



Indian Council of World Affairs
Sapru House, Barakhamba Road
New Delhi

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Press Release

Eighth Sapru House Lecture

by

H.E. (Dr.) Viktor Orbán

Prime Minister of Hungary

on

‘Hungary and Europe in a Changing World’

(17 October 2013)

The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) organised the Eighth Sapru House Lecture on 17 October 2013 at Sapru House, New Delhi. The lecture titled, "Hungary and Europe in a Changing World" was delivered by H. E. (Dr.) Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister of Hungary. The lecture was attended by diplomats, academics, scholars and media persons from India, Hungary and other countries.

In his welcome remarks, Ambassador Rajiv K. Bhatia, Director General, ICWA, highlighted the importance of economic and foreign policies adopted by Prime Minister Orbán. He stated that his policies were aimed at crucial reforms and promoting economic growth in Hungary, which was facing the impact of Eurozone crisis.



*H. E. (Dr.) Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister of Hungary
delivering the lecture*

The Lecture was chaired by Ambassador S. K. Lambah, Special Envoy, Prime Minister's Office and former Ambassador of India to

Hungary. Ambassador Lambah remembered his days in Budapest when Dr. Orbán was an energetic student leader. He praised the leadership provided by the Prime Minister, which had transformative impact on politics and society of the country.



Smt Preeti Kaur, Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India, delivering Special Remarks

Smt. Preeti Kaur, Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India, delivered the Special Remarks. She said that India and Hungary shared cordial and substantive relationships. She noted that bilateral cooperation between the two countries had expanded in the areas of trade, agriculture, science and technology etc. She advocated for enhancing India-Hungary relations in economic, political and culture spheres.

Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, in his lecture, primarily discussed the European economic crisis, Hungary's economic and foreign policies and prospects of economic and investment cooperation between India and Hungary. He said that Europe was witnessing severe economic challenges, which would have implications for the European society and the living standards. Due to sovereign debt crisis, he noted that the role of Europe has been declining in the global politics. While highlighting India's impressive economic growth rate, he acknowledged that the country was a global power in the making.

Praising India's growth trajectory, the Prime Minister said a relatively small country of Hungary could be useful in water and waste management. He argued that world was witnessing rise of new economies and it would transform the future world order. Dr. Orbán emphasised on greater economic, scientific and political cooperation between India and



H. E. (Dr.) Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister of Hungary with other dignitaries

Hungary, which, in his view, has the substantial potential to spur economic growth. He pointed out that the economic conditions have considerably improved in his country. The Prime Minister invited Indian Inc to harness the business opportunities in his country as well as Central Europe.
