

Indian Cultural centre Colombo

Monthly Activity Report - January 2016

9 January Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2016

The High Commission of India, Colombo organized Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2016 at the Indian cultural centre. Hon. Mano Ganeshan - Minister of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages graced the occasion as Chief Guest. His Excellency Shri Y.K.Sinha, High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka, Deputy High Commissioner Sri Arindam Bagchi, President of GOPIO Mr. Kaushik Udeshi, Mr. Omar Ashraff, CEO of Brandix, officers of HCI and many more graced the occasion. Dr. S.D. Singh, Counselor Consular conducted the programme.



11 January World Hindi Day celebrations by Hindi students of Sri Lanka

Indian Cultural Centre, organized “World Hindi Day-2016” on Monday 11th January 2016 at its auditorium.

Relevant to this occasion the Indian Cultural Centre has organized many competitions for students studying Hindi in different institutions in Sri Lanka. As a part of the celebrations certificates were distributed to the winners which were followed by a variety of cultural programmes by Hindi students.

His Excellency Y.K.Sinha, High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The programme commenced with the lighting of the oil lamp, Saraswathi Vandana followed by welcome speech by Director, ICC, speech by the Chief Guest His Excellency Y.K.Sinha and prize distribution for the winners of the competitions .Prof.Upul Ranjith of University of Kelaniya, Ms. Anusha Salwathura of University of Kelaniya, Ms. Esha Srivastava, First Secretary(PIC) of HCI also graced the occasion. The main event was followed by a cultural performance presented by the students from various institutes involved in propagating Hindi. Around 200 students and parents participated in the event.







13 January Moghalmari - A recently excavated Buddhist Mahabihar - A power-point presentation by Ms. Kanchana Mukhopadhyay

Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organized a power point presentation on Moghalmari a recently excavated Buddhist Mahabihar at its **auditorium** by Ms. Kanchana Mukhopadhyay, former president of Alliance Française of Bengal. She is also the Co-Convenor of INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage), West Bengal. The newly excavated site of Moghalmari in West Midnapur district of West Bengal reinforces the account of famous Chinese pilgrim Huen-Tsang that in Tamralipti region existed at least ten monasteries and minimum one thousand monks lived here. Though the name suggests the defeat of Moghul soldiers, the excavation unearthed the ruins of a much more ancient monastery named Vandak Mahabihar, perhaps a *Vajrajana* Buddhist seat of learning which dates back to 6th century.

The powerpoint presentation was followed by an interactive session around 80 guests participated in the event.





19 January Workshop on Hindustani Classical Vocal by Prof. Sunith Bhale & on Indian Classical table by Prof. Mukund Bhale

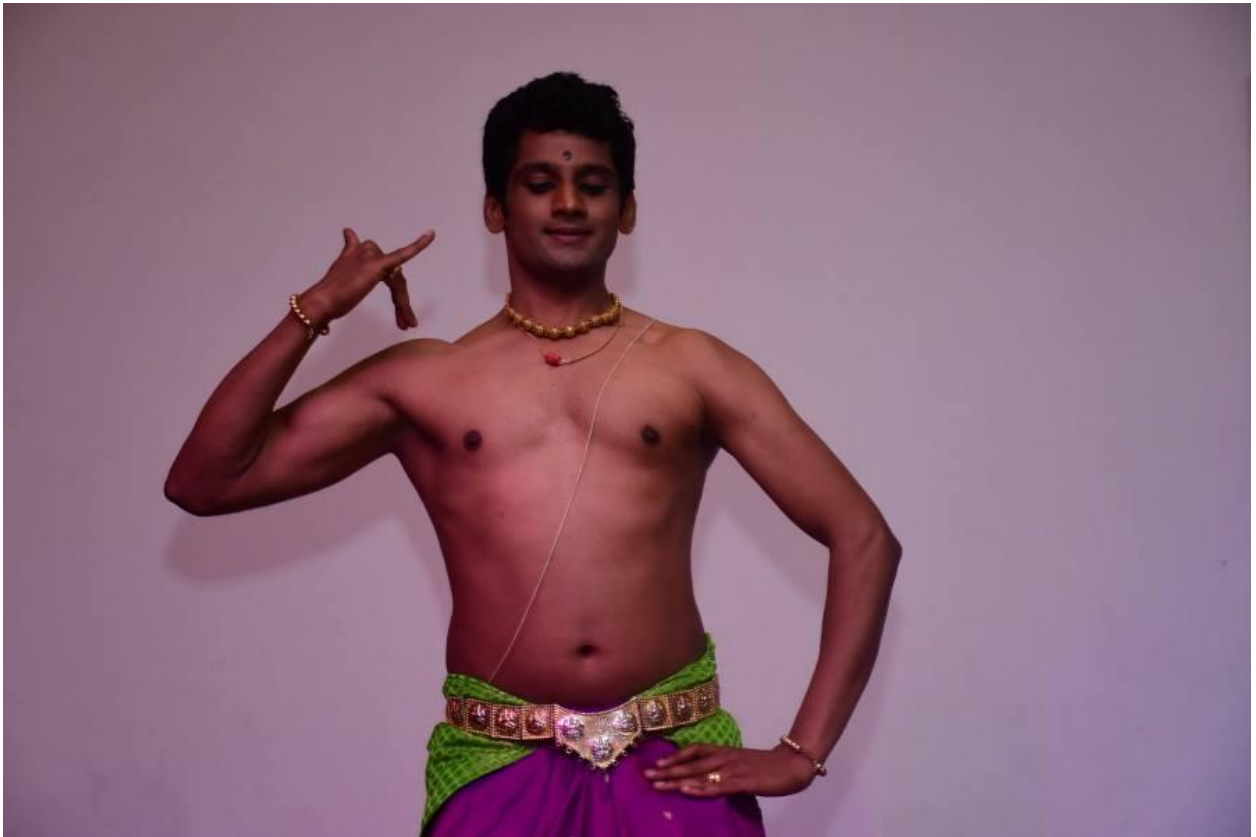
The Indian Cultural Centre in collaboration with the Santiniketan friends organized vocal and tabla workshops at the centre. Vocal workshop was conducted by Prof. Sunith Bhale and tabla was conducted by Prof. Mukund Bhale of Indira Kala Vishwa Vidyalaya, India. Around 30 students participated in each workshop.





20 January Workshop on Bharata Natyam by Mr. Unnat Hassan Ratnaraju

Renowned Bharatha Natyam exponent Mr. Unnat Hassan Ratnaraju conducted a Bharatha Natyam workshop at the centre. Around 20 students participated in the workshop. This workshop was organized in collaboration with the friends of Santiniketan



20 January Dance Performance by Mr. Unnat Hassan Ratnaraju and Chandana Wickramasinghe and the Dancer's Guild along with well known Sri Lankan dance & music schools

On 20th evening Mr. Ratnaraju and few other Sri Lankan dancing and music schools presented a variety of dance and music items at the Centre. The institutions participated were Dancer's Guild(Kandyan dance)Malmi Thilanga Dancing Academy (Kandyan Dance), Pradeepa Divyapradi (Bharatha Natyam) Moksha Art of Dance (Kathak) and Prasanna Ru Dance Academy (Traditional Drums). The programme lasted for an hour and half was very well enjoyed and appreciated by the audience gathered at the centre. Around 100 guests attended the event.









25 January Celebrating the 67th Republic Day of India - “Stringstruck” A musical performance by Sitar Maestro Purbayan Chatterjee and his group

As a part of the 67th Republic Day celebrations of India, the Indian Cultural Centre organized “Stringstruck” a musical performance by sitar maestro Shri Purbayan Chatterjee and his troupe, on 25 January 2015 at 7pm at Bishops College, Auditorium, Colombo.

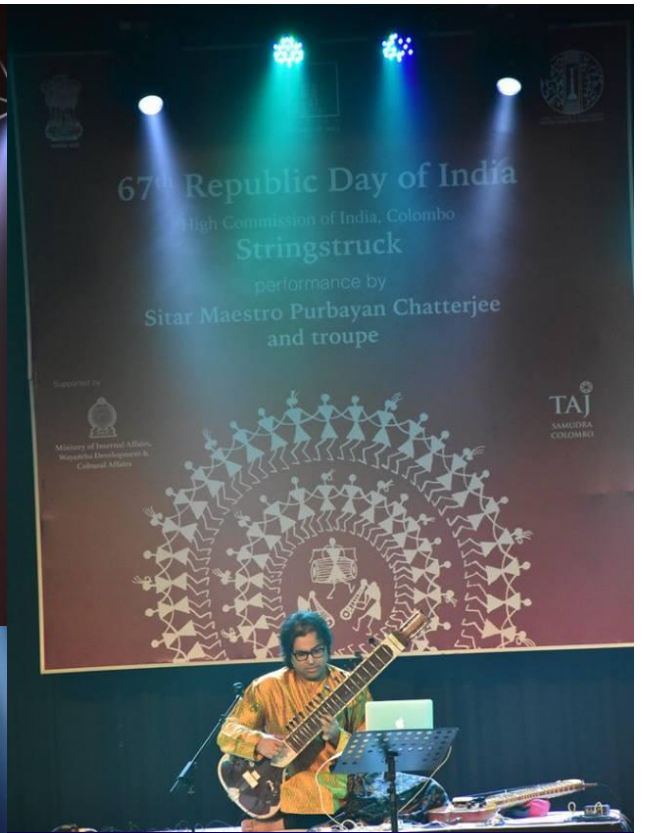
Hon'ble Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka was the Chief Guest and Y. K. Sinha, High Commissioner of India, presided over the function. The performance was extremely well received. Several Ambassadors and cultural personalities attended the event.

The programme was organized with the support Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka and Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo.

Purbayan Chatterjee was accompanied by world renowned musicians Darshan Doshi (Drums), Prakash Ulliyer (Keyboard) and Manas Chowdhary (Guitar).

Around 750 guests attended the event and the performance was well received by the audience. The artistes were honoured with souvenirs by Mrs & Mr. Hon'ble Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka and H.E Y. K. Sinha, High Commissioner of India and Mrs. Girija Sinha.









26 January Cultural performance by the students of ICC

The students of the Indian Cultural Centre presented a cultural performance on 26 January at the flag hoisting ceremony at India House. Cultural segment started with rendition of patriotic songs and bhajan by students of ICC. Kathak dance items were presented under the guidance of their guru Moksha Samarasooriya. Around 500 guests attended the event.







26 January Performance by Shri Purbayan Chatterjee and his troupe at India House - Reception hosted by His Excellency Shri Y.K.Sinha and Mrs. Girija Sinha

On the occasion of 67th Republic Day of India His Excellency Shri Y.K.Sinha and Mrs. Girija Sinha hosted a reception at India House. Several Ministers, members of parliament, members of diplomatic community, Senior Officials of Government of Sri Lanka and other distinguish guests attended the reception. Shri Purbayan Chatterjee and his troupe presented a performance at India House. Hon'ble Dr. Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Special Assignments, Government of Sri Lanka graced the occasion as Chief Guest.



