

# Echo of Arunachal

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Itanagar, Nov 4: Arunachal Pradesh's own Ashapmai Dellang and her team from Chennai-based Kalakshetra Foundation delivered a spectacular performance of Carnatic music that left the audience spellbound in the "Kaveri Meets Ganga" Music & Dance Festival, held at Delhi on Saturday and Sunday last.

Ashapmai Dellang, lead-member of the Carnatic music duo 'Wakro Sisters' and a 4th year student of Carnatic music at Kalakshetra Foundation, brought cheers for friends of Arunachal across the country, for her participation in the Kalakshetra symphony team in the "Kaveri Meets Ganga" Music & Dance Festival, Delhi from November 2-3.

"The Kalakshetra team won hearty appreciation from the audience, for presenting a lively display of a variety of genres of Carnatic music," Padma Shri awardee and Lohit Youth Library Network coordinator S Mundayoor said in a statement on Monday.

The programme was the first in the Amrit Parampara series organised by the Union Ministry of Culture, to showcase and celebrate traditional arts and art forms of India across the country. The Kalakshetra Foundation and the CCRT, New Delhi are also co-organisers of the Festival.

The Festival was inaugurated by External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar at the Kartavya Path near India Gate, in presence of a distinguished gathering of senior officials, music and art connoisseurs, and art lovers.

Ashapmai and her team also performed at the CCRT, Dwarka campus in the presence of a large Sunday audience.

Speaking after her recitals, Ashapmai, a senior library volunteer from the rural Medo area of Lohit, conveyed her gratitude to the Kalakshetra Foundation and her teachers, for their wholehearted backing, guidance and emotional support to help her learn a style of music totally unfamiliar to Arunachal society. She also gratefully remembered several patrons and music lovers across the country, who have been generously supporting and guiding her to improve her Carnatic music recitals.

Congratulating Ashapmai for her effort and consistent progress, the Director, Dept of Indigenous Affairs, GoAP, said, "The day is not far, when Ashapmai will sing Mishmi folk songs in Carnatic ragas."