



Embassy  
of India  
Zagreb

# Newsletter



**Op-ed written by Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi**  
**"Towards a Brighter Tomorrow: India's G20 Presidency and the Dawn of a New Multilateralism"**

petak/subota, 1./2. prosinca 2023. redakcija@poslovi.hr

Poslovni dnevnik II

## Svijet

**Podvlačenje crte** Godinu dana indijskog predsjedanja skupinom G20

## Umjesto interesa nekolicine, novi zamah multilateralizma i jači glas globalnog juga



**NARENDRA MODI\***  
redakcija@podsvet.hr

**D**anas bijelažimo 365 dana otvora je Indija preuzela predsjedanje G20. To je trenutak za promišljanje, ponovno potvrđivanje stajala i promišljanje duha mlađe našeg predsjedanja "vasudhaiva kutumbam", "jedna zemlja, jedna obitelj, jedna budućnost". Kad smo prošle godine preuzeli ovu odgovornost, svijet se na globalnoj razini boriš s višestrukim izazovima: oporavak od pandemije Covid-19, nadolazećim klimatskim prijetnjama, financijskom nestabilnošću i dužničkim problemima u zemljama u razvoju, a sve uzrashed slabljenja multilateralizma. U tom ozračju obilježeno sukobima i natjecanjima, razvoja suradnja je patila.

Prenevši predsjedanje G20, Indija je nastojala ponuditi svima alternativu statusu quo, pomak s napretka koji je usmjeren na BDP na napredak usmjeren na čovjeka. Indija je htjela podijeliti svijet na ono što nas spaja, a ne na ono što nas razdvaja. Konkretno, globalni razgovor je morao evoluirati - interesi nekolicine morali su ustupiti mjesto težnjama većine. To je zahtijevalo temeljnu reformu multilateralizma kakvog smo poznavali.

Uključiv, ambiciozan, usmjeren na akciju i odlučan. - ove četiri riječi definirale su nas pristup kroz predsjedanje G20, a Deklaracija čelnika iz New Delhija (NDLD), koju su jednoglasno usvojile sve članice G20, svjedočanstvo je naše predanosti u ispunjavanju ovih načela.

Inkluzivnost je bila u središtu našeg predsjedanja. Uključivanje Afrike unije kao stalne članice G20 integriralo je 55 afričkih nacija u forum, proširivši ga tako da obuhvaća 80 po-

sto svjetske populacije. Taj proaktivni stav potaknuo je opsežniji dijalog o globalnim izazovima i prilikama.

Prvi takve vrste 'Voice of the Global South Summit', koji je Indija sazvala u dva izdanja, najavio je novo svitanje multilateralne suradnje između razvijajućih zemalja.

lizma. Indija je uključila zabrinutost zemalja globalnog juga u međunarodni diskurs te započela eru u kojoj zemlje u razvoju zauzimaju mjesto koje in-

**Hitna i pravična promjena**  
Na prekretnici strateški usvojene rezolucije 'Agende 2030', Indija je dostavila Akcijski plan

G20 2013, koji bi trebao ubrzati napredak u postizanju ciljeva održivog razvoja (SDGs). Na taj će način akcijski orijentirani plan zauzeti međusektorski pristup usmjeren na niz bitnih tema, uključujući zdravlje, obrazovanje, ravnopravnost spolova i održivost okoliša.

Ključno područje koje pokreće taj napredak je robusna digitalna javna infrastruktura (DPI). Tu je Indija bila odlučna i u svojim naporima, a bu-

**Potrebe zemalja u razvoju**

G20 je priznao da je zemljama u razvoju potrebno 5,9 trilijuna dolara godišnje kako bi ispunile svoje nacionalne obaveze i doprinele do 2030.



tal Public Infrastructure Repository, značajan iskorak u globalnoj tehnološkoj suradnji. Taj repozitorij, koji sadrži više od 50 DPI-a iz 16 zemalja, pomoći će Globalnom jugu da izgradi usvoji i skalira DPI kako bi otključao snagu uključivog rasta.

Za našu 'One Earth' (referira se na povezanost svijeta, opuz.)

uvrli smo ambiciozne i uključive ciljeve za stvaranje hitne, trajne i pravične promjene. "Pakt o zelenom razvoju" iz Deklaracije bavi se izazovima izbora između borbe protiv gladi i zaštite planeta, ocrtavajući sveobuhvatnu mapu puta u kojoj su za posljavanje i ekosustavi komplementarni, dok je vlastita potrošnja osvijetljena klimatskim promjenama, a proizvodnja priljateljski nastrojena prema planu. Deklaracija skupine G20 no-

tu. Deklaracija skupine G20 poziva na ambiciozno uložanje u obnovljive globalne kapacitete obnovljive energije do 2030. S uspostavljanjem Globalnog saveza za biogorivo i zajedničkim zalaganjem za zeleni vodik, ambicije skupine G20 da izgradi čisti, zeleni svijet su neosporne. Ovo je oduvijek bio indijski etos, a kroz 'Lifestyles for Sustainable Development' (LiFE), svijet može imati koristi



od naše prastare održive tradicije. Nadalje, Deklaracija naglašava našu predanost klimatskoj pravdi i jednakosti, pozivajući na značajnu financijsku i tehnološku potporu Globalnog sjevera. Po prvi put, došlo je do priznanja potrebnog kvantnog skoka u veličini financiranja razvoja, pomicanja iz milijardi na tri-

**Globalni poredak**

S obzirom na ogromne resurse koji su potrebni, G20 je naglasilo važnost boljih, većih i učinkovitijih multilateralnih razvojnih banaka. Istodobno, Indija preuzima vodeću ulogu u reformama JIN-a, noseći je u restrukturira-

Ravnopravnost spolova za uzela je središnje mjesto u Deklaraciji što je kulminiralo formiranjem posvećene Radne skupine za osnaživanje žena, navede na skupina će provoditi usvoje ne točke rezolucije od 2024. Indijski zakon o ženskim kvotama iz 2023., koji uspostavlja obvezu poštivanja jedne trećinu mjesta u indijskom parlamentu i državnoj zakonodavnoj skupštini.

**Nakon Indije,** predsjedanje G20 od 1. prosinca preuzima Brazil



za žene, utjelovljuje našu predanost razvoju pod vodstvom žena. Deklaracija iz New Delhija utjelovljuje obnovljeni duh suradnje u ovim ključnim prioritetima, usredotočujući se na usklađenost politike, pouzdanu trgovinu i ambicioznu klimatsku akciju. Ponosni smo što je tijekom našeg predsjedanja G20 zaklju-

Tijekom našeg predsjedanja, R2, Indija je vodila rasprave o geopolitičkim pitanjima i njihovom utjecaju na gospodarski rast i razvoj. Terorizam i besmisleno ubijanje civila je neprihvatljivo, tome se moramo posvetiti političkom nulte tolerancije. Moramo utjeloviti humanitarizam umjesto neprijateljstva i ponoviti kako smo mi dobri ratu.

Drago mi je što je tijekom našeg predsjedanja Indija postigla nevjerojatno: revitalizirala je multilateralizam, pojačala glas globalnog juga, zagovarala razvoj i borila se za osnaživanje žena, posvuda. Dok predajemo predsjedanje G20 Brazilu, činimo to s uvjerenjem da će naša zajednički koraci za ljude, planet, mir i prosperitet imati odjeka u godinama koje dolaze.

Today marks 365 days since India assumed the G20 Presidency. It is a moment to reflect, recommit, and rejuvenate the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,' 'One Earth, One Family, One Future.'

As we undertook this responsibility last year, the global landscape grappled with multifaceted challenges: recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, looming climate threats, financial instability, and debt distress in developing nations, all amid declining multilateralism. In the midst of conflicts and competition, development cooperation suffered, impeding progress.

Assuming the G20 Chair, India sought to offer the world an alternative to status quo, a shift from a GDP-centric to human-centric progress. India aimed to remind the world of what unites us, rather than what divides us. Finally, the global conversation had to evolve - the interests of the few had to give way to the aspirations of the many. This required a fundamental reform of multilateralism as we knew it.

Inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented, and decisive—these four words defined our approach as G20 president, and the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD), unanimously adopted by all G20 members, is testimony to our commitment to deliver on these principles. *Read the full op-ed [here](#).*

\*Narendra Modi, premier indien



## Press conference of the national literary event, the 45th Interliber was marked with the special guest, diplomat and author Amb. Vikas Swarup



The 45 International Book Fair - Interliber 2023, the largest literary event in Croatia had a special guest of - the world-famous writer and Indian diplomat Vikas Swarup, whose novel was based on the Oscar-winning film "Slumdog Millionaire", and whose guest appearance was organized in cooperation with the Embassy of India to Croatia. Amb. Swarup held also a lecture and book signing on at the fair. The full interview with Amb Swarup after the press conference can be found [here](#).



# Interliber

7. - 12. 11. 2023.



Autor svjetskog hita  
„Milijunaš s ulice“  
na Interliberu

Dolazak Vikasa Swarupa na Interliber  
jedinstvena je prilika za sve ljubitelje knjiga  
da se susretnu uživo s autorom koji je  
osvojio srca čitatelja cijelog svijeta svojom  
dirljivom i inspirativnom pričom.


## Vikas Swarup



Interliber s ponosom  
najavljuje gostovanje  
svjetski poznatog pisca  
i indijskog diplomata,  
Vikasa Swarupa po čijem  
je romanu „Q&A“ nastao  
poznati, višestruko  
nagrađivani i Oscarom  
ovjenčani film  
„Milijunaš s ulice“.

### BIOGRAFIJA

Osim knjige „Milijunaš s ulice“ napisao je još  
„The Accidental Apprentice“ i „Six Suspects“.  
U svojoj diplomatskoj karijeri obnašao je  
dužnost u Turskoj, Sjedinjenim Američkim  
Državama, Etiopiji, Ujedinjenom  
Kraljevstvu i Južnoj Africi.  
Vikas Swarup voli slušati glazbu,  
igrati kriket, tenis i stolni tenis.

Nakon razgovora s publikom uslijedit će  
potpisivanje knjige „Milijunaš s ulice“  
(nakladnik Znanje) 

 Pozivamo vas na susret s  
autorom „The Talk: Vikas Swarup“  
7. studenog u 18.00 sati u paviljonu 7  
Zagrebačkog velesajma.

Moderator: Jasen Boko  
književnik, dramaturg, putopisac i novinar




[www.zv.hr/interliber](http://www.zv.hr/interliber)




Glimpses of the unique evening in Zagreb with Croatian, Indian & international friends in the field of tourism, media & diplomacy, with Amb Vikas Swarup where he presented India, the country which makes one discover oneself. We are sure we have more International visitors including our Croatian friends, coming to India in 2024, than what we have seen so far. A great evening enjoyed both by guests as well as hosts.

**G20**  
*A Journey to India with  
Amb. Vikas Swarup*  
an accomplished diplomat, author, story-teller, media  
personality, and thought leader



Well-known Indian Author Amb. Vikas Swarup will be the key figure at the Zagreb Book Fair Interliber 2023 as the author of three highly successful fiction novels, including 'Q&A', which later became the Oscar-winning movie 'Slumdog Millionaire.' Given his expertise in diplomacy and visual media (having hosted 78 weekly episodes of the show 'Diplomatic Dispatch' on Indian Television) as well as his storytelling skills, this special evening will be dedicated to India as a destination for visitors from different walks of life, as explained by Amb. Vikas Swarup in a lively interaction with the guests "Q&A".

Hotel Westin, Panorama hall (17th floor)  
03 November 2023  
18.30 - 20.30



Embassy of India  
Zagreb





## The national literary event, the 45th Interliber was marked with the special guest, diplomat and author Amb. Vikas Swarup



The opening ceremony of the Croatian 45 International Book Fair - Interliber 2023, the largest literary event in Croatia with more than 300 exhibitors from 13 countries was opened on the 7<sup>th</sup> November by H.E. Mrs. Phd. Nina Obuljen Koržinek, Minister of Culture and Media with inaugural speeches by Amb Vikas Swarup & Ambassador Srivastava, Ms Renata Suša, Director of Zagreb Fair and Mr. Tomislav Tomašević, Mayor of the City of Grad Zagreb. The special guest of this year's Interliber, the author Vikas Swarup: "Books are much more than ink on paper, they connect us through time and space. They are bridges to the past, maps to the present, and guides to the future. We celebrate the written words here". Find Amb Swarup statement [here](#).



Ambassador Srivastava pointed out that the 30 chapters in the recently published book, would be expanded exponentially in the next decade driven by people-to-people ties as Croatia and India has convergence in Democracy, complementarity in Demography, and commonality in Diversity. Among those new chapters, one would surely be on Books & Authors the beginning of which is taking place today in Interliber. The Book Fair in India next year would hopefully have Miro Gavran from Croatia. The director of Zagreb Fair, Renata Suša, assessed that Interliber has long gone beyond the limits of the Zagreb Fair. She added that her goal is to connect all stakeholders of the publishing industry: readers, institutions, publishers, the cultural and economic sector, and the media, with the desire for further development and qualitative growth of the country's central literary event. Mayor Tomašević said in the introduction that Interliber is not only a traditional autumn gathering of book lovers, but also the largest and most prestigious book fair in Croatia and the region, and one of the most important cultural events in Croatia. Minister Obuljen Koržinek mentioned that the translation of International books is important for the future and officially opened the 45th edition of Interliber.



## "The Talk: Vikas Swarup"

The 45th Interliber witnessed a 2-hour-long literary event "The Talk: Vikas Swarup" moderated by Croatian writer Jasen Boko. During the event in front of around 200 participants, Amb Swarup pointed out his views on his first novel "Q&A" which was translated into 50 languages and won the Prix Grand Public at the Paris Book Fair and the South African Boeke Prize. Amb Swarup mentioned that books enabled him to see the world in his childhood when he did not see the world outside of India. "As a child, I never set foot outside India, but books allowed me to have different experiences. Through books, we bridge differences in cultures, they open a view into the totality of human experience", he said, adding that book fairs like Interliber are "proof of the resilience and modernity of books". "Croatia is a good example of a country that values reading. Interliber is an indicator of the democracy of the imagination," he said. After the event, Amb Swarup signed the books for the book lovers of Interliber. The book "Q&A" was translated by Vladimir Cvetković Sever and published by Znanje in 2023. The author's second novel "Six Suspects" was also translated into the Croatian language in 2013. The event was attended by Ambassador Srivastava, Ms. Renata Suša, Director of the Zagreb fair, Mr. Zvonimir Čimić, Director of the publishing house Znanje and Ambassadors from the Czech Republic and Italy.





## New India at work in diverse sports arenas



### CONGRATULATIONS

Indian golfer Aditi Ashok ends her season on a high note, **winning the LET Season Finale - Andalucia Costa Del Sol Open, Spain**

Kreedom

@kreedomworld



### WOMEN'S ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY

#### RESULTS

	7-1	
	5-0	
	2-1	
	2-1	
	5-0	
	2-0	
	4-0	

sportskeeda

World Cup 2023 in India sets all-time tournament attendance record of 1.25 million



The just-concluded Cricket World Cup attracted a tournament-record 1.25 million spectators during the six-and-a-half-week event, which ended Sunday with Australia beating India by six wickets for its sixth title. The International Cricket Council said Tuesday that the tournament had 1,250,307 spectators. With six games to go, the spectator figures had already surpassed the one million mark. The India attendance figures surpass the earlier marks of the 2015 World Cup held in Australia and New Zealand, which attracted 10,16,420 spectators and the 2019 edition in England and Wales, which had 7,52,000 fans. The 10-team tournament in India saw each team play the others once to advance to the semi-finals. There were 48 matches played overall for a total average attendance of about 26,000. It was the 13th edition of the World Cup, with the first being held in 1975. ICC Head of Events Chris Tetley said the one-day international (ODI) tournament had been a "great success." [Source.](#)

## NEWS ON INDIA

**India's Digital Economy Soars, Targets 20% GDP Share by 2025-26: MoS Rajevee Chandrasekhar.** In a statement at the Global AI Summit hosted by Britain, Minister of State (MoS) for Electronics and Information Technology, Rajevee Chandrasekhar, highlighted India's remarkable digital transformation over the past eight years. The MoS emphasized that India has significantly increased its digital economy's contribution to the total GDP from 4.5% to 11%, with a bold target of reaching 20% by 2025-26. Chandrasekhar stressed that the digital and innovation sectors are experiencing growth rates two to three times faster than the non-digital segments of the economy. "So for us, all things digital represent real bread and butter, real goals and real objectives and artificial intelligence is a kinetic enabler of the already accelerating digital economy, growth and governments", he said.

**India's Healthcare Sector Poised for Tenfold Growth in Digital Transformation by 2030.** India's healthcare industry is set to undergo a profound digital transformation, with a report by Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and B Capital forecasting a staggering acceleration from \$2.7 billion in 2022 to an estimated \$37 billion by 2030. This growth is attributed to rapid digitization, the rise of innovative healthtech platforms, strategic partnerships between startups and established firms, and favourable funding environments for viable business models, supported by government initiatives. One prominent trend shaping India's digital healthcare landscape is the widespread adoption of digital healthcare post-COVID-19. Patients and healthcare providers are increasingly comfortable with technology for healthcare interactions, marking a new era in healthcare consumption.

**India Targets \$1 Trillion in Exports by 2030, Focusing on Electronics, Renewable Energy, and EVs.** Director General of Foreign Trade, Santosh Kumar Sarangi, highlighted key areas for India to achieve its \$1 trillion merchandise exports goal by 2030. Electronics, renewable energy, IT hardware, and electric vehicles (EVs) are identified as pivotal sectors. Notably, India's smartphone exports surged to \$10.9 billion in FY 23, with an 88.9% YoY increase in smartphone exports to \$5.6 billion from April to August. The Production Linked Incentive scheme for IT hardware, featuring major brands like Dell, HP, and Lenovo, is expected to boost exports. The renewable energy sector and the growing EV industry are also seen as significant contributors to India's export growth. Sarangi emphasized the government's comprehensive approach, including a shift to value-added products in traditional sectors like tea, coffee, marine products, and food grains. In 2022-23, India's total exports reached \$776 billion, with goods accounting for \$453 billion.

### **India Sets Course to Transform Airports into Global Connectivity Hubs**

India is formulating a national policy to transform its airports into major international hubs, providing seamless global connectivity to South Asia. This policy, pending cabinet approval, aims to establish regulations to streamline security and immigration procedures at airports, allocate international flight rights, and develop the necessary infrastructure. The objective is to position airports like Delhi as competitive transit hubs, comparable to global hubs, according to individuals involved in shaping the policy. In the case of Delhi Airport, which currently comprises three terminals, there are plans to connect them through a train system.





## Croatia in India



**भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद्**  
**Indian Council for Cultural Relations**  
Zonal Office, North East Region

cordially invites to

### 7<sup>th</sup> India-International Folk Festival

Inauguration by  
**Shri Phagu Chauhan**  
Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya

on Thursday 22 November, 2023

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**Programme**

**Wednesday, 22 November 2023 at 5.30 pm onwards**

- (i) Inaugural Ceremony-Garo Wangala Dance from Meghalaya
- (ii) 'Naz' State dance ensemble from Kazakhstan
- (iii) 'Bong Sen Ethnic Music and Dance Theater' of Ho-Chi-Minh City from Vietnam

**Thursday, 23 November 2023 at 5.30 pm onwards**

- (i) Khasi Shad Kniasngei Dance
- (ii) State honored folk dance ensemble 'Severney Zhor'i' from Russia
- (iii) 'Selas Dance Company' from Cyprus

**Friday, 24 November 2023 at 5.30 pm onwards**

- (i) Jaintia Harvest Dance
- (ii) Musical Duo Tihomir Hojsak and Filip Novosel from Croatia
- (iii) 'Conjunto Folklorico Nacional' folk group from Cuba
- (iv) 'Mulualem Cultural Centre' from Ethiopia

**Venue: U Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong**  
*In support of Department of Arts and Culture, Government of Meghalaya*

- This card is valid for two persons only
- Please be seated by 5.15 pm
- Seating on first come first served basis
- Right of admission reserved

RSVP: 8119923578

**Entry Free**

 @ICCROfficial  
 @ICCR\_hq  
 @ICCR\_doh  
 @ICCROfficial

Two acclaimed virtuosos from Croatia, Tihomir Hojsak (double bass) and Filip Novosel (tambura – Croatian traditional instrument) visited India to showcase Croatian jazz with Konnakol counting system of percussion. The first performance of the group was held at the 'India International Folk Festival' scheduled to be held in Shillong from 22-24 November 2023. with the support of the Indian Council For Cultural Relations. After the performance in Shillong, the duo visited Oberoi International School Workshops in Mumbai, Maharashtra where they gave lectures to the children's music school. During the visit they have also met with the famous Indian choreographer Mr. Terrence Lewis & which held a Croatian tour in 2021 called "Indradhanush-Rainbow" under the Cultural exchange program of Croatia and India & with the partnership of Croatian Ministry of Culture and Media. Ambassador Srivastava who invited the duo to play the Independence Day of India 2023 expressed that the two virtuosos in India would create an even stronger cultural bridge between Croatia and India.



**Read how the Knights Association from Blato conquered India.  
“Here's how they spent time at the Delhi International Dance and Music Festival,  
one of the biggest folklore shows in the world”**



The story of the departure of the Knights Association from Korčula Kumpanjija - Blato cronies to India began a little less than two years ago, when Ambassador Srivastava visited the oldest settlement on the island of Korčula, as part of the Matice Hrvatska Blato project. Fate, or coincidence, wanted the Ambassador to come across members of the VU Kumpanji from Blato rehearsing kumpanji, the island's oldest, fencing, chain dance made of colours, for the then 58th edition of the Folklore Show in Blato, the oldest in the Republic of Croatia, on Plokata. Ambassador Srivastava wasted no time, the people of Blaćan soon received an official invitation to India.

"The official invitation arrived at the end of August, for 11 days in India "Nevertheless, we decided to be brave, to accept the invitation and the great honour of representing Croatia in distant India, we embarked on an extensive organization for which we had very little time," recalled VU Kumpanji president Stjepan Bačić.

"Upon our arrival in New Delhi, we immediately performed at the show, which I can certainly call the world championship in the context of folklore. From Europe, we were the only ones and Romania, and professional societies from all over the world performed, from Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Canada, Panama to Russia. We must admit that we were the most impressive, which was confirmed by the biggest applause. After the performance, members of other associations took selfies with famous Indians, while we stood quietly in line until the captain gave the signal to move. We are guided by discipline and military cohesion, comrades. came from the military companies of our island from the distant past," explains Duke Nikola proudly.

Although the Kumpanjija from Blato is an amateur association, with a detailed approach to the organization they have shown an enviable level of professionalism. From the day of the decision until the departure, President Stjepan said that they spent three to four hours a day on preparations to present Croatia in the best possible way in India. Funds for the trip had to be secured, the president points out, for which he thanks the tourist boards of the county and Croatia, our county and the Ministry of Culture and Media, while the organizers Indian Council for Cultural Exchanges - ICCR were responsible for all expenses on Indian soil. Read the full article [here](#).



## Ambassador's outreaches

Ambassador Srivastava joined the famous author & former Diplomat Amb Vikas Swarup as a guest of honour of the largest Croatian book Fair "Interliber 2023" held at Zagreb fair, on the Good Morning Show on Croatian National Television. Ambassador Srivastava appreciated the diversity of Croatia and India and the cultural exchanges which would bring the two countries closer. He also praised the visit of the "Q&A" author which would be followed by other visits between the two democracies strengthening further bilateral people-to-people ties..



Ambassador Srivastava joined Amb Vikas Swarup in the interview with Večernji list.



A session on Yoga and sport was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November with the participation of Ambassador Srivastava, Yogacharya Jadrnako Mikleć and Mr. Damir Božinović, a long-time yoga teacher and practitioner and doctoral student at the Faculty of Kinesiology in Zagreb. He graduated from the Faculty of Kinesiology in Split, received his master's degree in postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Kinesiology in Zagreb and obtained the academic degree of Master of Science. He has published several scientific and professional works.



Ambassador Srivastava hosted distinguished friends from Egypt, Kazakhstan, Sweden, Netherlands, Vatican and Croatia at India House for a special Indian cuisine gathering accompanied by good food for thought.





## The 8th Ayurveda Day: "Ayurveda for everyone every day"

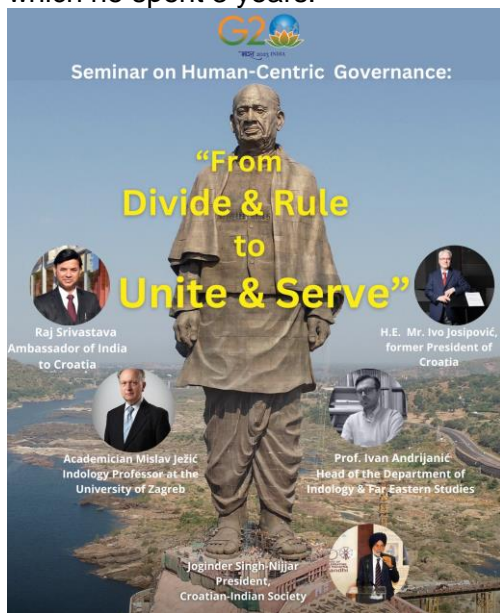
The 8th Ayurveda Day, integrated Lectures, an Ayurvedic millet-based culinary workshop and tasting on the कृषि विभाग रायगड - International Year of Millets 2023 were held at the OAZA Joyful Kitchen, in Zagreb on 10th November with Mohanji Hrvatska. Ambassador Srivastava highlighted the main theme "Ayurveda for One Health", under the slogan "Ayurveda for everyone every day", with a focus on the connection between all living beings and the environment. Amb noted that this year's theme is in line with the theme of G20 India's chairmanship, 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', under which the Declaration emphasizes the 'One Health' approach by addressing various aspects of health, including nutrition. The rich programme also saw a Lecture on millets from the aspect of the Ayurveda Adhara Centre by Irena Svenda, a cooking workshop, and a Presentation of the humanitarian platform ACT4Hunger, Devi Mohan, global president of the international humanitarian organization ACT. The event was closed with a Dance performance of Kathak dance by Ivana Surya and a tasting of millet dishes and Ayurvedic teas.





**The National Unity Day of India & the 145th Bith Anniversary Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel the "Iron Man of India" was celebrated at Napredak, Zagreb in cooperation with the Croatian Indian Society on 31st October 2023 with a Seminar on Human-Centric Governance: "From Divide & Rule to Unite & Serve"**

The keynote speech was given by former Croatian President Mr Ivo Josipović who mentioned the important lesson for the EU from the experience of unification of India under the great leadership of Sardar Patel, especially in the current times when the world is divided and the EU is trying to create a unified voice. Ambassador Srivastava mentioned the past decade's experience of India's governance under which India has moved to "Unite & Serve" where the People and environment are at the centre of focus and therefore strengthening Democracy, Demography, and Diversity. Mr. Mislav Ježić, Indology Professor at the University of Zagreb presented an analysis of the EU and other topics while Prof. Ivan Andrijanic, Head of the Department of Indology & Far Eastern Studies, gave a presentation on the role of Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel in uniting 565 self-governing princely states for which he spent 3 years.





## “Diaspora as Bridge” - Connecting Communities & Culture on the 16th of November at Napredak

Ambassador Srivastava participated at the event “Diaspora as Bridge” - Connecting Communities & Culture on the 16th of November at Napredak and presented an outline of Diaspora Diplomacy, an important dimension of Human-centric Governance, Globalisation, and Growth. During his speech, Amb mentioned the positive contributions of over 40 million strong India's diaspora globally in the fields of education, economy, skills, science, healthcare, innovation, culture, & and spirituality. Indian Embassies abroad are home away from home for the Indian diaspora today. Croatian MP Ms Zdravka Bušić highlighted the diaspora contribution to humanitarian efforts, especially in times of crisis or natural disasters positively affecting the homeland. The Indology professors Mr. Ivan Andrižanić and Mr. Mislav Ježić explained the importance of India's diaspora from 2500 years back till now, including of Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas celebrations on 9 January each year for almost two decades in India and the fact that in January 2023 in 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas in Indore (the cleanest city of India), among one of the 27 global awardees was Mr Joginder Singh from Croatian Indian Society, who has done great work in connecting people of Croatia and India.





## India is the partner country of CroArgo and Healthy Food and Living fairs



The opening ceremony of CroArgo and Healthy Food and Living fairs witnessed the speeches of Renata Suša, director of the Zagreb Fair, Mr. Mladen Jakopović, president of the Croatian Chamber of Agriculture, H.E. Mr. Raj Kumar Srivastava, Ambassador of India to Croatia, Mr. Tugomir Majdak, State Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Croatia & envoy of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, M.Sc. sc. Martina Ciglević, assistant adviser to the President of the Republic of Croatia for the economy and representative of the President of the Republic. The event was opened by Mr. Tomislav Tomašević, Mayor of the City of Zagreb who praised the partnership of the friends of India which has established a strong bond between the City of Zagreb, Zagreb Fair and India in the field of Culture and now in the field of Healthy Living lifestyle. In his speech, Ambassador Srivastava referred to the legacy of Nikola Tesla that the secrets of the universe can be understood by thinking in terms of frequency, vibration and energy, and expressed his happiness that fair started with blissful Indian classical music on Sitar & Tabla. Healthy Living is a mindset and lifestyle matters more than medical issues. 90% of global ailments are connected to three issues Anxiety, Metabolism, and Stamina and stability. Broadly speaking all three have direct solutions through healthy living using principles of Yoga, Meditation, & Ayurveda, all three of which would be presented through consultations and workshops during the fair with India as the partner country. Ambassador also mentioned that the opening of the Fair coincided with the ending of G20 India's presidency whose motto Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, which translates to "One Earth, One Family, One Future," is also a mindset matter where we see our existential reality which is of Unity. Find the full speech [here](#).







India is preparing an interesting program that will be marked by Yoga and Ayurveda workshops and collective music and dance performances. The partnering coincides with the International Year of Millets and G20 Presidency of India, India prepares delicious tastings and awaits you.

#### PARTNERS



### Friday, 1st December

17.00-18.00 - "In. for Y&A "SUNCE" & Jadranko Miklec - Hall in pavilion 11A



18.00 - 18.45 - Ayurvedic lecture by Mr. sc. Irena Švenda, Ayurveda - Nutritionist - Open stage pav. 11A

### Saturday, 2nd December

-11.00 - 12.00 - Izabela Marić, president of the Croatian Yoga Federation - Chair yoga with breathing exercises & relaxation - Hall in pavilion 11A



17.00 -17.30 - Helena Cuculić and Sandra Begović "Experience from Ayurvedic clinical practice in India", Open stage pav. 11A

### Sunday, 3rd December

3:00 p.m. - Ana Kutija stress management workshop (breathing & relaxation techniques, along with certain Asanas, which can also be done on a chair) - Open stage pav. 11A



14:45 - 15:00 - Indian dance by OpaA - Oriental dance ensemble Apsaradhe - Open stage pav. 11A



## Announcing the Scientific forum Expanding the Human Knowledge Frontiers through Quantum & Space Science

The poster features a central image of a rocket launch with a large plume of fire and smoke. Surrounding this central image are circular portraits of the speakers and moderators. At the top, there are logos for the Embassy of India, Zagreb, the NAPREDAK Cultural Center, and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of Croatia. The text on the poster includes the title of the forum, the names and titles of the participants, and the date and location of the event.

**Scientific forum *CURRENT MOMENT***  
**Expanding the Human Knowledge Frontiers through Quantum & Space Science: "Indian & Croatian experience"**

**Joginder Singh - Nijjar**  
President, Croatia-Indian Society

**Raj Srivastava**  
Ambassador of India to Croatia

**Moderator Prof. dr. sc. Dražen Vikić-Topić**  
Vice-president Napredak Cultural Center

**Lecture by Prof. dr. sc. Ivo Orlić**,  
Independent researcher  
"Bridging Science & Spirituality"

**Lecture by Mr. Ante Radonić**,  
Croatian astronomer  
"India's space probes  
& launch vehicles"

**Lecture by**  
**Dr. sc. Slobodan Danko Bosanac**,  
Croatian physicist  
"Deep space challenges"

**Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6.30 pm**  
**Napredak Cultural Center, Bogovićeve 1/I, Zagreb**

**G20**  
2023

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Compiled by  
Embassy of India, Zagreb

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