

Participation by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in the Summer Youth Festival 2006 held on 10 December 2006 at Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour Sydney, organized by Community Relations Commission for a Multicultural NSW.



A Summer Youth Festival 2006 was organized by Community Relations Commission for a Multicultural NSW. Its aim was to enhance the interaction of young people from different communities by engaging them in activities that promote understanding and community harmony. This Youth Festival was conducted in the following fields for various multicultural communities such as Science, Music, Entertainment, Culture, Arts, and Sports. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Australia took part in this Festival by Indian Cultural performances and taking a stall. The stall included display of Bhavan's banners including one with the sketch of Mahatma Gandhi and his quote **"No Culture can survive if it attempts to be exclusive"**.

People from diverse culture and religions visited Bhavan's stall showing keen interest in Bhavan's activities. The items on display at the stall included: A flyer listing Bhavan's Annual Multicultural Events for 2007: **GODDESS** Divine Energy Exhibition of the Art Gallery of New South Wales: **Incredible India** Tourist Information and other material. The cultural performance in Bharathanattayam style was presented by Ms.Zarmar Pandiya who teaches Bharathanattayam dances at Bhavan's Institute of Indian Arts and Culture, Sydney Olympic Park which was highly appreciated by the audience from the crowd.

Visit to Country - Northern New South Wales



(L—>R) Debrah Yuen, Hon. Sujan Chinoy, Prof. Jason Chandler, Gambhir Watts, H.G. Atmaram at Ayurveda College

I have been visiting country (rural) places in New South Wales. In October we participated in the 55th Annual Agricultural Fair (ANFD) for 4 days in which India was invited as a guest nation. The Consul General asked Bhavan and India Tourism Office to join him in showcasing India. The show went very well; we made big name for India.



Ayurveda College, Kyogle

On 22 - 24 November I and the Consul General of India Hon. Sujan Chinoy visited Kyogle and Byron Bay in northern New South Wales where there is the only government accredited Ayurveda College run by Prof. Jason Chandler of Tibetan heritage educated in England and India. We also visited Mirwillumbah - New Govardhan, a huge community farm set on 1,000 hectares by the Hare Krishna people.



Hon. Sujan Chinoy with Mr. Terry Timms

On our way back we visited one Primary school named CODONG PUBLIC SCHOOL. The Principal Mr Terry Timms gave us a very warm welcome and introduced us to a general assembly of children –none of them Indian. The little Australian children were keen to know about India; the Principal put up some interesting questions on India and the children seemed to have some knowledge on India. The CG addressed the children and shared information about Indian culture through an interesting quiz. Thus it turned out to be quite interesting session. Mr Terry Timms (Principal) suggested that we identify a similar school in India which could be the



'Sister School' to the CODONG school. The children of both the schools could communicate with each other on regular basis through emails or otherwise. This is quite a common concept here.