

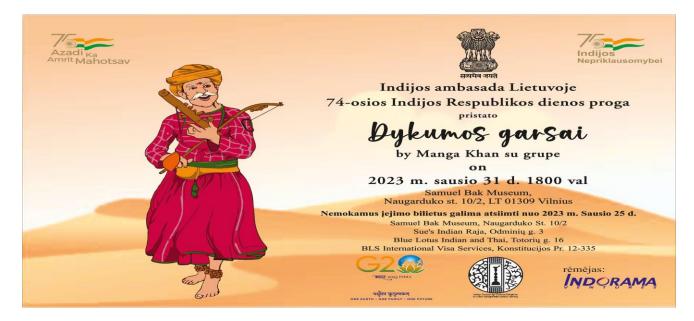
Embassy of India to Lithuania

Dykumos garsai, or the Sounds of the Indian Desert, to be heard in Lithuania next week

In honour of India's 74th Republic Day, the Embassy of India to Lithuania will host a public performance on 31st January 2023, *Dykumos garsai*, or the Song of the Desert, by Manga Khan and his group at 1800 hrs at the Samuel Bak Museum, Naugarduko St. 10/2, Vilnius.

Manga Khan and his 8-member group are traditional musicians and dancers from the famous Langa-Manganiyar castes of the desert state of Rajasthan in western India. Their songs and dances depict facets of their desert culture, including the *gorbandh*, a song sung while decorating the camel, the traditional lifeline of the desert, and the *bhavai* dance performed by women with 11 pots on their heads recalling the old days when the women of these communities walked for hours to bring water for their families' needs for the day, hence the need to fill as many pots as possible and then balance them all on the head. Other songs, made famous by Hindi films, will also be performed like the *hichki* or the hiccup song sung by a lovelorn wife missing her husband who is away at work in a distant land, and the *nimbuda* or the lemon song sung playfully by a wife to her husband telling him to bring her gifts on his way home. The dances will be accompanied by lively and evocative music that will recall to the listener forever the mystique of the desert.

This is a performance open to the public of Lithuania and free entry passes are available at the following locations in the city of Vilnius - Samuel Bak Museum, Naugarduko St. 10/2, Sue's Indian Raja, Odminių g. 3, Blue Lotus Indian and Thai, Totorių g. 16 and BLS International Visa Services, Konstitucijos Pr. 12-335. These traditional dances of the Indian desert have never been performed before in Lithuania. Come and enjoy the sights and sounds of the desert on 31st January at the Samuel Bak Museum!



Embassy of India 20th January 2023