

## Indian Cultural Centre Colombo

### Activities in August 2011

**August 05**

**Ghazal Recital by Raviraj Nasery**



Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo in association with Indo - Sri Lanka Forum organized a Ghazal Recital of Raviraj Nasery, a well known Ghazal singer from India, at its auditorium on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2011. Raviraj Nasery is very popular for his Marathi Ghazals and travelled to many countries to enthrall the audience. He also sings his own compositions with his own music direction and lyrics. His beautiful rendition kept the audience spell bound. Around 120 guests participated in this event





**August 10**

### **Hindustani Vocal Music Recital by Sanjaya Hemal Wahalathanthri**

Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo is organized a Hindustani Vocal Concert of Sanjaya Hemal Wahalathanthri at its Auditorium. He was accompanied on Tabla by Visharad B. Isuru Tharaka Perera, on Violin by P.A Amila Madhusanka and on Harmonium by Visharad Nalin Ginendra Alwis. Sanjaya Hemal Wahalathanthri is pursuing his studies in B.A in music at Bhatkhande Music University, India under the ICCR scholarship. His initial training in music were under Sangeeth Nipun Manjula Senevirathna, Visharada Nalin Jinendra Alwis and Dr. Wijayadasa Bandara. In his recital he sang bhajans and ragas. The evening was very well enjoyed by the audience gathered at the Centre. Around 150 guests participated in the event.







**August 12**

**Film: Mahabharat (Volume XII)** – India's greatest epic

**August 15**

**65<sup>th</sup> Indian Independence Day Celebrations – Melody and Rhythm  
Kathak Performance by Nalini-Kamalini, Guru Jitendra Maharaj & their troupe**

**Colombo**

Renowned Kathak exponents Nalini-Kamalini and their troupe performed at Bishop's College Auditorium, Colombo on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2011. The troupe performed Kathak in their typical classical style with very fast movements and highly expressive gestures. Their performances in Sri Lanka are supported by Taj Samudra and the Ministry of Cultural Affairs & Arts, Government of Sri Lanka under the Cultural Exchange Programme signed between the countries.

The Ministry of Culture of Sri Lanka arranged the local transportation and accommodation and programmes at Hindu Cultural Hall, Kandy, and at the Singapore Hall, Hambantota. The performance in Colombo was taken care of by the High Commission of India and the Indian Culture Centre.

Prior to the arrival of Kathak troupe, the Centre issued Press Releases to English, Sinhala and Tamil newspapers and televisions, printed 2300 invitation cards and 1000 Flyers, emailed to 4000 email ids and gave advertisement in three languages (English, Tamil, Sinhala) to publicize

On Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> of August, 2011 ICC held a Press Conference. Though the Conference was limited to a few press persons, 2 television channels (Rupavahini, ITN and Dharmavahini) attended the Conference.

Hon. Dullas Alhapperuma, Minister for Youth Affairs & Skills Development, Government of Sri Lanka was the Chief Guest. Shri. Ashok K. Kantha, the High Commissioner of India presided over the function. The other distinguished guests who honoured the function were Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management, Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister for Traditional Industries & Small Enterprise Development, Major General. G.A Chandrasiri, Governor of Northern Province, Kumari Balasuriya, Governor of Southern Province, Mr. Alavi Moulana, Governor of Western Province, Mr. Wimal Roopasinghe, Secretary of Cultural Affairs & Arts, Government of Sri Lanka, Mr. Rohit Khosla, General Manager, Taj Samudra, Ms. Pradeepa Dharmadasa, renowned Sri Lankan Singer and the Former President Ms. Chandrika Kumaratunga.



Due to our publicity in the form of press releases, invitation cards (2300 Nos) and advertisements, the attendance of the audience were overwhelming more than 1300. The hall was full for the performance. Prime TV channel interviewed the Kathak Duo and telecasted the programme on 23.08.2011.

They performed 8 items altogether. Nalini & Kamalini are devoted disciples of Guru Jitendra Maharaj of Benaras Gharana of classical Kathak tradition. The troupe made a tremendous

of temple style of Kathak dancing and contributed much in the promotion of their cultural ties between India and Sri Lanka. Performances are widely appreciated by local communities.

The artistes were honored by souvenirs by Hon. Minister Dullas Alhapperuma, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Skills Development, Hon. Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management and Governor of Northern Province, Major General. G.A Chandrasiri and Ms. Pradeepa Dharmadasa, renowned Sri Lankan Singer in the presence of the High Commissioner.



## Kandy

In Kandy the performance was held at Hindu Cultural Hall, Kandy on 16.08.2011. Mr.Tikiri Kobbekaduwa, Governor of Central Province was the chief guest. Shri. R.K Misra, Assistant High Commissioner of India in Kandy, Rev. Udawatte Nanda Thero, Ex. Member of Parliament, Mr.S. Rajarathnam, Member of Central Provincial Council, Mr. P. B. Amarasekara, Chief Secretary, Uva province and Rt. Rev. Fr. Bala Rajendran, EPISCOPAL – VICAR of Kandy were guests of Honour. The programme was a success which was appreciated by all. Around 350 people including invitees attended the programme. The artists were also very much impressed with Auditorium and other arrangements made by the Ministry of Culture and Arts, Government of Sri Lanka and AHCI, Kandy.



The Kathak dance performance at Hambantota by the visiting ICCR sponsored troupe of Nalini-Kamalini and Guru Jitendra Maharaj was a big success. The performance was held on 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2011. Mr. R.M.D.B Meegasmullah, District Secretary of Hambantota was the chief guest. The hall was full, nearly 750 people attended the programme. The response from the public was good and every one enjoyed the show. Ministry of culture got a traditional lamp made on the site with banana plant stem and coconut leaves which looked very beautiful. They had also made arrangements for traditional welcome of the important guests. The Consulate General of India, Hambantota and Ministry of Culture and Arts, Government of Sri Lanka, made necessary arrangements for the troupe and for the performers.



**August 12**

**Film: Gandhi** – A film directed by Richard Attenborough

### **Kathak Workshop by Nalini & Kamalini**

Nalini & Kamalini also conducted a one day work shop at the Centre. Students of the Centre and from various universities participated in the workshop. The sisters shared various techniques of the Kathak dance. The participants also had an interaction with the musicians. Around 75 students participated in the workshop.



**August 30**

### **Tabla Recital by the students of the Indian Cultural Centre trained by their Guru Visharad S.W.Randoowa**



is organized a Tabla Recital by the students of Indian Cultural Centre trained by their Guru Visharad S. W. Randoowa on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2011 at the Indian Cultural Centre.

Visharad S. W. Randoowa has been teaching Table at the Centre since 2000. He served as a super grade Tabla artiste in Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation and he accompanied several Indian artistes who visited Sri Lanka.



Students of various age groups displayed their talents. The students showcase their talents by accompanying a vocalist, an instrumentalist and they also showed various styles in table playing. Around 125 guests participated the event.