Press Release

Dastangoi, Story Reading, Architectural Walk and Exhibition of Publications

**‘KISSA KAHANEE’ MARKED THE 23rdFOUNDATION DAY OF JKK**

**Jaipur, 8 April:** To mark the 23rd Foundation Day of Jawahar Kala Kendra (JKK), a ‘Dastangoi’ event was organized today in the Jawahar Kala Kendra Library. The 16thcentury art of storytelling, ‘dastangoi’ is derived from the Persian word ‘Dastan’ meaning story and ‘goi’ meaning to tell. Principal Secretary Tourism, Mr. Shailendra Agarwal and Director General, JKK , Ms. Pooja Sood were also present on the occasion.

The Dastangoi was presented by Dastangos Fauzia and Fazal, who hail from Delhi and Bhopal. Through the two stories of ‘dastangoi’ – ‘Dastan Ghummi Kebabi Ki’ and ‘Chacha Chhakkan Ne Tasveer Taangi’, reflected on the culture of Delhi and its lifestyle.

While ‘Dastan Ghummi Kebabi Ki’, which is adapted from Ashraf Subuhi Dehelvi’s Dilli Ki Chand Ajeeb Hastiyan, created an intimate portrait of Old Delhi and its language in the 1930s. The dastan ‘Chacha Chhakkan Ne Tasveer Taangi ‘, adapted from a humorous sketch by Imtiaz Ali Taj, resulted in a sketch full of frivolous comedy.

Earlier, there was a story reading from the narratives of the folklorist Late Vijaydan Detha’s ‘Batan Ri Phoolwari’. Eminent theatre artist, writer and companion of Late Vijaydan Detha, Mr. Ishwar Dutt Mathur recited the stories. JKK Publications were also on exhibit all day in the library. Nugro Saanp (Untrustworthy Snake), Kakoji Anti Main (Uncle in my pocket) and Hoon re Hoon (I am…I am). All three stories involved the reflections of human behavior, through various characters and incidents.

In addition to this, the JKK Architectural Walk took place at 5.15 pm. In the Architectural Walk, Charles Correa’s layout for JKK draws its planning vocabulary from the*navagraha*i.e a nine square grid *mandala,*with displacing one of the squares to create an entrance. This displacement also resonates with the planning of the grid city of Jaipur by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II. During the walk, 8 meter high walled squares which contain the administrative block, temporary exhibition galleries, open air theatre, air conditioned theatre, arena, library, dormitories, and coffee house were covered. The building houses some brilliantly painted Indian art and iconographies from the Hindu, Jain and Buddhist texts.