

India-Hungary Bilateral Relations

Relations between India and Hungary have been close and friendly, multifaceted and substantive. They have survived the vicissitudes of political and economic changes, particularly in Hungary and reorientation of its foreign policy in the post-cold war period. Hungarians are extremely grateful for India's role in the 1956 uprising in Hungary. India's intervention with the Soviet Union saved the life of Dr. Arpad Goncz who subsequently served as President of Hungary from 1990 to 2000. India is seen as a country whose ancient culture and spiritual traditions and the academic and scientific excellence specially in the "knowledge sector" is deeply attractive to ordinary Hungarians. Bilateral economic relationship has also been strengthened with investments of approximately US\$ 3.3 billion from India to Hungary. In the year 2024, bilateral trade has reached around USD 1.3 billion and in 2025 it has reached USD 2.4 billion.

Bilateral Interactions

Visits from Hungary

On 18th March, 2025, Mr. Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary visited New Delhi to attend 10th edition of Raisina Dialogue (17-19 Mar 2025).

Foreign Minister of Hungary, Mr. Peter Szijjarto visited New Delhi to participate in CII-India Europe Business and Sustainability Conclave held on February 21-22, 2024 in New Delhi.

At the invitation of EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar, Mr. Peter Szijjarto, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary visited India in May 2022 accompanied by a business delegation.

Foreign Minister Szijjártó co-chaired an India-Hungary Business Forum with Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, MoS for External Affairs during his visit to India in May 2022 where two commercial agreements were signed. Foreign Minister Szijjártó also met Shri Hardeep Sing Puri, Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs and Petroleum & Natural Gas and discussed cooperation in the energy sector between the two countries.

Prime Minister Viktor Orban led a 100-member strong delegation including a 80-member business delegation on his visit to Delhi and Mumbai in October 2013. He called on President, Vice President and held delegation level discussion with Prime Minister. MoUs on Traditional Systems of Medicine, Cooperation in the field of Sports, Cooperation in the areas of Defensive Aspects of Microbiological and Radiological Detection and Protection and Cultural Exchange Programme were signed. In addition, Letters of Intent on Revision of Air Services Agreement and Indo-Hungarian Strategic Research Fund were also signed.

Visits from India

A 4-member official delegation from Uttar Pradesh Branch of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association led by Shri Satish Mahana Hon'ble Speaker of UP Legislative Assembly visited Hungary from 11-14 October, 2025. On 12 Oct 2025, a community reception held at the Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre of the Mission, Hon'ble Speaker and Hon'ble Chairman of UP Legislative Council Shri Kunwar Manvendra Singh ji interacted with the Indian community members. On 13 Oct, delegation met with the Hungarian-Indian Friendship Group of the Hungarian National Assembly, followed by meeting with Mr. István Jakab, Vice-Speaker of the National Assembly and Mr. Zsolt Németh, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of Hungarian National Assembly. Discussions centered on deepening legislative cooperation between our two dynamic democracies and to explore avenues for greater cooperation. Both sides also covered key issues of mutual interest to further our partnership.

An Indian Parliamentary Delegation from Rajya Sabha led by Shri Harivansh, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha visited Hungary from 6 -9 March, 2024 at the invitation of the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary. During the visit, Deputy Chairman called on Mr. István Jakab, Deputy Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly. Rajya Sabha delegation also met the Hungarian-Indian Friendship Group chaired by Mr. Péter Cseresnyés. discussed various opportunities to further deepen bilateral relations and emphasised the importance of cultural interactions.

Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture visited Hungary in November, 2023. She delivered a key-note speech at the joint public event organized by Hungarian Institute of International Affairs and Embassy of India on the occasion of celebration of 75 years of diplomatic relations between India and Hungary. Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi held meetings with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr. Levente Magyar, Minister of Culture and Innovation of Hungary, Mr. Csák János and President of Parliamentary Committee for Foreign Affairs Mr. Zsolt Attila Nemeth and shared views on a wide range of possibilities for collaboration in culture, women empowerment and democracy.

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs and Petroleum & Natural Gas visited Hungary in February- March 2022 to oversee the evacuation of Indian students from Ukraine under the Operation Ganga. He met with Foreign Minister Szijjarto during the visit and conveyed thanks of the Indian government for the cooperation and facilitation extended by the government of Hungary. He also handed over a letter from PM Modi addressed to PM Viktor Orban.

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Jal Shakti visited Budapest in October 2019 at the invitation of the Hungarian side. He participated in the Budapest Water Summit 2019 and delivered a keynote speech at the Inaugural Session of the Summit. He had meetings with Mr. János Áder,

President of Hungary as well as with Ministers of Agriculture, Interior and Foreign Affairs and Trade.

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Hungary in August 2019. EAM held discussions with Hungary's Foreign Minister Mr. Peter Szijjarto on a wide range of bilateral and multilateral issues. The two Ministers signed a Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Hungary for the period 2019-22. The Hungarian side announced their decision to join the International Solar Alliance. Five main areas of film production, digitalization, water management, solar energy and pharmaceuticals were identified for strengthening cooperation. The two Ministers also agreed to also intensify bilateral interaction in the fields of education, tourism and science.

Institutional Cooperation Modalities

Foreign Office Consultations – The 11th round of FOCs was held on February 10, 2026 in New Delhi. Indian side led by Shri Sibi George, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs and the Hungarian side was led by Ms. Boglárka Illés, State Secretary for Bilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Both sides reviewed the entire spectrum of engagement including political affairs, trade & investment, defence, science & technology, green energy, water management, pharmaceuticals, space, sports, connectivity, educational & cultural ties. Both sides also discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest including on Europe, Indo-Pacific & multilateral reforms.

Joint Committee on Economic Cooperation: The Indo-Hungary Joint Committee on Economic cooperation provides the institutional framework for intergovernmental discussions on economic cooperation. The 6th Session was held in Budapest on 17-18 October 2022 when the Protocol for cooperation was reviewed and signed.

Joint Business Council (JBC): A Joint Business Council of Indian and Hungarian companies was set up in 1979 under an agreement between FICCI and Hungarian Chamber of Commerce to promote direct contacts between business delegations. Last meeting of the JBC was held in Budapest, Hungary, in June 2016.

Important Bilateral Treaties and Agreements

- Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (2003)
- MoU on IT Cooperation (2003)
- Agreement on Defence Cooperation (2003)
- Agreement on Exemption of Visa Requirement for holders of diplomatic and official passports (2003)
- Agreement on cooperation in the field of Health & Medicine (2008)
- Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture and allied sectors (2008)
- Letter of Intent on Strategic Research Fund between India and Hungary (2008)

- MoU between Oil and Natural Gas Corp. Ltd. and MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Plc. for Cooperation in Hydrocarbon Sector (2008)
- Agreement on Social Security between India and Hungary (2010)
- Agreement between Semmelweis University Faculty of Physical Education and Sport Sciences (TF), Hungary and Sport Authority of India (2011)
- MoU on Traditional Systems of Medicine (2013)
- MoU on Cooperation in the field of Sports (2013)
- Letter of Intent for Indo-Hungarian Strategic Research Fund (enhanced contribution of Euro 2 million each for 2014-17).
- Education Exchange Programme signed in Budapest on 19 November 2014.
- MOU on Cooperation in the field of Water Management – October 2016
- MOU between the Indian Council of World Affairs and Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary – October 2016.
- MOU between Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences and the University of Debrecen for establishment of European Institute of Ayurvedic Sciences, in October 2017.
- MOU between Eotvos Lorand University(ELTE) of Hungary and Indian Council for Cultural Relations(ICCR, New Delhi for establishment of Hindi Chair at ELTE university in September 2018.
- MoU between Council of EU Chambers of Commerce in India (CEUCCI) and the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 26 June 2018 in Budapest
- MoU on Cultural Exchange program for the period 2019-22 between India and Hungary on 26th August 2019.
- Letter of Intent was signed between Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA) and Hungarian Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (MAJOSZ) with a view to re-energizing their cooperation on 5 February 2019 in Budapest.
- MoU between WAPCOS and Budapest Waterworks in Budapest on September 12, 2019.
- MoU on Investment Promotion between Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency (HIPA) with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) - 27 May 2022, New Delhi
- MoU between Invest India and Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency (HIPA) at the 5th India-Hungary Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation held on 5-6th March 2018, New Delhi. The MoU was renewed on 27 May 2022, New Delhi and signed as an MoU on Enhancing bilateral Investment Relations.
- MOU for Student, Staff Exchange Program and Master's Program between Semmelweis University, Budapest and St. Joseph Dental College and Hospital, India signed on 01 November 2022
- MOU between Marwadi University, India and the University of Public Service (UPS), Hungary signed on 7th of June 2022
- MoU between ACEDS India and the Budapest Neutron Centre (BNC) was signed on 22 June 2026.

Bilateral visits over the years:

India to Hungary

Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker of Lok Sabha	June 2010
Smt. Preneet Kaur, Minister of State for External Affairs	November 2010
Shri Ashwani Kumar, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs	May 2011
Shri Vilasrao Deshmukh, Minister for Science and Technology	November 2011
Shri Sachin Pilot, Minister of State for Communications and IT Technology	October 2012
Shri Salman Khurshid, Minister of External Affairs	July 2013
Shri Harish Rawat, Minister of Water Resources	October 2013
Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation	June 2016
Shri M. Hamid Ansari, Vice-President	October 2016
Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister	August 2019
Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Jal Shakti	October 2019
Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs	March 2022
Smt Lekhi Meenakashi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture	November 2023
Shri Harivansh, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha	March 2024
Shri Satish Mahana Hon'ble Speaker of UP Legislative Assembly	October 2025

Hungary to India

Mr. László Parragh, President of Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	March 2010
Dr. Zsolt Semjén, Deputy Prime Minister, Deputy Speaker of Parliament	May 2012
Dr. János Latorcay, Deputy Speaker of Parliament	May 2012
Mr. László Kövér, Speaker of Parliament	November 2012
Mr. Péter Szijjártó, State Secretary for External Economic Relations	August 2013
Mr. Viktor Orban, Prime Minister	October 2013
Mr. János Martonyi, Minister of Foreign Affairs	November 2013
Dr. Csaba Balogh, Deputy State Secretary for Eastern Opening, MFAT	January 2015
Mr. Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs	May 2015
Dr. Laszlo Szabo, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Trade	October 2015
Mr. Istvan Ijgyarto, MOS for Cultural and Science Diplomacy, MFAT	May 2016
Mr. Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs	July 2016
Dr. Pana Petra, Deputy State Secretary for Foreign Trade, MFAT	December 2016
Dr. Csaba Balogh, Minister of State for Public Policy, MFAT	October 2017
Mr. Istvan Mikola, Minister of State for Security Policy and International Cooperation, MFAT	November 2017

Mr Peter Sztaray, MoS for Security Policy for Raisina Dialogue	January 2019
Mr. Istvan Joo, Deputy State Secretary for Export Development	November 2019
Mr. Peter Szijjártó Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade	January 2020
Mr Peter Sztaray, MoS for Security Policy for Raisina Dialogue	April 2022
Mr. Peter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade	May 2022
Mr. Istvan Jakab, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly	Feb 2023
Mr. Zolt Nemeth, MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee	Jan 2024
Mr. Peter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Feb 2024
Mr. Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade	March 2025
Dr. Lajos Olah, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary	February 2026

Bilateral Commercial & Economic Cooperation

Bilateral trade with Hungary in the last few years is given in the table below:

Year	Indian Exports (US\$ mln)	Indian imports (US\$ mln)	Total Trade (US\$ mln)
2019	489.6	254.5	744.1
2020	478	282.8	760.8

2021	582.5	376.2	958.7
2022	790.7	491.0	1281.7
2023	780.1	428.8	1208.9
2024	792.90	495.60	1288.50
2025	839.5	1568.4	2407.8
2026 Jan-Mar	227.8	718.9	946.7

Source: KSH, Hungary

Major Hungarian Exports to India: Machinery and mechanical appliances and parts, electrical machinery and equipment, television image and sound recorders and parts, organic chemicals, optical photographic, cinematographic measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and accessories, vehicles and parts, pharmaceutical products, plastics, articles of paper, iron and steel, plastics.

Major Indian Exports to Hungary: Machinery and mechanical appliances and parts, organic chemicals, pharmaceutical products, electrical machinery and equipment, television image and sound recorders and parts, vehicles and parts, footwear, rubber articles, iron and steel, plastics.

Cooperation in Science and Technology: Cooperation in S&T is a key focus area in India-Hungary relations. Currently, the bilateral cooperation is being executed through two agreements - between Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the HAS and between Department of S&T and NIH, Ministry for National Economy. The 11th India-Hungary Joint S&T Committee Meeting [Online] was held on 29 July 2020, hosted by NRD Office, Hungary. Seven joint projects were identified in the fields of Energy, Environment, Water, Biotech, Agriculture Food, with other four potential project were also discussed.

Indian Investments in Hungary: India was the largest greenfield investor in Hungary in 2014 and third largest in 2015. The major Indian presence in Hungary includes Apollo Tyres, Samvardhana Motherson Group (SMG), SMR Automotive, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Orion Electronics Ltd., Sona BLW and major IT companies TCS, WIPRO, Cognizant and Tech Mahendra. Indian companies in Hungary provide employment to over 10,000 people.

From Hungary, the significant investment has been from Richter Gedeon, the Hungarian Pharma major has invested USD 20 million in 51:49 joint venture with an Indian firm Themis Medicare Ltd., for production of intermediates, the entire production is exported to Richter Gedeon, Hungary.

Cultural Links

The Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre (ASCC), Embassy of India, Budapest is a hub of Indian culture in Hungary, which serves as a platform for showcasing India's rich cultural heritage, fostering dialogue, and promoting mutual understanding between India and Hungary. Established in November 2010 in Budapest, Hungary, ASCC, previously known as the Indian Cultural Centre until 2014, operates as a pioneering institution under the aegis of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi. ASCC offers year-round activities including yoga, dance, music and Hindi classes, Indian film screenings, lectures/ discussion, seminars, workshops, exhibitions, and celebrations of major Indian festivals. Notable among its regular initiatives is the “India Knowledge Series – भारत ज्ञान शृंखला”, a lecture-cum-discussion series aimed at deepening understanding of India’s cultural and intellectual traditions.

In June 2016, the Ganga-Danube Cultural Festival was organised, featuring cultural troupes of a diverse variety of dance performers and artists from India. In February, 2019, in collaboration with the Embassy, the Magyar Posta issued a commemorative miniature sheet of four stamps on the occasion of the celebration of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The Indian Film Festival was organized at Puskin Cinema, Budapest, from 4 to 10 October 2018, and subsequently from 7 to 13 October 2019, with the participation of noted film personalities. The Mission also organized various webinars and meetings for promotion of Tourism in India. Indian movies were included in the Budapest Classics Film Marathon from 13-18 September 2022 organized in different cinemas in Budapest.

In 2023, under ICCR’s BHARATIYAM programme, ASCC organized a series of cultural outreach events in schools and Universities across various Hungarian cities, introducing students to the vibrancy of Indian cultural heritage.

International Day of Yoga (IDY): The International Day of Yoga was first celebrated in Budapest on 21 June 2015 and has since grown into a nationwide event. In 2024, the 10th IDY celebrations spanned multiple Hungarian cities, including special events at the premises of several UN agencies such as UNICEF, ILO, FAO, IOM, and UNHCR. The main celebration took place at Heroes’ Square in Budapest, with a unique session held aboard a boat on the Danube River.

In 2026, celebrating the 12th International Day of Yoga under the theme “Yoga for Healthy Ageing”, ASCC, Embassy of India organized more than 100 yoga events across Hungary, bringing the message of peace, unity and holistic well-being to thousands of participants. The main event in Hungary was held at the Dr. Koltai Jenő Sportközpont, Hungarian University of Sports Science,

Budapest on 21 June 2026 -one of Central Europe's oldest and most prestigious sports Universities. This grand celebration became one of the biggest public yoga gatherings in Hungary.

The 10th Indian Film Festival in Budapest, organized by the Embassy, took place from February 27 to March 1, 2026. The three-day cultural celebration featured free screenings of seven critically acclaimed and blockbuster Indian films at the Metropolis Hall in Puskin Cinema. All the shows were house-full and the event received large coverage and publicity in the local media.

Indian Community

There are less than 8000 Indians living in Hungary. Most of them are ICT professionals, while some are working in the manufacturing sector of Indo-Hungarian joint ventures. There are about 1500 Indian students studying in various universities in Hungary. From time to time, there is an exchange of research scholars and scientists for period ranging from three weeks to six months under our exchange programmes. In addition, there are a few Indians who are married to local Hungarians and permanently settled in Hungary.

July 2026