Press Release (photos attached)

**ROYSTEN ABEL’S ‘THE MANGANIYAR SEDUCTION’ WINS THE HEARTS OF THE BRICS DELEGATES**

Jaipur, 21 August: The Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan organized a cultural evening of Roysten Abel’s ‘The Manganiyar Seduction’ at Birla Auditorium today. The event was exclusively conducted for the high-profile delegates who attended the two-day BRICS parliamentarian summit held in the Pink City. They were completely enthralled by the mesmerizing performance of the Manganiyars.

The high energy performance of ‘The Manganiyar Seduction’ which was also a theatrical presentation witnessed ecstatic music-making, mixing Muslim and Hindu traditions. Conceived by the Indian director Roysten Abel, this spectacular 75–minute performance featured around 40 musicians in turbans and robes, who sat or kneeled in red-draped cubicles. These cubicles were stacked in four tiers and illuminated when their occupants performed, thus creating a dramatic and astounding build-up of musical instruments and voices of the Manganiyar community.

The Department of Tourism also organized the live streaming of the programme.

On the occasion were present the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan; Governor of Rajasthan, Shri Kalyan Singh; Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Ms. Vasundhara Raje; Speaker of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, Mr. Kailash Meghwal, among others.

The Manganiyars are a community of Muslim court musicians who come from villages around Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Barmer in western Rajasthan. The conventional practice is to take and use music for theatre but here Roysten reverses the process and uses theatre to create magic in music.