

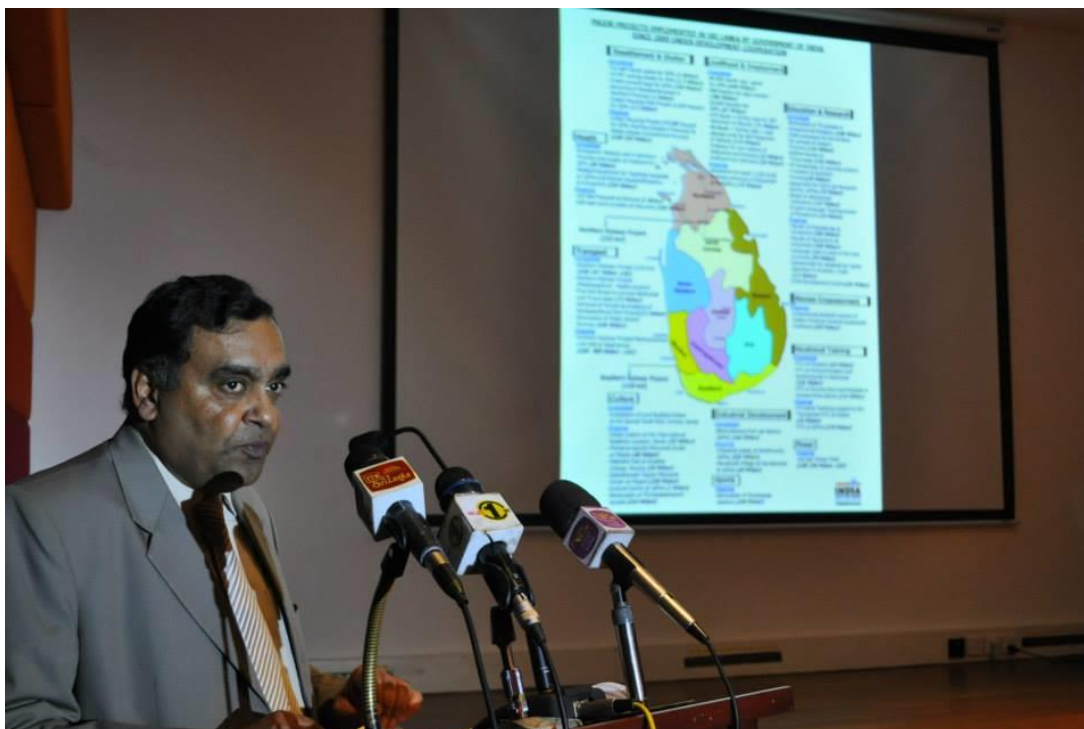
**Indian Cultural Centre**  
Colombo  
**Activities - August, 2013**

**2 August    Documentary: Beyond Boundaries**

The Indian Cultural Centre organized a special screening of "Beyond Boundaries", a documentary produced by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, providing a glimpse of India's Development Assistance Projects in Sri Lanka on 2 August 2013. H.E. Mr. Y.K. Sinha, High Commissioner of India addressed the invitees who included parliamentarians, senior government officials, members of the civil society, representatives of implementing agencies involved with the Indian projects and media representatives.

In his remarks at the screening, the High Commissioner highlighted the phased approach of India's assistance to Sri Lanka, in line with the needs and requirements of the people of Sri Lanka at any given time, as articulated through the Government of Sri Lanka. The High Commissioner also underlined the various stages of India's assistance to Sri Lanka and focused on sectors where India's assistance has been able to make a difference in the lives of the people in the conflict-affected areas.

The speech was followed by the screening of documentary. Around 100 guests attended the event.





### **8 August      Carnatic Vocal Music Recital by Bagawathssing Nithyanandan**

Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organized a Carnatic Vocal Music Recital by Isai Kalaimamani Bagawathssing Nithyanandan on 8 August 2013 at its auditorium. He was accompanied on Mirudangam by Swaminathan Sharma, on Violin by Swarnangi Sugathan and on Morsingh by V.Prabha.

Nithyanandan is an accomplished Carnatic musician. He completed his Diploma in Carnatic Music at the Swami Vibulananda Music and Dance College, Batticalo and he was conferred the title Isai Kalaimamani by the same institution. At present he is working as Producer in Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation ( Nethra TV). Nithyanandan has presented several Carnatic vocal recitals all over Sri Lanka. Music lovers and critics attended the event.



### **15 August      Cultural show by the students of the Indian Cultural Centre**

The students of the Indian Cultural Centre presented Patriotic songs under the guidance of Ms. Manjula Seneviratne and two Kathak dance items choreographed by their guru Ms. Moksha Samarasooriya at the flag hoisting ceremony held on 15 August at the India House.







**15 August 67<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebrations**  
**Well known danseuse Madhurima Choudhury and her Raginee group from India**

As part of the 67<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebrations of India, well known Assamese film actress and danseuse Madhurima Choudhury, accompanied by her Raginee group performed folk dance and music of Assam at the Bishop's College Auditorium, Colombo. Hon. Prof. G.L. Peiris, Minister of External Affairs of Sri Lanka was the Chief Guest and H.E Y. K. Sinha, High Commissioner of India presided over the function. Hon. Nimal Siripala De Silva, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resource Management was the Guest of Honour.

The performance started with an invocation item, Borgeet and folk music by Guru Madhurima Choudry & Rajen Borah joined by Raginee troupe members and musicians.

The group presented dance forms from Assam such as Bodo Dance, Rabha Dance (Hamjar Dance), Goalporiya (Kushan Nritya), Tiwa Dance (Barat Nritya), and presented traditional drumming and folk songs of Assam such as Oja Dhol, Badan Dhol and Pepa Badan.

The Bodo Dance depicted the movement of a tree during the time of storm, Rabha Dance described the process of Jhum cultivation like cleaning the forest, cutting woods etc, and the other dance forms that the group performed were Goalporiya and Tiwa dance.



Finally, the troupe performed the Bihu Dance which is an essential part the Assamese folk culture and tradition. The graceful combination of gestures of the hands and movements of the body and steps of the feet made Bihu dance highly appealing. It consisted of singing, dancing and instrumentation.

Bihu songs, composition of cowherds, buffalo keepers and farmers, sung in accompaniment with the musical instruments like drum, cymbal, flute, hornpipe, clay pipe, harp and bamboo clappers with grace and natural melody and depicting state of enjoyment in every activity undertaken by them, mesmerized the audience. Finally the Raginee group presented an enchanting choreography based on the National anthem of India.

The artistes who performed were Guru Madhurima Choudhury, Sangeeta Gogoi, Susmita Kalindi, Deepandita Rajbongshi, Gayatri Baishya, Rima Saikia, Maytrayee Goswami, Lachit Boruah, Pankaj Gogoi (dancers), Lakhya Dhar Gogoi, Hitesh Bikash Khanikar, Prasanta Borah, Dipak Baruah, Shankar Kalita, Rajen Borah (musicians).

The troupe's visit was sponsored by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi in association with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Arts, Government of Sri Lanka.

Around 700 guests attended the event and the performance received rave reviews.



















**23 August**

## **Harmony Fest – Documentary Screening**

The Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo screened a documentary titled "Harmony Fest" directed Sanjeev Sivan. The event will be held at 6.00 pm on Friday 23 August 2013 at the Indian Cultural Centre auditorium.

Harmony Fest is about festive harmony that binds India. The documentary is a celebration of an overbearing spirit of uniformity of expressions that are common to most of the festivals of Indian origin. The films selects, purposefully, festive occasions with regional importance, and while pitching together their associations and traditions, it paints a national picture of uniformity. Harmony Fest is the story of how harmoniously cultural differences are overcome. Around 50 guests attended the screening.

## **28 August An Evening of Hindustani Vocal Music**

On Wednesday 28 August 2013 an upcoming and talented young vocalist Liyanage Himalka Sewwandi Perera presented an evening of Hindustani Vocal Music at the Indian Cultural Centre. Studied at Bathkande University, Lucknow, Sewwandi Perera tried to develop genuine way of rendition of Ragas. Hon. Jeewan Kumaranathunga, Minister for Postal Services graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Himalka was accompanied by Visharad Nalin Jinendra Alwis on Harmonium and Visharad Bandula de Silva on Tabla, Visharad Dilusha Ravindranath on Sitar and Shastrapati Isuru Kondasinghe on Violin







