Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations New York

70th Independence Day of India Gala Musical Evening by A.R. Rahman at the United Nations General Assembly Hall

15 August 2016



The 70th Independence Day of India will be celebrated at the United Nations General Assembly on 15 August, 2016.

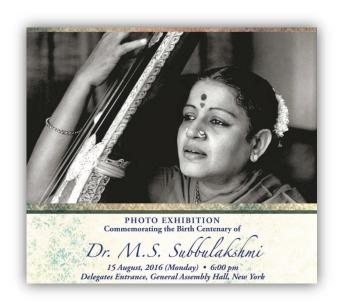
The highlight of the event will be a musical evening bymusic maestro A.R. Rahman.

A Photo Exhibition will be held to commemorate the birth centenary of India's carnatic music legend Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi on 15-19August, 2016 at the United Nations. This year marks the 50thanniversary ofher performance at the United Nations. The photo exhibition will depict various facets and moments of Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi's life and times

providing a rare insight to the music legend's achievements.

Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs of, Mr. M.J. Akbar will attend the events.

The events are being organized by the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nationswith the support of Sankara Nethralaya, an India-based civil society organization. The role of civil society is a growing one at the United Nations.



The United Nations is also celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. As India celebrates its 70thIndependence day, the event will emphasize that the wisdom of Indian traditions remains relevant to current global thinking. The musical evening will provide a glimpse of gaiety and dynamism of India on the occasion of India (a)70.

Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi, a legendary Indian musician was invited by the then UN Secretary General Late U Thant to perform at the UN General Assembly hall on 23 October 1966. She thus became the first Indian to perform at the UN General Assembly Hall. She was the first ever musician to be awarded the Bharat Ratna Award (1988), India's highest civilian honour and also the first ever to receive the Ramon Magsaysay Award (1974).

A.R. Rahman, an internationally renowned music composer and musician, has won several international awards, including the Golden Globe, two Academy Awards and two Grammy's for his workon the film score for Danny Boyle's Slumdog Millionaire.

Dignitaries from the United Nations, Permanent Missions to the United Nations, Permanent Observers to the United Nations, UN specialized agencies and invited guests from the international community will be attending the event.

The event has received an overwhelming response visible in the rush for invitations and a full house is expected.

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