Cultural Festival Octave – 2019
by CCRT, New Delhi and NCZCC, Prayagraj under MoC

The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) and North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj under Ministry of Culture are jointly organizing Octave – 2019, a celebration of the Classical & Folk Dancers and Artisans from entire North-East Region of India and selected CCRT Scholar Artists from Delhi/NCR from 26th-29th March 2019 at CCRT Lawns, 15A, Sector 7, Dwarka, New Delhi.

The North-East India is one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse regions in Asia, each state having its unique culture and traditions. In order to build up a pervasive consciousness of the rich natural and cultural heritage of North-East Region, CCRT in collaboration with NCZCC is organising a cultural festival titled Octave – 2019.

Tuesday, March 26 2019
Sur Sangam – School of Music, Art and Dance will present Nritya Sangam led by Meghranjani Medhi at 6:30 pm. The performance will start with a Shiva Vandana in Kathak style. The presentation is a unique amalgamation of Kathak and Sattriya Dance. It will showcase the unique unity and integration embedded in Indian culture. It will be followed by rendering of music by renowned band Minute of Decay. Sisters hailing from Manipur namely Worshon, Singchon and Thotyaphy Muivah formed a New Delhi based all girl group in late October 2011. They will be accompanied by experts from Mizoram. The band has also played on BBC Radio.

Wednesday, March 27 2019
The cultural programme will begin with dance presentations by CCRT scholarship holders Ankita (Odissi), Sreejith (Kathakali), Sudeepto (HM Vocal), Sharanya (Mohiniyattam) and Ritika (HM Vocal) from 5:30 pm onwards. Well known artist Ranju Moni Saikia from Assam will be performing Sattriya Dance at 6.30 pm. Sattriya Dance is a dance drama performance with origins in the Krishna-centered Vaishnavite monasteries of Assam and attributed to the 15th century Bhakti Movement scholar and saint named Srimanta Sankardev. The first item is a Krishna Vandana namely Shri Krishnaya Namaha and Shantakaran Bhujaga Shayanang. The second item is a pure tandav number named Gosai Nach followed by a Slokar Nach set to Ektaal. The pure number will be followed by an Avinaya on the extract Eklavya Guru Dakshina, set to Ektaal. It will be followed by Minute of Decay band and subsequently by a play ‘Local Foreigner’ directed by Molina Singh. The play revolves around a young girl from North-East and her tribulations in settling in an urban city.

Thursday, March 28 2019
The cultural programme will begin with dance presentations by CCRT scholarship holders Yashodhan (HM Vocal), Gokul (Kathakali), Snehali (Odissi), Poorva (HM Vocal) and Shreyasi (Bharatnatyam) from 5:30 pm onwards. Shri Bipul Das Group from Guwahati will be presenting Ardhang, a composition on Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati in form of Kathak Dance at 6.30 pm. Lyrics and music is by Pandit Birju Maharaj Ji.

Friday, March 29 2019
The cultural programme will begin with dance presentations by CCRT scholarship holders Mangalam (Carnatic Music Vocal), Roshni (Odissi), Bhamidi (Kuchipudi), Anagha (Kathakali) and Anandita (Bharatnatyam) from 5:30 pm onwards. Shri Hemanta Kalita and group from Assam will be presenting Ullas depicting desire of Nayika to meet her Nayak in Varsha Ritu at 6.30. This dance production is a combination of dhrupad, thumri, kajri, tarana with technicalities of Kathak tradition.

A Crafts Fair will be held daily from 11:00 am onwards. A wide spectrum of crafts including handloom weaving, cane and bamboo works, sholapith, brass and bell metal works, ivory, wood-work, pottery, fiber craft, carpet making, masks, painted wood vessels, jewellery will be showcased.

A 02 days Hindi Workshop titled Aao Milkar Seekhen Hindi will also be conducted for all the participating artists to bring them into the mainstream of the country.

The main purpose of this festival is to give a glimpse of our rich history especially the North-East Region to the people and motivate the young generation to preserve our heritage.