

# **‘SARANG’- The Festival of India in Republic of Korea**

*Celebrating 75 years of India’s Independence*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of annual flagship cultural programme of Embassy of India, Seoul **‘SARANG– The Festival of India in Republic of Korea’** will be held from 30 Sept – 14 Oct, 2022 at various locations across the country after a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19 pandemic.

The celebrations this year are organised as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark 75 years of India’s independence. To mark this momentous occasion, a series of events are being organised including cultural performances, workshops; art fairs and cultural booths; games and hands on experience etc. with several local Korean partner Institutions and the Indian Diaspora in South Korea. There is also a special focus on relevant themes to the India-Republic of Korea partnership.

Starting in 2015, SARANG has emerged as a prominent Indian cultural festival, introducing India's rich and diverse cultural heritage and has, since then, grown in size, scope and popularity showcasing its rich civilizational legacy and cultural vibrancy.

The word SARANG has a very meaningful connotation for both Koreans and Indians. SARANG in Korean means ‘love’ and for Indians it refers to ‘diversity representing different colours of India’. As a part of this festival, it is our endeavor to introduce the rich cultural diversity of India through various art forms including dance, drama, music, films and cuisine to the people of Korea, and promote understanding and friendship among the peoples of our two countries.

We have succeeded to a great extent in this quest and SARANG has now become a much looked forward event in the Korean cultural calendar. Usually, it extends for over a month and travels through different cities of Republic of Korea.

In 2022, the cultural performances in different cities of Republic of Korea will feature an Odissi classical dance performance by a troupe led by Ms. Kunjalata Mishra, an accomplished Odissi dancer and recipient of prestigious Braj Ratna and Braj Gaurav Samman. The musical rendition will be led by renowned vocalist Ms. Sunanda Sharma of Benaras Gharana, accompanied by leading musicians on traditional Indian music instruments such as the Tabla, Harmonium, Sarangi and Tanpura.

In addition, the cultural ensemble in Seoul (Oct 4) will also feature a medley of Indo-Korean fusion music by Aram Lee on daegeum (Flute) and percussionist Min Wang Hwang on Jangu (traditional Korean drum) performing with the Hindustani Classical music group led by vocalist Sunanda Sharma and her accompanying artists. A fusion of Indian Classical dances - Odissi and Kathak will also be presented by Korean dancer Ms. Beena Keum, who

was trained under the great Odissi Master Guru Gangadhar Pradhan and Indian Kathak dancer Ms. Sonali Roy, a disciple of legendary Padma Vibhushan Pandit Birju Maharaj.

Besides the cultural performances, a special photo exhibition on India's Humanitarian Assistance during the Korean War which included the deployment of an Army Medical Unit and the Custodian Force of India is being organized at the Nami Island recognizing the special contributions of India towards restoration of peace in the Korean Peninsula.

All events are open to public and will also be live streamed on Indian Culture Centre's social media handle. Details of the performances are given as below:

## CULTURAL PERFORMANCES

DATE	PROGRAMME	CITY
30 <sup>th</sup> Sept. (Fri) 18:30	<b>Performance at Music Festival, Hwaeomsa Temple</b>	Gurye
1 <sup>st</sup> Oct. (Sat) 17:30	<b>Performance at Queen Heo Wedding Road Festival</b> at Royal Tomb of King Kim Suro	Gimhae
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct. (Sun) 12:40	<b>Performance at Eurasia Stage at Busan Station</b> at Global Gathering Festival	Busan
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct. (Tue) 18:30	<b>SARANG at Seoul</b> Yonsei University Centennial Hall	Seoul
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct. (Wed) 18:30	<b>Performance at Seoul Sky, Lotte World Tower</b>	Seoul
6 <sup>th</sup> Oct. (Thur) 15:00	<b>SARANG at National Museum at Cheongju</b>	Cheongju
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct. (Fri) 16:00	<b>Performance at Nangye Gukak Festival, Yeongdong-gun</b>	Yeongdong-gun
8 - 9 Oct. (Sat-Sun) Inauguration on 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct at 14:00	<b>SARANG at the Nami Island</b>	Chuncheon
13-14 Oct. (Thu-Fri) 13 Oct at 15:30 14 Oct at 14:50	<b>Performance at East Asian Citizenship Education Grand Festival</b>	Incheon

▼ Click here to book the ticket of Inaugural event in Seoul on Oct 4, 2022  
<https://www.ticketlink.co.kr/global/en/product/40299>

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