Embassy of India, Zagreb

Newsletter

Reception on the occasion of 80th Independence Day of India

On 18 August 2026, the Embassy of India in Croatia hosted a Reception in Zagreb to celebrate India's 80th Independence Day, bringing together nearly 200 distinguished guests from Croatian institutions, the Diplomatic Corps, India–Croatia Friendship Societies and the Indian community. The evening celebrated the growing India–Croatia partnership, people-to-people ties and India's journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047, complemented by a captivating Kathak performance by the ICCR troupe led by renowned Kathak exponent Padma Shri Dr. Shovana Narayan. A memorable evening of friendship, culture and shared values between India and Croatia.








2,000+
GLOBAL CAPABILITY CENTRES





80th Independence Day of India

The Embassy of India, Zagreb, celebrated the 80th Independence Day of India on 15 August at the Embassy premises. The celebrations commenced with joint singing of Vande Mātaram, after which the Flag Hoisting Ceremony started, followed by the singing of the National Anthem of India. H.E. Mr. Arun Goel, Ambassador of India to Croatia, then read the Address to the Nation by the Hon'ble President of India, reflecting on India's journey, achievements and vision for the future. The programme continued with a vibrant Odissi dance performance, showcasing the grace and richness of India's classical dance traditions. The celebrations also featured the acknowledgement and recognition of Friends of India and members of the Indian diaspora who participated in the Viksit Bharat @2047 Painting Competition, India Through My Lens Photography Competition, My India, My Story Competition, and the Special Independence Day Edition of the Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz, celebrating their creativity, enthusiasm and connection with India. The cultural programme concluded with a special showcase of Bharatanatyam, one of India's great classical dance forms, uniting expression, rhythm and melody through graceful movement and storytelling. On this special occasion members of Mohanji presented Dashavatara, bringing the timeless stories of Indian classical dance to life.










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As part of the celebrations marking the 80th Independence Day of India, the Embassy of India, Zagreb organised three creative competitions: My India My Story, Viksit Bharat 2047 – Painting Competition, and India Through My Lens – Photography Competition. We received beautiful photographs, videos, paintings and personal stories, each offering a unique perspective on India's rich heritage, culture, diversity, innovation and journey of transformation. H.E. Arun Goel, Ambassador of India to Croatia, felicitated the participants. Guests had the opportunity to admire the selected photographs submitted to the competitions, displayed digitally at the venue. Thanks to all the participants for their efforts to make this celebration special.











Ambassador's Interaction with Students – 'Tea with Ambassador'

The Ambassador H.E. Shri Arun Goel on 15th August 2026 had an interactive Session with students – 'Tea with Ambassador' to understand their academic experiences, research interests, challenges, and expectations. About 21 students pursuing higher education in Croatia registered for the session. The interaction provided an opportunity for an open and constructive exchange of ideas. They highlighted factors such as the quality and diversity of academic programmes, living costs, the opportunity to study in a European environment, and exposure to international academic and cultural experiences. The students discussed their respective faculties and colleges, including the academic environment, campus facilities, laboratories, libraries, and research infrastructure. They expressed enthusiasm about developing their research skills and contributing to their fields. The discussion further focused on students' future plans and the scope available to them after completing their studies. They emphasised the importance of maintaining academic and professional links with India as well as exploring opportunities in Croatia and other European countries.

The students also shared suggestions regarding the kind of support they require from the Embassy. These include greater facilitation of academic and research networking, professional engagement, and support in connecting students with relevant institutions and organisations. They also expressed interest in cultural and community activities that could strengthen interaction among Indian students. The Ambassador appreciated the students' active participation and encouraged them to make full use of their academic opportunities in Croatia. The interaction was useful in understanding the aspirations and concerns of students and highlighted the potential for the Embassy to facilitate stronger academic, research, and professional linkages between students, institutions, and stakeholders in Croatia and India.





VIKSIT BHARAT RUN 2026 - Glimpses







11th Dubrovnik International Conference on the Sanskrit Epics

On 3 August 2026, H.E. Mr. Arun Goel, Ambassador of India to Croatia, delivered the opening address at the 11th Dubrovnik International Conference on the Sanskrit Epics and Purāṇas (DICSEP 11), held this year jointly with the ICCR's Regional Conference on "Promoting Indian Culture and Civilization and Indian Knowledge Systems," at the Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik. In his opening address, the Ambassador reflected on how ancient civilizations sought permanence — Egypt through pyramids and hieroglyphs, Mesopotamia through ziggurats and clay tablets — while Bharatvarsh chose a different path: preserving its traditions not in stone, but in disciplined human memory, through the extraordinary oral transmission systems of the Vedic reciters and the grammatical precision of Pāṇini. He noted the fitting coincidence of the conference taking place within Dubrovnik's own walls of stone and centuries of survival by treaty and diplomacy — a civilization that chose an entirely different, and no less enduring, answer to the same question of what lasts. The Ambassador thanked the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and the University of Zagreb for sustaining this gathering for eleventh time since 1999, and wished the scholars gathered from Europe, Asia, and North America a rich week of discussion.







Economy news

India Achieves Landmark 300 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Power Capacity

In a major milestone for the nation's clean energy transition and climate action targets, India has crossed 300 GW of non-fossil fuel-based installed electricity generation capacity as on 31st July, 2026; over 60% of the 500 GW capacity targeted to be achieved by 2030. The growth in clean energy generation has been anchored by stellar contributions across sectors. Solar energy remains the key growth engine with around 165 GW at present from just 2.8 GW in 2014. Concurrently, the wind energy sector has also seen strong momentum reaching to over 58 GW from 21 GW in 2014. During 2025-26, a record capacity of 55.29 GW non-fossil fuel based electricity capacity was installed in the country with key contributions from 44.6 GW solar power and 6 GW wind power.



India Strengthens Its Position in the Global Coconut Economy

India has strengthened its position as a global leader in the coconut industry, ranking first in production and third in cultivation area. In 2024–25, the country produced around 20.3 billion coconuts across 2.19 million hectares, with an average productivity of 9,249 nuts per hectare. Kerala has the largest area under coconut cultivation, while Tamil Nadu leads in production. Andhra Pradesh records the highest productivity. The coconut sector is also becoming an important contributor to India's agricultural exports. Coconut product exports reached ₹7,038.35 crore (USD 794.70 million) in 2025–26, marking a 62% rise from the previous year. The sharp increase highlights growing global demand for Indian coconut products and the sector's growing role in supporting India's long-term export ambitions.



India's Makhana Sector Enters a New Era of Growth

India, the world's largest producer of makhana, is seeing strong growth in demand as the traditional Bihar snack gains popularity as a healthy food. Mainly grown in Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam, makhana is increasingly consumed across India and international markets. Domestic consumption of popped makhana is estimated at 3,000–3,500 metric tonnes per month, rising to around 5,000 metric tonnes during festive periods when demand for snacks peaks. Known for its nutritional benefits, makhana is increasingly being recognized as a global superfood. Its low glycaemic load makes it a popular choice among health-conscious consumers, while it is also associated with heart health and digestion. Its nutrient profile is considered competitive with commonly consumed nuts such as almonds, walnuts, and cashews. India's makhana exports are also expanding, with the United States, Canada, and the United Arab Emirates accounting for a combined 77% of total exports.



Ambassador's visit to City of Labin

On 25th August 2026, H.E. Mr. Arun Goel, Ambassador of India to Croatia, held a meeting with Mr. Donald Blašković, Mayor of Labin. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on strengthening cooperation and exploring new avenues for engagement between India and Croatia. Particular attention was given to Labin's strong presence in the manufacturing and IT sectors, which offer promising opportunities for developing connections with India — a country with significant expertise, capabilities and a rapidly growing global footprint in both industries. The discussion highlighted the potential for knowledge-sharing, business cooperation and the exchange of experiences, while reaffirming the importance of building stronger links between local communities and economies in Croatia and India.



Ambassador's visit to Thalassotherapia Opatija

The Ambassador was warmly received on the 26th August by the Director of Thalassotherapia Opatija, Prof. Dr. Viktor Peršić, and his team, who presented the institution's renowned work in cardiovascular rehabilitation, preventive medicine, and health tourism. The meeting also highlighted the long-standing cooperation between Thalassotherapia Opatija and India's Ministry of AYUSH, including previous lectures and exchanges on Ayurveda and preventive healthcare. Both sides discussed opportunities for expanding future collaboration in the fields of integrative medicine, wellness, and knowledge exchange.





Ambassador's visit to City of Nvoigrad

26 August 2026, H.E. Mr. Arun Goel, Ambassador of India to Croatia, met with Mr. Anteo Milos, Mayor of Novigrad, Mrs. Vesna Ferenac, Director of the Novigrad Tourist Board–Cittanova, and Mrs. Sandra Čupić from the Yoga Association Novigrad Amrit Sagar, during a meeting in Novigrad. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on strengthening ties between India and Croatia and to explore new avenues for cooperation at the local level. Particular attention was given to the potential for further collaboration in the fields of tourism, wellness and yoga, areas that offer meaningful opportunities for connecting people and promoting mutual understanding. The discussion reaffirmed the importance of people-to-people exchanges and building partnerships that bring communities closer together while fostering a deeper appreciation of the longstanding cultural and human connections between India and Croatia.





Visit of the 8 member ICCR Shovana Narayan Kathak Dance Ensemble to Ludbreg, Croatia

As part of the week-long celebration marking the 80th Independence Day of India, Croatian audiences have a unique opportunity to discover the beauty, elegance and expressive power of Kathak, one of India's major classical dance traditions. The Shovana Narayan Kathak Dance Ensemble, led by renowned Kathak artist Shovana Narayan, brought this rich Indian classical tradition to Ludbreg, with a performance and workshops for citizens, dancers and yoga instructors.





Glimpses of the performance of the Kathak dance ensemble Shovana Narayan in Island of Hvar on 24th August






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Upcoming Trade Fairs, Conferences & Business Events 2026/2027

Explore Opportunities Across Diverse Indian States

50th India Carpet Expo
Date: 4–7 October 2026
Venue: Bhadohi Carpet Expo Mart, Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh
Website: www.indiacarpetexpo.com

The 50th India Carpet Expo (Golden Jubilee Edition) is scheduled to be held from 4–7 October 2026 at the Bhadohi Carpet Expo Mart, Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh, India. The Expo is organised by the Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC), set up by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. The 50th edition marks a significant milestone for India's handmade carpet industry and will bring together leading Indian manufacturers and exporters of handmade carpets, rugs, and other floor coverings. The Expo provides international buyers with an opportunity to explore the latest designs, contemporary collections, and sustainable offerings, while establishing direct business relationships with Indian suppliers.



InnoRail India 2026: Innovations - Designs – Prototypes
Date: 26–28 November 2026
Venue: RDSO Stadium Ground, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
Website: www.Innorail.in

The 7th edition of InnoRail India 2026: Innovations - Designs - Prototypes is being organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), in association with the Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO), under the Ministry of Railways, Government of India, from 26–28 November 2026 at the RDSO Stadium Ground, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. InnoRail India is held biennially and is the only international exhibition in India dedicated to the rail transportation sector, with the active participation and close association of Indian Railways in both the exhibition and conference. InnoRail India provides a platform for knowledge sharing among industry, academia, and Indian Railways; showcases the latest innovations and global best practices in the railway sector; and promotes domestic manufacturing and R&D in line with the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives. 2026 edition is expected to be the largest ever, with participation from around 20 countries.



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Compiled by
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