



Bengal Shrachi stages the 5th year of “Greenwood Spirit Theatre Festival”

~ celebrating theatre as an integral part of the cultural milieu of Bengal~

Kolkata, 27th October 2006: Bengal Shrachi Housing Development Ltd (BSHDL) announces its annual event, Greenwood Spirit Theatre Festival (GSTF), the fifth staging of a festival of quality plays. GSTF is a platform for the theatre fraternity of Bengal to showcase their talent and uphold the present socio-political environment. The festival will be held over 8 days, from 30th October to 6th November 2006. This theatrical extravaganza will stage sixteen plays in Bengali, Hindi & English (maybe) enacted by theatre troupes from all over Bengal. Mr. Rahul Todi, Director, BSHDL, Mr. Ansu Sur, actor Satabdi Roy and theatre personalities Ashoke Vishwanathan, Dolly Basu, Anandi Ghosh & Uma Jhunjhunwala announced the commencement of the fiesta at a press conference today.

The journey of “Greenwood Spirit Theatre Festival” took its first step in 2002. This festival of quality plays has been an incessant endeavor to encourage and present the cultural heritage of Bengal & celebrate theatre as an art form. The festival incorporates theatre groups from the city and districts as well. Performances by Soumitra Chatterjee, Ashoke Vishwanathan, Uma Jhunjhunwala and Dolly Basu will be staged during the week long celebration amongst many others.

“The Fifth Greenwood Spirit Theatre Festival will witness the performance of some of the best theatre groups from the districts as well as Kolkata. It is an initiative to reinvent the past glory of the golden era of Bengali theatre and rekindle the popularity of this performing art. To this effect we have invited theatre groups from the rural Bengal as they seldom get an opportunity to exhibit their talent,” says Rahul Todi, Managing Director, BSHDL.

The theatre festival will culminate in an award ceremony to felicitate the achievers for their contribution towards the genre of Bengali theatre. Veteran theatre personality, Monoj Mitra will be honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award- Utpal Dutta Smarak Samman while

Spandan has bagged the Tripti Mitra Smriti Puraskar for the best production for their much acclaimed play “Suicide Squade”. Besides, eight groups from the districts will be competing for the Bijon Bhattacharya Smriti Samman.

Commencing on 30th October, the festival will be held in two phases. The first phase will have groups from six districts performing over 7 days between 30th October and 5th November in city theatres. The jury comprises of actor Roopa Ganguly, actor Satabdi Roy and Mr. Ansu Sur while renowned film director Goutam Ghose is the Chairman of the jury. Eminent theatre personality, Mr. Shiv Sharma will be the judge to adjudicate the winner for the Bijon Bhattacharya Smriti Puraskar. Kalyani Kalamandalam (Nadia), Anandolok (Medinipore), Bandel Arohi (Hoogli), Naksha (North 24 Parganas), Ankur (South 24 Parganas), Shilpayan (North 24 Parganas), Shantipur Ramgaan (Nadia) and Rwitick (Murshidabad) will be competing for this coveted award.

The second phase of the festival will be held at G D Birla Sabhagar, on 6th and 7th November. A stage performance of the shruti natak, Dui Taranga by Dolly Basu is slated for 6th November. The following day will feature the award ceremony and a performance by the winning group for Tripti Mitra Smriti Puraskar.

Complementary passes for the festival will be available at all Music World stores in the city.

About Bengal Shrachi Housing Development Ltd.

Bengal Shrachi Housing Development Limited (BSHDL) formed in 1997 is a joint venture between the West Bengal Housing Board and Shrachi Group. It is a classic example of one of the first and most successful marriages between a public and a private enterprise. A trusted name in the real estate sector BSHDL has successfully completed various esteemed projects - Greenwood Park, Greenwood Nook & Greenwood Park Extension. Several ambitious projects like BlockByBlock, a first of its kind complete home solutions mall coming up at New Town, Synthesis Business Park- the second green building of the city, a 257 acre satellite township in Burdwan which will be completed by mid-2009 and Greenwood Sonata are in the pipeline. Besides, under the aegis of Mr. Rahul Todi, MD, Bengal Shrachi has recently tied up with Rosedale Developers Pvt. Ltd, an US-based Development Company, to construct a city in New Town for the NRIs called Rosedale Gardens. The project pegged at Rs 1,000 million US dollars, aims to match international standards for advanced scientific research.