



**Embassy of India  
Bangkok**

**PRESS RELEASE**

HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graced the performance of two cultural groups from India which participated in the prestigious Bangkok International Festival of Dance & Music 2007 for a special programme on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2007 evening at the Thailand Cultural Centre (Main Auditorium).

In the first part of the programme, Anuradha Pal's *Stree Shakti* group led by renowned *Tabla* maestro Ms. Anuradha Pal kept the audience spell bound. *Tabla* is an Indian percussion instrument consisting of a *dagga* (low-pitched drum) and a *tabal* (high-pitched drum), the bedrock of Indian classical music. Anuradha played it at dazzling speed mesmerizing all those present with her rhythms using traditional instrument such as *ghatam*, *kanjira*, *pakhawaj* and *mridangam*, which accompany the main percussion instrument *tabla*, the ensemble produced some powerful beats.

In the second part, Ms. Pallabi De and her group gave a Kathak dance performance entitled "*Kathak Yatra*" in which they narrated the journey of Kathak from the temples of ancient India to the modern stage through the language of dance. The dance was accompanied by talented vocalists and musicians from India. The dance performance was characterized by fast foot works (*tatkar*), spins (*chakkar*) and innovative use of *bhav* in *abhinaya*.

Both the cultural groups visited Thailand under the sponsorship of Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi.

On this special occasion, the Embassy of India organized a reception at the Thailand Cultural Centre which was attended by a large number of Thai dignitaries, members of diplomatic corps and prominent members of the Indian community.

Dated: 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2007  
Place: Bangkok



**Embassy of India  
Bangkok**

**PRESS RELEASE**

H. E. Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs of India will be in Bangkok on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2007. He will be co-chairing the 5<sup>th</sup> Joint Commission Meeting between India and Thailand on September 14. After the Joint Commission Meeting, the External Affairs Minister is expected to have a bilateral meeting with the Foreign Minister of Thailand H. E. Mr. Nitya Pibulsonggram to discuss bilateral and other issues and will also call on His Majesty the King of Thailand, and the Prime Minister of Thailand. Her Royal Highness the Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn will host a dinner in External Affairs Minister's honour.

The Joint Commission, which is the main purpose of the visit, covers cooperation in areas as diverse as trade and investment, civil aviation, transportation linkages, agricultural cooperation, fisheries, tourism, defence, security, science and technology, energy, culture and so on. The agreed minutes of the Joint Commission are expected to be signed at the end of the meeting.

During the visit, the Hon'ble Minister will make a keynote address on "India's Look-East Policy – Implications for Thailand and South-East Asia" at the Institute of Security and International Studies in the Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok and will also inaugurate an exhibition of Indian contemporary art titled "Images of India" which is being organized at Amari Atrium Hotel, Bangkok to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of India's Independence as well as the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Establishment of the Diplomatic Relations between India and Thailand.

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2007

Place: Bangkok