

Indian Cultural Centre Colombo

Report- October 2015

5 October Mahatma Gandhi Oration Lecture by Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna from India

The India Cultural Centre, Colombo in association with Sri Lanka India Society organized Gandhi Jayanti to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 5 October. Mrs. Shobhana Radhakrishna Chief Functionary, Gandhian Forum for Ethical Corporate from India delivered a speech on "Mahatma Gandhi's ideology of universal peace, non-violence and ethical leadership". H.E. Y.K. Sinha, High Commissioner of India graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

The programme commenced with garlanding the bust of Gandhiji by the Chief Guest His Excellency Shri Y.K. Sinha and followed by both countries National anthems. The President of the Sri Lanka India Society Mr. Kumar Nadesan delivered the welcome address. Welcome address was followed by address by the Chief Guest His Excellency Shri Y. K. Sinha, High Commissioner of India and continued with the talk by the guest speaker Mrs. Shobhana Radhakrishna. Vote of thanks was given by the Secretary of the Society Mr. Sampath Seresinhe. The event concluded with a bhajan beloved to Gandhiji.

The lecture gave an insight into the Mahatma's life and thoughts, the man and his roots, Gandhi the man of action, peace and non-violence, living in harmony with nature, experiments of Satyagraha (non-violent resistance), spirituality, serving the humanity and applying the spirit of Gandhi in today's society so that people put their heart into understanding Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi's thought and life can guide the people in any part of the world as it has the strength to inspire and bring about a change. Around 120 guests attended the event.









9 October Hindustani vocal Recital by Ms. Sunita Tikare

Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organized a Hindustani vocal recital by Sunita Tikare from India on 9 October 2015 at its auditorium. Sunita Tikare is an outstandingly melodious Vocalist inclined towards Indian Classical music from early childhood. Trained in the famed "Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana Gayaki", her strict and disciplined tutelage imbibed in her the "Jaipur Gharana Gayaki" of the North Indian style. Sunita is fortunate to continue her learning now under Padma Vibhushan Gana-sarawati Smt.Kishoritai Amonker. MsTikare sang various ragas and bhajans. She was accompanied on Tabla by Shasthrapathi Ranga Perera. Around 70 guests attended the event.



10 October Food festival - Cuisine from different parts of India

For the first time the Hindi Class students of the Indian Cultural Centre organized an Indian food festival. An array of delicacies from various parts of India were prepared by the students and volunteers. It was a very successful event and to support the initiative of the Centre as well as students lots of general public participated in the event. It was a wonderful learning experience for the students of Hindi class as well. Kerala Ladies association also had put up a stall with delicacies from Kerala to support the event. Smt. Ananya Bagchi, spouse of the Deputy High Commissioner of India inaugurated the festival. More than 200 guests participated in the event.







15 October World's Students Day

Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organized World **Students Day** as a tribute to former President of India Late Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam on Thursday, 15 October at its auditorium. It was in the year 2010, when the United Nations decided to honour this 'great scientist' on his 79th birth anniversary and declared his birthday on October 15 as the 'World Students' Day'. Since then, October 15 is observed as a day for students all around the world.

The programmed commenced with welcome address by the Director of the Indian Cultural Centre, Mrs. Rajashree Behera and followed by screening of a documentary titled Biography of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam by Mallika Sarabhai.

This was followed by "**Krishna**" - a **classical dance and musical** program by ICCR Scholars Nuwan Theekshana Liyanage, Charith Rumayanga Perera, G.P.G. Anuradha Dilrukshi Bandara & Nirmani Wimarshana Oruwalage. The dance and music programme included bhajans and dances on various stages of life of Krishna. Around 150 guests attended the event.





22nd and 23rd October---Classical Guitar Workshop

The India Cultural Centre, Colombo in association with Asian Guitar Federation and Guitar Association of Sri Lanka organized workshops and Master Class by Polish born American Classical Guitar Maestro Dr. Paul Cesarczyk on 22 & 23 October at the Indian cultural Centre. Five sessions of workshops were held at the Centre. He was assisted by Mr. Benjamin Theophilus an eminent classical guitarist from India. In each session around 30-35 children and professional classical guitar players participated. Dr. Paul Cesarczyk also conducted workshops at the University of Visual and Performing Arts, Colombo and also at University of Peradeniya, Kandy.





24 October Classical Guitar Concert

Classical Guitar Maestro Dr. Paul Cesarczyk concluded his 4 days series of workshops, master classes with a gala concert at the Russian Centre Colombo . The event was organized by the Asian Guitar Federation and Guitar Association of Sri Lanka with the support of Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo, Russian Centre, Colombo, Ministry of Art and Culture, Govt of Sri Lanka and Abans (Pvt) Ltd., The programme commenced with the welcome address by Mr. Avik Saha , President of Asian Guitar Federation followed by a performance by Mr. Benjamin Theophilus from India followed by Dr. Paul Cesarczyk. Dr Paul kept the audience spell bound with his array of presentations. The event concluded with a small speech by H.E. Florentino Batista, Ambassador of Cuba and vote of thanks by Mr. Iqbal Mohammed founder of Guitar Association of Sri Lanka. Around 160 guests participated.





29 October Dussera Celebrations by the Ladies Club of High Commission of India

To celebrate Dussera, Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organised a variety of cultural programmes in association with the Ladies Club of the High Commission of India, Colombo. Programme started with a welcome address by the First Lady Mrs. Girija Sinha. Members of HCI, Colombo Ladies club presented bhajans, dance numbers, group Bollywood songs, ghazals etc. Programme ended with a fashion show by all the members of the club. It was attended by members of the Indian Community in Colombo.





