

THE HINDU

Folk arts festival to begin in capital tomorrow

Date : 21.2.2020 | Edition : Trivandrum | Page : 2 | Clip size (cm) : W: 13

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Seven-day event will be staged in 28 venues Statewide

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Showcasing the State's rich and diverse folk and ritualistic art traditions, the week-long 'Utsavam 2020' will get off to a colourful start in the capital on February 22.

Over 5,000 artistes, representing a wide variety of folk and ethnic traditions, will perform during the next seven days in the 12th edition of the cultural festival being organised by Kerala Tourism, Kerala Folklore Academy, and District Tourism Promotion Councils.

The festival, to be organ-

ised in 28 venues across the State, will showcase an array of ethnic and rural art forms. Minister for Tourism Kadakampally Surendran will inaugurate the festival at Madavoorpara near here.

Minister for Ports, Museums, Archaeology and Archives, Kadannappally Ramachandran will deliver the keynote address at the function. Actor Nedumudi Venu will be the chief guest.

Folklore artists Mannur Chandran (Porattu Kali), Parappil Karumban (Kakkarasi Natakam), Ambujakshi (Pulluvan Pattu), Immanuel

Prakash (Margam Kali), Thambi Payyappalli (Chavittu Natakam), P. Kunhirama Peruvahnan (Theyyam), Nazar Kappad (Mappila kala), Aruvi Arumughan (Paliya Nritham), Rajamma Mullan-kuzhi (Parunthu Kali), and Sreedevi Srikumar (Nadan Pattu) will be honoured at the function. The artists being honoured and the performers for the festival were selected by a two-member panel comprising Folklore Academy Chairman C.J. Kutappan and Bharat Bhavan member secretary Pramod Payyannur.

