

The Festival of India in Mauritius 2015, organised by the High Commission of India with the support of Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and in collaboration with Ministry of Arts and Culture, Government of Mauritius, was launched at a gala inaugural ceremony on Friday 21 August 2015 at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture, Phoenix.

The Festival was inaugurated by Lady Sarojni Jugnauth, in the presence of the Hon. Santaram Baboo, Minister of Arts and Culture, and the Chief Guest from India, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation of India, Dr Mahesh Sharma, who visited Mauritius from 21-22 August 2015 specially for the event.

Two very special inaugural performances kicked off the Festival of India following the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and presentation of the Festival logo to the dignitaries - a Ramlila

presentation by the famous Shri Ram Bharatiya Kala Kendra, Delhi and 'Nrityarupa', a composite presentation of classical dance forms conceptualised by the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi.

The Festival of India in Mauritius, which will continue till 1 November 2015, will comprise a series of presentations of Indian performing arts by renowned artistes, including classical and folk dances & music, theatre, and even traditional puppetry. The Festival will also include exhibitions on various cultural and educational themes, literary conferences and seminars, and film/documentary screenings. Besides showcasing Indian artists and performers, the Festival will also present artistic collaborations with Mauritian artists and organizations.