HCCI gave their perspective on the tourism sector, while Hungexpo dwelt upon the impact on events/exhibition management. Tempus Public Foundation managing Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship program informed about the impact on the education sector.
Ambassador of India gave a detailed account of government of India’s recent policy measures particularly on “Atma Nirbhar Bharat” and other high priority areas such as food processing, agriculture and farming digital highways, health care sector cooperation, mobility partnership, effective waste management, etc. He further highlighted new possible areas of cooperation between the two countries and advised the businesses on both sides to explore the opportunities that were now available.

There was a general consensus that IT and digitalization would play a significant role in the post-Covid scenario on how the business organisations would leverage their respective strengths. The companies and organisations on the two sides were also able to look at opportunities available on enhancing collaboration to boost India-Hungary trade and economic cooperation.

On 18 June the Government of Hungary lifted the emergency measures imposed in the wake of Covid-19; but people are still required to cover their face with a mask, scarf or shawl in shops, public transport. The local civic authorities have been given the authority to decide about the opening of markets.

On 12 July 2020, the Hungarian government announced new changes to the entry regulations and quarantine requirements for both Hungarian citizens and foreign nationals entering Hungary. Countries have been categorized into red, yellow and green lists according to the current level of COVID-19 infection.” While persons coming from countries falling in the green list (Austria, Slovakia, Croatia, Slovenia, Greece, Italy, Malta, the Czech Republic, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Spain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Ireland, Iceland, and Greenland) do not face any restrictions, arrivals from countries falling in the yellow list face some restrictions such as Covid-19 tests and quarantine. Arrivals from Red list are not permitted. Details of the announcement made by the Govt of Hungary can be seen at the link: https://koronavirus.gov.hu/cikkek/gulyas-meg-kell-akadalyozni-virus-kulfoldrol-tortenoe-behurolasat

Any Indian citizen planning to enter Hungary needs to submit an application explaining reason for travel under special circumstances. The application must be submitted online, in Hungarian language to the Police who will than assess the request and decide to grant or deny entrance. See https://ugyintezes.police.hu/web/guest/uj-ugy-inditasa/ (in Hungarian only). Since the application is only available and is required to be submitted in Hungarian language, the applicants may need to issue a document to authorize someone to fill-out and submit the application for them and act on their behalf as required.

Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) Phase 4

The Ministry of External Affairs in close coordination with Air India is implementing the Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) phase 4 with the hub and spoke model through Frankfurt, Paris and other European major cities to evacuate the stranded Indians from European countries.
With the Mission's efforts and in close coordination with our Embassies in other European countries, most of the stranded Indians in Hungary, (more than 80% of the registered persons) were able to travel to India availing this facility from Frankfurt, Paris, Amsterdam, etc to various destinations (Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru etc.) in India.

The full list of VBM Phase 4 flights may be seen at:
https://www.mea.gov.in/phase-4.htm

FOR INDIANS IN NEED OF STAY PERMISSION
Those Indians, especially students, who were not able to avail the VBM facility, whose visas are expiring soon in near future, and in need of Embassy's facilitation for permission for extended stay here in Hungary or BiH are requested to register at the link given below:

Registration link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScX9drrxl0o2hjiXT3ynQKp3i3KfEda0n1zFHPHACIoTRFQ/viewform

CONSULAR SERVICES
Consular services, except Visa, have been restored and with prior appointment all Indian citizens can visit the Embassy from Monday to Thursday in the forenoon.

In case of any assistance/information needed, please 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/IndiaInHungary

In case of any emergency/distress, call us anytime (24x7) at this number:
Mobile No.: +36-308517373

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