



**Rajendra, Nirupama, Bala Devi Chandrashekar, Padma Shri Chitra Visweswaran, Padma Shri Chandraprakash Dwivedi, Y. Prabhu and Saashwathi Prabhu**

## **Danseuse Bala Devi bestowed *Natya Kala Visharadha Ha* award**

Chennai, Dec 29:

The conferment of the Natya Kala Visharadha Ha upon acclaimed Bharatanatyam artiste, scholar, and educator Bala Devi Chandrashekar marked a moment of thoughtful reflection within the continuum of Indian classical dance. The honour was presented by the Krishna Gana Natya Kala Conference during the Inauguration Ceremony of the Natya Kala Conference 2025, recognising a sustained and deeply considered contribution to Bharatanatyam rooted in scholarship, philosophical inquiry, and artistic integrity.

The 'Natya Kala Visharadha Ha' award was conferred by Saashwathi Prabhu (CEO, Krishna Gana Sabha), Chitra Visweswaran,

Padma Shri Dr Chandraprakash Dwivedi, Sri Y Prabhu (General Secretary Krishna Gana Sabha), Nirupama and Sri Rajendra to Bharatanatyam Exponent, Bala Devi Chandrashekar.

The award recognised a journey shaped by sustained research, quiet perseverance, and a commitment to depth over immediacy, reaffirming the relevance of philosophy-driven classical practice in the contemporary world. It also highlighted the collective ecosystem-teachers, scholars, musicians, institutions, and audiences-that keeps tradition alive, serving more as a moment of introspection than celebration.

This ethos finds expression in *Mauli - A Timeless Tradition*,

Bala Devi Chandrashekar's Bharatanatyam production that treats tradition as a living moral and spiritual force. The work privileges shared devotion over spectacle, reminding audiences that classical art endures through collective belief and participation rather than individual virtuosity.

The Natya Kala Visharadha Ha thus stands not only as an honour bestowed, but as a reaffirmation of an ongoing commitment-to tradition as a living practice, to scholarship as responsibility, and to the arts as a profound expression of human intelligence in an increasingly technological world.