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Basant Utshav' celebration

Itanagar, Jan. 28: First Lady of the State Anupama Singh called upon the parents and guardians to encourage their children and wards towards dance and music. Dance and music help in developing the overall personality of a child, Singh said while attending 'Basant Utshav' celebration at Vivekananda Auditorium, RK Mission Hospital here in the evening. The Utshav was organized by Nrityangan Dance and Music Academy, reports, **reports PRO to Governor** .

The First lady exhorting all added that much like team sports, dance and music teach all invaluable and important lessons, like discipline and self-control. Dancing and music improve the overall memory in the children. It also shows children how to interact with their peers in a positive manner. Dancing and singing at a young age is non-competitive, hence boosts a child's self esteem.

Singh, who had sent her daughter Urvashi Kaur, an acclaimed designer today, to get her training from renowned dance exponent Sonal Man Singh stressed that arts education, such as dance and music can enhance extensive development of children such as aesthetic, socio-emotional, socio-cultural, cognitive skill, and academic development. It cultivates a positive attitude toward themselves and others.

Interacting with artists and music lovers during the celebration, she pointed that although the importance of arts education is gaining increased recognition, it is also true that arts education is continually struggling to establish a secure status in formal curricula. In order to achieve the possibilities that arts education promises, it is indispensable to incorporate arts education with well-designed programme plans and skilful teachers into curricula, she added while hoping that the 'Basant Utshav' will give impetus to the endeavour.

Impressed by the presentations by Nrityangan Dance and Music Academy, Singh reposed her hope that it will continue in promoting and imparting classical music and dance with Hindustani Vocal, Kathak, folk dance and rich cultural traditions of Arunachal Pradesh among the budding children.

The colourful cultural evening, which with 'Swagat Kare Hum' theme dance by small children of the academy, enthralled the audience with 'Vandanas', Kathak dances, vocal recitations and folk dance. With Principal Amit Kumar Mukherjee providing the beats, Kathak by Diya Das and vocal recitation by Likhamoni touched the hearts of

audience. Through its presentation titled, 'Basic Kathak Dance' it gave an insight of Gurukul system of music and dance school.

Participating in the programme, renowned singer of the State Taba Yall, who was felicitated on the occasion along with Teli Dimin presented a devotional song on the occasion. Yall called for a Music College in the State to facilitate music and dance enthusiasts like her to realize their dream in their chosen profession in the field of creative art.

Guest artists from Assam, Gokul and Mandira Saha also presented some classical numbers. Students of Donyi Polo Bidhya Bhavan Preparatory School presented an Adi dance.

Tributes were paid to Late Dr. Bhupen Hazarika and renowned singer from Arunachal Late Tage Dibo. The children sang Hazarika's famous song, 'Manu hey Manu hog'.

Nrityangan Dance and Music Academy, which has branches at Itanagar, Naharlagun and Nirjuli, has established itself as an important centre for dance and music in just eleven years. Affiliated to Bangiya Sangeet Parishad, Kolkata, the young artists of the institution have participated in many important functions and cultural programmes in the capital complex. Four students have bagged the national scholarship from Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. Today it has 60 students.

RK Mission Hospital, Secretary Swami Aishwathanada, Art and Culture Deputy Director Jomnya Siram, Tage Aku, wife of Late Tage Dibo were present in the function along with parents and guardians, **adds the report.**

Sd/ D.Dodum, PRO