



Embassy  
of India  
Zagreb



in



# #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav #AmritMahotsav Celebrations

## 72nd REPUBLIC DAY

On the occasion of 72nd Republic Day of India, the National Flag was unfurled by Ambassador of India to Croatia H.E. Mr. Raj Kumar Srivastava at the Chancery premises amidst a gathering of Indian nationals and friends of India.



## #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav

### PROMOTION OF INCREDIBLE INDIA & 1<sup>ST</sup> BRAINSTORMING SESSION WITH CROATIAN ENTREPRENEURS FOR STRENGTHENING INDIA-CROATIA INNOVATION AND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP



On 22 March 2021, the Embassy organized a tourism event at Westin hotel in which it promoted the Spring edition of Place2Go magazine. In the Spring edition of the magazine, an article on 4 Indian States (Rajasthan, Goa, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh) was published. Top 20 leading Croatian tourist agencies gathered at the event and discussed the possibility of strengthening bilateral cooperation in the tourism sector, especially outgoing tourism to India.



On 24 March 2021, Embassy organized the 1<sup>st</sup> Brainstorming Session at Westin Hotel with an aim to strengthen India-Croatia innovation and business partnership. At the event 22 Croatian prominent entrepreneurs gathered from various sectors including energy, IT infrastructure, pharmaceuticals, R&D and Innovation. Mr. Deepak Bagla, CEO, Invest India addressed the audience through a video message from India, briefed the Croatian entrepreneurs about the investment opportunities in New India and the Startup revolution which is taking place in India. Invest India, through their dedicated teams in Croatia and with Embassy of India in Zagreb, offered full support to Croatian Businessmen & Innovators in their journey towards India.



### #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav Art competition with Artworks from 6 schools of Croatia

The Art Competition Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav among school children of Junior/Senior High Schools in Croatia was successfully completed with their thoughts & vision about India. 3 top entries representing traditions, freedom & modernity of India from the School of Applied Art and Design in Zagreb were rewarded with certificates handed over by Ambassador Srivastava. Embassy of India, Zagreb received in all 169 entries from six schools in six cities of Croatia in 10 days of competition. Clear sign of increasing interest about India in Croatia, including among youth.



Continuation of marking of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in Croatia among 150 children of the School of Applied Art & Design, Zagreb with Yoga workshops led by Yogacharya Jadranko Miklec. Ambassador Srivastava graced the occasion expressing the benefits of health-promoting & anxiety-relieving Yoga exercises which provide useful support to balance daily lives.

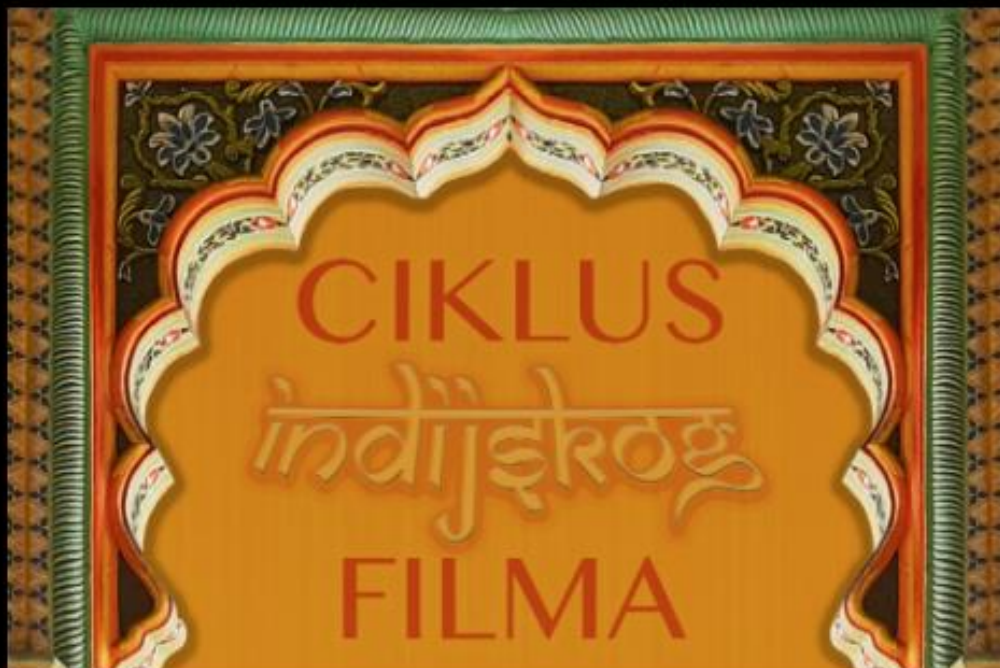




## INDIAN FILM CYCLE

11-14.03.2021.

share: [f](#) [t](#)



### PROGRAM

In cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of India in the Republic of Croatia, the **Cycle of Indian Film** is being held at the Art Cinema from 11 to 14 March, as part of which four award-winning Indian titles shot in the past decade will be screened. The cycle begins on March 11 with a screening of *Story (Kahaani)* **Sujoy Ghosh**, acclaimed by critics and award-winning thriller that follows a pregnant woman in an uncertain search for missing wife in the wilderness of overcrowded Kolkata. With a acclaimed screenplay, camera and acting performances, the film is noted for its sharp portrait of the Indian urban milieu, feminism and motherhood in a predominantly patriarchal and traditional Indian society. On Friday, March 12, the film *Pico* is on the program, award-winning comic drama by director **Shoojit Sircar** about the unusual relationship between a daughter and an eccentric father. The cycle continues on March 13 with the film *Manjhi: The Man of the Mountains*, an inspiring biographical drama about the venture of **Dashrath Manjhi**, a poor worker who, due to one unfortunate death, dug his way through a barely passable mountain using only a hammer and chisel. The cycle ends on March 14 with the film *Champion* **Amola Gupta**, a touching story about a talented boy, his coach and a joint effort to win a roller skating championship.

← less

Glimpses of the 1st Open Yoga Session held at Bundek Park, organised by Embassy of India, Zagreb, with the support of the City of Zagreb, & the Zagreb Tourist Board.



Ambassador Srivastava interview in Poslovni.hr announced the forthcoming Yoga Day & Amrit Mahotsav celebrations in over 30 cities. Special focus was also on Croatian and Indian innovation ecosystems & the 30th anniversary of diplomatic ties of two countries.

LINK: <https://bit.ly/35WfMnZ>



Ambassador Srivastava gave an interview for Flash.hr relating to #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav celebrations on 75th Independence Day of India. Ambassador Srivastava mentioned the potential of innovation ecosystems of the two countries. [LINK](#)



On the Occasion of 75th Independence Day of India, Večernji List published an interview with Ambassador Srivastava on #AmritMahotsav, India's future prospects, India-Croatia partnership potential and India's increasing profile in global affairs. Read the full interview here: [LINK](#)



**#AzadiKaAmritMahotsav**  
**#AmritMahotsav**  
**Celebrations in the City of Osijek**



Since India is celebrating 75 years of Independence on 15th of August 2022, a lot of cultural and social events are already being organized to enrich a vision that India@75 represents - the path breaking initiative. It anticipates how India should be in her 75th year of independence and seeks to bring together all stakeholders including the industry, government, institutions, community groups and individuals to translate the vision into a reality. The core message is - Indians want to imagine a new India that is modern, socially equitable, fair and transparent, an India full of opportunities and they want to work hard to make it a reality.

On behalf of this initiative a flower arrangement was placed in one of the most beautiful parks in the city of Osijek – Sakuntala Park. Among the most interesting episodes in the art history of Osijek from the 19th century can undoubtedly be the installation of a sculpture of the Indian mythological queen Sakuntala. It was installed in 1892 in Le Maitre Park in the almost undeveloped area between Capuchin Street in the West, Fortress in the East, Jäger Street in South and the Drava River in the North at the time, which soon becomes one of the city's most important parks / squares.

The legend of Sakuntala was dramatized around the 4th century AD by one of India's greatest writers, Kalidasa. Thanks to him, this story became one of the common pieces of Indian cultural history. Through English translation of Kalidasa's text, Sakuntala entered European art in the late 18th century and during the 19th century. Numerous literary works, operas and works of fine art with the theme of this Indian queen were created. The reasons for choosing Sakuntala as a theme for public sculpture in Osijek undoubtedly lies in the complex ethno-confessional mosaic and the turbulent political scene of the city. At the end of the 19th century Osijek was a very multinational and multi-confessional city with a very high share of German, Hungarian and Jewish population. Sakuntala park did not belong to any of Osijek's large national, religious and / or political groups, neither by religion nor by national origin. Monuments or parks dedicated to prominent individuals from any ethno-confessional group would provoke opposition from part of the population, so a sufficiently universal motif from Far Eastern mythology and art was chosen that could not bother anyone. The key role in ordering the sculpture was played by the senior teacher Bogdan Penjić and captain Petar von Modesti, who was a Head of Society in charge for taking care of city plantations and adornment. What prompted them is hard to say, but it was probably a performance of Kalidasa's drama or one of the afore mentioned operas. Osijek's Sakuntala sculpture is a copy of the work of the Berlin sculptor Gottwald Kuhse (originally executed in 1881), which was produced in terracotta by the Ernst March Söhne factory, Thonwarenfabrik from Charlottenburg, Berlin.



## Glimpses of Seventh International Day of Yoga celebration in Croatia

The central celebration of this year's IDY was held on June 16, 2021, in Park Bundek with over 100 attendees, organized by the Embassy of India in partnership with the City of Zagreb, Zagreb Tourist Board, Yoga in Daily Life, Art of Living & Croatian Yoga Federation. The special guest was Member of Croatian Parliament H. E. Mr. Kajtazi.



IDY was celebrated this year in 30 cities and 40 locations in Croatia. Please find below glimpses of the celebrations.

**Osijek**



**Rijeka**





**Dubrovnik**



**Zadar**



**Šibenik**



**Split**



**Split**



**Sumartin, Brač**



**Punat, island of Krk**



**Suhopolje**



**Novigrad**



**Makarska**





**Jastrebarsko**



**Korčula**



**Vukovar**



**Varaždin**



**Virovitica**



**Umag**



**Labin**



**Rovinj**



**Samobor**



**Karlovac**



**Makarska**



**Slatina**



**Križevci**



**Ludbreg**



**Pula**



**Rab**



**Njivice, Krk**



**Hvar**





## Announcing INDIA@75 #IndiaAt75 #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav #AmritMahotsav

INDIA@75 open-air painting exhibition in front of National Theatre of Zagreb with the amazing work of Art & Heart by young talented artists of School of Applied Arts & Design in Zagreb. The next exhibition will be from 4<sup>th</sup> August onwards.



## India-Croatia Sports Cooperation was the Highlight of July 2021

Unique gathering of Sports stars from India & Croatia was held in Zagreb on 2 July 2021 with Indian legend Chess Grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand, Croatian Ace Shooter Petar Gorša and Indian Shooting Team which was preparing in Croatia for Tokyo Olympics 2021.



## Croatia congratulates India on the 75th Independence Day



Gordan Grlić Radman  
@grlicradman

I wish people of #India and my dear colleague @DrSJaishankar a very happy 75th Independence Day.

#Zagreb is celebrating this day with iconic Meštrović Pavilion in Tricolor of 🇮🇳 and an open air painting exhibition on #AmritMahotsav 🎨 by young artists from Croatia.



9:13 PM · Aug 14, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

275 Retweets · 9 Quote Tweets · 2,782 Likes



India in Croatia  
@India\_Croatia

Thanks a lot H. E. @grlicradman for your wishes on India's 75th Independence Day. @MVEP\_hr



Dr. S. Jaishankar  
@DrSJaishankar · 3h

Thank you Foreign Ministers and Foreign Ministries for your best wishes on the 75th year of our Independence.

Committed to strengthening our partnerships...



Veljko Kajtazi  
@VeljkoKajtazi

Croatian Romani Union "KALI SARA" and I are honored to cooperate with the @India\_Croatia and to celebrate India @ 75 by preparing for the World Day of Roma 2022 event that will strengthen Romani community, Croatia & India ties. Sretan dan nezavisnosti Indije!



More than 75 monuments, including Meštrović Pavilion in Zagreb, across the globe lit up in Indian tricolour to celebrate 75th Independence Day! Meštrović Pavillion is an art gallery and an architectural masterpiece created by the famous Croatian sculptor Ivan Meštrović in 1938. The tweet from H.E.Mr. Goran Grlić Radman, Minister of European and External Affairs got over 2700 likes and 280 retweets.



Anuradha Antonija Karuza is 🥰 feeling thankful at India in Croatia (Embassy of India, Zagreb).  
4d · Zagreb · 🌐

Happy India Independence Day 🇮🇳

I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to build the bridge of understanding and appreciation between India and Croatia through classical Indian Odissi dance !!!

Years of sweat, pain, exhilaration and practice, practice, molding body and mind to become an instrument of immortal art !!!

Thank you India for broadening my mind, heart and knowledge beyond my wildest dreams

You truly are the Mother of art and culture !

#IndiaIndependenceDay

#AmritMahotsav

#odissi

#indianclassicaldance

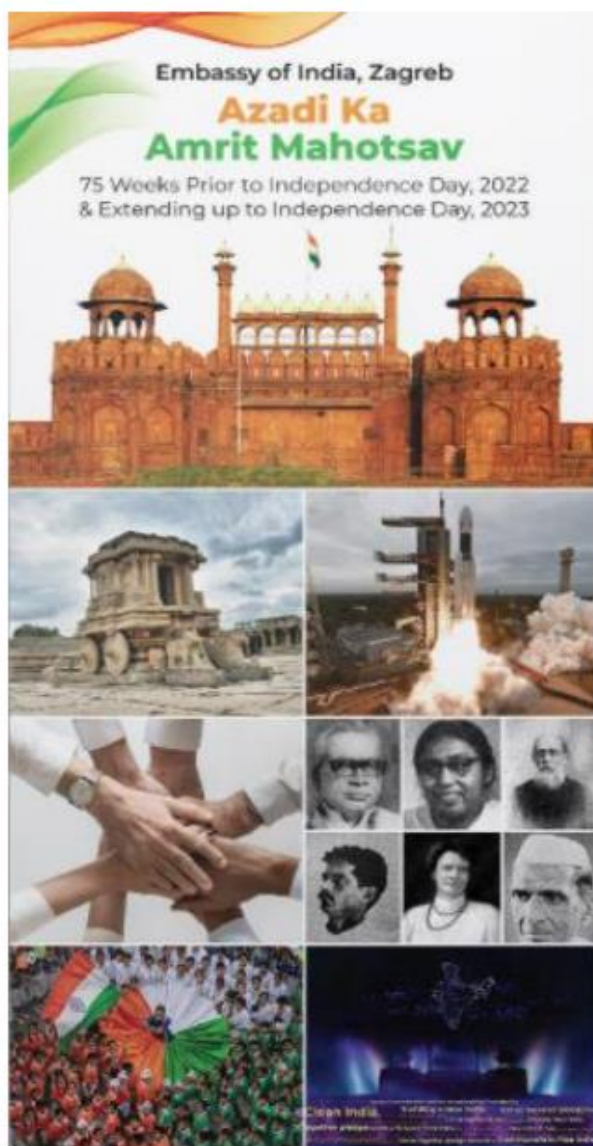
#odissincroatia

#IndiaCroatia



## #AmritMahotsav celebration: “India Fest 21”

“Over the next two years, we will celebrate 75 years of Indian independence under the great initiative of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. On the occasion of the anniversary celebration, numerous cultural and entertainment events will be organized, which will also be held in Croatia, thus connecting the two countries - Croatia and India. In this context, Mr. Hanibal Salvaro's work (organizer of “India Fest 21” exhibition) in creating the bridge and the link between the two countries has been remarkable. The exhibition “India Fest 21” is in a way part of the “Azadika Amrit Mahotsav” initiative, precisely because of the theme and context it provides to its visitors. The exhibition combines different art forms: digital art, haiku, painting, photography, poetry in one very impressive way. Likewise, the presence of our dear friends from the Ministries, colleagues from diplomacy and other government bodies indicates how such art forms generate interest. We will be happy to improve and establish partnerships through various projects with organizations, institutions and artists so that such positive initiatives and events will continue in the future”, Ambassador Raj Kumar Srivastava.





## National Day Reception on the occasion of 75th Independence Day

Ambassador Raj Kumar Srivastava hosted the National Day Reception on the occasion of 75th Independence Day at Zagreb with the Guest of Honour H.E. Mr. Gordan Grlić Radman, Deputy Speaker of Croatian Parliament Dr. Željko Reiner, representing Speaker of the Parliament H.E. Mr. Gordan Jandroković, the former President of Croatia H.E. Prof. Ivo Josipović, the Member of the Prime Minister's Scientific Advisory Board and the Professor Emeritus of the National Forensic Science University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat Dr. Dragan Primorac and Members of Parliaments H.E. Ms. Martina Vlašić Iljkić, H.E. Mr. Ivan Čelić and H.E. Mr. Zvane Brumnić gracing the occasion. In all 100 guests participated from diplomatic Corps and friends of India from academic, business and cultural fields along with Indian community representatives. Two outstanding Croatian artists performed the Indian classical dances showcasing the Indian cultural richness while the paintings made by young artists of Croatia were displayed for the Guests. A glimpse of the evening is presented below.





## 75th Independence Day: Flag Hoisting ceremony

Zagreb witnessed a pleasant & proud celebration of #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav, with enthusiastic participation of 100 guests in the Flag Hoisting ceremony. Ambassador Raj Kumar Srivastava unfurled the National Flag and read out Rashtrapatiiji's message, followed by patriotic cultural performances.

### Glimpses from #AmritMahotsav celebration





## Cest is d Best - international street festival in Zagreb celebrating **#AzadiKaAmritMahotsav #AmritMahotsav**

Embassy of India, Zagreb took part from the 20th to 22nd August in the Zagreb Street Festival Cest is d'best with local Croatian Dance artists, yoga session and movie projection. The attendees witnessed vibrant and vivid India dance performance celebrating #AmritMahotsav in the central green park of Zrinjevac, which is located next to the building of Ministry of External and European Affairs of Croatia. The dancer Anuradha Antonija Karuza & Apsaradha dance ensemble performed Indian classical & modern dance celebrating the 75th Independence Day of India for over 100 spectators. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Jadranko Miklec held a Yoga Session at the green space of Zrinjevac park. High attendance, with over 100 attendees was also visible during 2021 closing program of the 25th Cest is d Best-international Street festival in Zagreb with the projection under the stars of Indian movie "Piku".



## 75th Independence day of India celebration in the city of Samobor **#AzadiKaAmritMahotsav #AmritMahotsav**

Embassy of India, Zagreb took part on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September at the #AzaadiKaAmritMahotsav celebration with screening of animation program which was held in the City of Samobor for the Djeca za bolji svijet/Children for a Better World, short yoga session by Yoga in Daily Life Zagreb & Amrit Mahotsav quiz offered insightful information's for the enrichment of children's knowledge.





## AMRIT MAHATSOV QUIZ

As our Nation celebrates the seventy fifth year of Independence, a series of events are being organised by the Government as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav quiz as part of India's 75 years of independence. The celebration began with the launch of Dandi Yatra by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 12, 2021, and all ministries / departments / organizations are planning various activities for the 75-week celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Go to the quiz here: <https://tinyurl.com/v7wyc998>

2. Kriket je najpoznatiji sport u Indiji. Indijska nacionalna kriket reprezentacija više puta je osvajala \* Svjetski kup u kriketu. U Hrvatskoj je najpoznatiji sport nogomet. Znaite li možda tko je trenutačno trener indijske nogometne reprezentacije?



- ☐ Igor Štimac
- ☐ Slaven Bilić
- ☐ Nenad Bjelica

5. Indija je 15. kolovoza 2021. proslavila 75. Dan neovisnosti. Bitno je za znati kako je 15. kolovoza 1947. Indija postala neovisna. Međutim, naše pitanje glasi kako se zove vođa indijskog pokreta za neovisnost koji je ujedinio Indiju nakon neovisnosti?



- ☐ Sardar Patel
- ☐ Motilal Nehru
- ☐ Subhash Chandra Bose

3. Šah je pronalazio svoj put diljem svijeta, nadilazeći kulturne barijere. No, jeste li znali da povjesničari vjeruju da je prvi put nastao u Indiji. Do 15. stoljeća šah se razvio u igru kakvu poznajemo danas. Znaite li u kojem se stoljeću prvi put pojavio?



- ☐ 1. stoljeće
- ☐ 14. stoljeće
- ☐ 8. stoljeće

11. Bollywood je najveći svjetski proizvođač filmova, nadmašujući čak i Hollywood. Koliko dugometražnih filmova Bollywood u prosjeku proizvodi godišnje?



- ☐ 1500-2000
- ☐ 500-1000
- ☐ 300-400

## HINDI DIWAS #AmritMahotsav

Hindi Diwas or National Hindi Day is celebrated every year on September 14 to mark the adaptation of Hindi (written in Devanagari script) as the official language by the Constituent Assembly on September 14, 1949. It is to be noted that Mahatma Gandhi called Hindi the language of the masses. The Father of the Nation also talked about making Hindi the national language of the nation. Notwithstanding the fact that linguistic topics, primarily those in the domain of Indo-European linguistics, have been an integral part of different studies at the University of Zagreb from its earliest stages, institutional organization of the Department began in 1959. The Department then briefly bore the name of the Department of General Linguistics and Comparative Literature, and the head of the Department was Professor Ivo Hergešić. The same year saw the arrival of Professor Radoslav Katičić whose areas of interest, in addition to linguistics, included Indology, i.e. Sanskrit.



India in Croatia (Embassy of India, Zagreb) ✓

1h · 🌐

एक छोटी सी झलक हिंदी दिवस २०२१ के समारोह से जो जागरे विश्वविद्यालय के इंडोलोजी विभाग के साथ भारतीय राजदूतावास २८ सितम्बर को आयोजित किया। भारतीय सांस्कृतिक कला पार्श्व द्वारा प्रायोजित हिंदी चैयर के पद पर विगत तीन वर्षों से कार्यरत ज्योति शर्मा को स्नेहपूर्वक विदाई देते हुए विश्वविद्यालय के छात्र कई मौलिक रचनायें प्रस्तुत की। कार्यक्रम का प्रारंभ हुआ एक पचास वर्ष प्राचीन हिंदी प्रार्थना गान से लक्ष्मी श्रीवास्तव द्वारा। इंडोलोजी विभाग के सबसे वरिष्ठ प्राध्यापक मिसलाव येजिच ने भारत के आज़ादी के अमृत महोत्सव के अंतर्गत दो विषयों - विश्व गुरु भारत एवं भारत की बहुमूल्य सांस्कृतिक धरोहर - पर अपने विचार प्रस्तुत किए। हमने यह भी स्मरण किया की यूरोप में सबसे पहली संस्कृत व्याकरण की पुस्तक लिखने वाले फिलिप वेज़ेदि (१७४८-१८०६) क्रोएशिया निवासी थे।





# #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav #AmritMahotsav

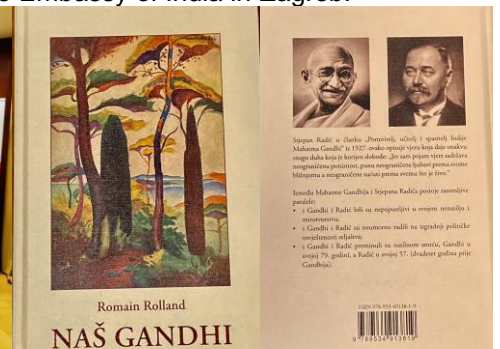
## Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary

Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary was celebrated in Zagreb with the presence of H E Mr. Ivo Josipovic, former President of Croatia and other friends of India. We also remembered Second PM Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri on his 117th birth anniversary.



## Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary Napredak Cultural centre

The Croatian-Indian Society, the Croatian Cultural Society Napredak and the Croatian Pan-European Union marked the 152th anniversary of the birth of Stjepan Radić and Mahatma Gandhi by presenting the reissue of the book "Our Gandhi" by the French writer Romain Rolland, translated into Croatian by Josip Vandekar and published in 1924. Radić's Slavic bookstores in Zagreb. Ambassador Srivastava, Academician Mislav Ježić, prof. dr. sc. Dražen Vikić-Topić, vice president of HKD Napredak talked about the book. This important anniversary will be celebrated in the Saturday 2 October 2021 in the Napredak Cultural Center in Zagreb. The event was held with the support of the President of the Republic of Croatia and the Embassy of India in Zagreb.








# #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav #AmritMahotsav


## Seminar on the occasion of National Unity Day (31st Oct) of India


Seminar was held on the occasion of National Unity Day (31st Oct) of India 'Unity in Diversity' - Multiculturalism & Secularism in India's Society: Ethnic, Religious & Linguistic Diversity with H.E. Mrs. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, 4th President of Croatia, Director General H.E. Mr. Dinesh K Patnaik of Indian Council For Cultural Relations, Ambassador Srivastava & other speakers. Seminar was held on the 26 October at the Cultural Centre Napredak in Zagreb.

 Ambassador of India to Croatia, Raj Srivastava: "From the perspective of philosophical foundation of Indian thoughts as said by Swami Vivekanand, the diversity is actually the manifestation of inherent unity - and therefore one should not be surprised at Unity in Diversity of India. Sardar Patel did a great service to the nation by political uniting the country post-independence, a fitting tribute to him to celebrate National Unity Day on his birth anniversary".

 H.E. Mrs. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, 4th President of Croatia: "India's success in sustaining its unity while cherishing its unparalleled diversity is a great hope and model for the rest of the world. While we refer to Flag of India as an emerging economy, in many ways India has already emerged as a world power".

 H.E. Mr. Dinesh K Patnaik, Director General of Indian Council for Cultural Relations: "India doesn't manage its diversity, rather it creates conditions and continuous interactions to flourish it's diversity. When you see percentages in India, it might not give you the magnitude - 0.77% Buddhist population counts to 8.4 million people. Hindu religion by itself is not a uniform religion but full of its own shades of diversities".

 Mrs. Ruzica Cicak Chand, PhD, Professor of Indian & Buddhist Studies/Scientific Adviser at IMIN talked about the relationship between secularism & multiculturalism in contemporary India.

 Mrs. Marijana Janjic, PhD, Professor of Indian linguistic, talked about the preservation of linguistic diversity in India.





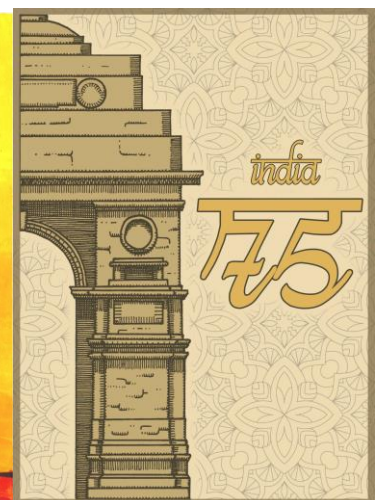
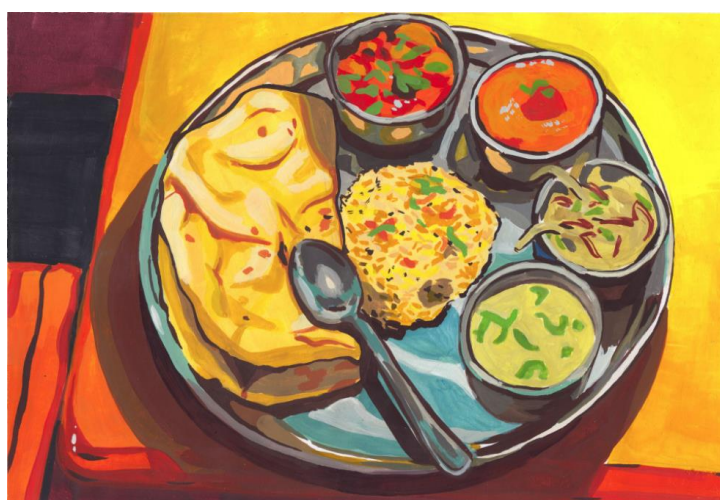
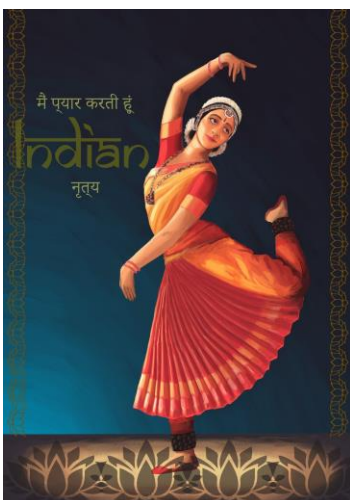
## #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav #AmritMahotsav

### Glimpses of "Ambassador's Cup" cricket match between India11 vs World11

As part of #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav celebrations, Embassy of India, Zagreb in association with Croatian Cricket Alliance, organized "Ambassador's Cup" cricket match between India11 vs World11 in Zagreb on the 10<sup>th</sup> October. Players from different countries based in Croatia participated in the match. Amazing commitment to cricket on a cloudy day in Croatia.



### Submissions of the Zagreb Design School ŠPUD for the ICCR Online Poster and Painting Competition 2021 "My idea of India"





## “Yoga for Unity, Ayurveda for Immunity”



On Vijayadashami festival day an event was hosted to commemorate the 1<sup>st</sup> International Yoga & Ayurveda Conference held in Zagreb on 3-5 October 2021, a Yoga session and Ayurveda lunch was hosted at the Indian house by Madam Lakshmi Srivastava with Mrs. Iva Tomasevic, Wife of Mayor of Zagreb as guest of honor. The event was attended by 20 participants including women from different communities, Croatian artists and professional community. The event started by a greeting speech of Madam Srivastava and continued with a Yoga session held by Yoga teacher Sara Vargović. Health center Ayurveda Balance was the knowledge partner for the event. Ambassador Srivastava gave a detailed presentation on the objectives and outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> International yoga and Ayurveda Conference held on 3-5 October.

