



Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant inaugurates Goa Chapter of 25th Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2026, World's Largest International Theatre Festival

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The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Dr. Pramod Sawant, inaugurated today the Goa edition of the 25th edition of Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM) 2026, the world's largest international theatre festival, the flagship festival of the National School of Drama (NSD) at Sakhali, today. Scheduled from today, the 5-day theatre festival is curated in collaboration with the Directorate of Art & Culture, Goa.

Among the key dignitaries who attended the ceremony were Dr. Ramesh Tawadkar, Hon'ble Minister for Art & Culture, Tribal Welfare, and Sport & Youth Affairs, Government of Goa as well as Shri Vivek Naik, Director, and Shri Milind Mate, Deputy Director of the Directorate of Art and Culture, Government of Goa.

Prof. Bharat Gupt, Vice Chairman, NSD Society, who is also a Padma Shri awardee, chaired the opening ceremony.

The festival opening has taken the enthusiasm of theatre lovers in Goa to a new high. The event was attended by a wide cross-section of the city's citizens, theatre practitioners, art lovers, and public service professionals.

Adding further significance to the occasion were Mrs. Siddhi Porob, President of the Sankhali Municipal Council, and Shri Dattaram Chimulkar, Vice Chairman of Ravindra Bhavan, Sakhali, whose support enriched this grand cultural celebration.

This year's line-up in Sakhali features a thoughtfully crafted curation of acclaimed plays, each bringing unique storytelling, powerful narratives, and exceptional performances. The festival opens on 2nd February 2026 and concludes on 6th February 2026, presenting a diverse repertoire that reflects the spirit of India's evolving theatre landscape.

The opening day featured the Marathi play *Alive*, written by Sanket Parkhe and Rutvik Vyas, and directed by Sanket Parkhe, presented by the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA).

On 3rd February 2026 at 7:30 PM, the Marathi play *Father*, written by Florian Zeller and Directed by Daksha Pradeep Shirodhar, will be staged by Goa's own Mangirish Youth Club from Mangeshi, bringing a sensitive adaptation of Zeller's internationally acclaimed work.

The festival will continue on 4th February 2026 at 7:30 PM with The Morning Show, a Hindi play written and directed by Avneesh Mishra and performed by Rangshila Theatre Group from Mumbai, offering a gripping narrative infused with humour, satire, and social commentary.

On 05 February 2026 at 7:30 PM, audiences will witness Bloody Bombay, a powerful Hindi production written and directed by Happy Ranajit and presented by Unicorn Actors Studio, Mumbai, unfolding the raw and layered realities of city life.

The celebrations draw to a close on 06 February 2026 at 7:30 PM with the Closing Ceremony and the Tamil play Draupathi, written and directed by Dharini Komal of Komal Theatre, Chennai, a bold and intense reimaging of an iconic epic through a contemporary lens.

The 25th Bharat Rang Mahotsav, organized by the National School of Drama (NSD), is the world's largest international theatre festival. The 25th edition, BRM 2026, spans 25 days from 27 January to 20 February 2026, showcasing over 277 productions across 228 Indian and international languages, including several underrepresented tongues. The festival brings together national, international and regional productions, with participation from 9 countries and theatre groups from every state and union territory.

Celebrating India's theatrical diversity, BRM 2026 includes performances by children's groups, tribal communities, and artists from marginalized sections, reaffirming NSD's commitment to inclusivity and the universalization of theatre.

NSD has been continuously working towards the spread and democratization of theatre. Recently, it launched Rang Akash, internet radio to promote theatre along with launching its OTT platform Natyam to avail some of its prized productions to theatre lovers across the nation.







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