



**Rajendra, Nirupama, Bala Devi Chandrashekhar, 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 Chandrashekhar 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 Chandrashekhar.

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 Chandrashekhar'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.