



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Rang Bharat Mahotsav

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Why is in news? 22nd edition of Rang Bharat Mahotsav kicks off in New Delhi

The 22nd edition of Rang Bharat Mahotsav kicked off in New Delhi on 14th february. Presented by National School of Drama, this prestigious **international theatre festival** will stage 33 plays in the national capital and 47 in 9 other major cities from today till 26th of February.

These cities are, Jammu, Bhopal, Guwahati, Ranchi, Nasik, Rajahmundry, Kevadia, Jaipur and Srinagar.

Various allied events like launching of books, director's meet, national and international seminars, and masterclass by the stalwarts from theatre community will also take place on the sidelines of this festival.

The closing ceremony of the festival will take place in Kevadia on 26th of February.

Bharat Rang Mahotsav or the National Theatre Festival, **started in 1999**, is the **annual theatre festival** organised by **National School of Drama (NSD)**, New Delhi.

The festival was started to **showcase works of Indian theatre practitioners**, and it has grown over the years to attract international performers as well.

National School of Drama is **India's premier theatre training institute** funded by Government of India.

Originally the festival was national in scope, but has gradually become an international one.

The 2009 Festival featured 63 productions, out of which 51 were from India and 12 were overseas plays, over a span of 12 days. Today it is acknowledged as the **largest theatre festival of Asia**, dedicated solely to theatre.

The festival is generally held each year at venues in and around NSD campus, and also in a one "showcase city", where a "Satellite Festival" of Bharat Rang Mahotsav is held. For example, in 2009, the venue Lucknow saw 18 productions. In 2010 the venue was Bhopal.

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