High Commission of India, Nicosia Cyprus,

Indian Classical Music & Arts Cyprus

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PRESS RELEASE *(post event)*

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA CYPRUS

CULTURAL/YOGA DAY CELEBRATION

(Attikon Cultural Venue Paphos) 25 JUNE 2021

HONOURABLE PRESENCE BY HER EXCELLENCY

MRS MADHUMITA HAZARIKA BHAGAT

An amazing event in tribute to Indian Culture and the official Yoga Day annual celebration in Paphos, Cyprus, was experienced, promoting a "Cultural Journey of India beyond boundaries". The success of the event, first time in Paphos, has marked an occasion as being an annual event, regionally in Paphos, under the auspices of the High Commission of India in Cyprus.

By gratification to the honourable presence of Her Excellency Rt. Hon. Mrs Madhumita Hazarika Bhagat, Her Excellency formally opened the ceremony.

This event celebrated the international Yoga Day and Indian culture under the auspices and generous support of the High Commission of India in Cyprus promoting India@75 Mission 2022, and by close cultural bilateral relations with the High Commission of India in Cyprus.

The programme of events, from accomplished global Indian cultural performers and artists, included live Raag Chitra according to the tradition of Upanishad and Sangita Ratnakar, an ancient art form re-born.

A very special performance took place, unique even in India, by award winning painter Debabrata Pal live from Odisha India by live-streaming who painted the theme-concept: Raaga Puriya Kalayan and Jugalbandi of music stroke, to performing musicians Kyp Paraskeva on Sitar, Ravi Saundankar playing Tabla and Socrates Efstathiou on Tanpura.

The programme commenced with audience participation of yoga practice, followed by meditation by Ravi Saundankar representing a Sahaja yoga meditation experience, and a finale of Indian classical dance by Kaustubhi Reddy just 14 years old, a disciple of Bharatnatyam, an Indian classical form of dance that she has embraced since she was 4 years old, and who has been training under the stalwarts of the art form, Rajeshwari Sainath, Vaishnavi Sainath, Kiranmayee Madupu and presently under Jayalakshmi Narayanan. She has been performing all over India since she was 6 years old and she has given some enigmatic performances for the last 3 years on this beautiful island of Cyprus under the auspices of the High Commission of India.

Following was the renowned Ditipriya Reddy, a disciple of Hindustani Classical Music who has been training since the age of 4 years under eminent gurus, Late pandit A Kannan, guru malavika Kannan, guru shukla Dutta, presently under Ustad Salman Usmani. She is a trained vocalist in Tagore music and Hindustani classical and with the blessings of her gurus, she has been performing for more than 20 years in India and under the patronage of the High Commission of India. The audience was mesmerised to hear gazal, hailing from the land of the nawabs Lucknow from Ditipriya!

The organisers wish to express their appreciation to all parties who contributed to the success of the event: Her Excellency of the High Commission of India in Cyprus, Mayor of Paphos Phedonas Phedonos, MC (Master of Ceremonies) Kishan Pankhania, by the generous hospitality arrangements by the High Commission of India, formal representative of “Meet & Greet” appointed by respect to Her Excellency, Rema Lawson, official Photographer Jim Crowe, and all the esteemed artists and performers Kyprianos Paraskeva, Ravi Saundankar, Socratis Efstathiou, Ditipriya Reddy, Kaustubhi Reddy, Debabrata Pal, and Mahesh Kale ICMACY Mentor and Advisor.

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