



Sursangam 2017, organized by BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa campus on 23 September, offered a wonderful evening where Pandita Anupama Bhagwat treated the Goan audience to rich music and mastery over Sitar. She played an exhaustively detailed alaap followed by Jod and Jhaala, in Raag Shuddh Kalyaan set to '*teen taal*'.

The alaap with its meditative tempo transported the audience to another world and then the joyous jhod enlivened the atmosphere. A disciple of Pandit Bimalendu Mukherjee of the Imdadkhani style of Sitar playing, her energetic performance, yet again, proved to be a true torchbearer of the style. Shri Mayank Bedekar, a student of the maestro Shri Suresh Talwalkar, accompanied her on the Tabla amazed the listeners with the typical style of his guruji. The improvisations of both the artistes were simply brilliant, be it the raagdari, the interplay of the pattern 'sa ri ga da pa', the joyous flow of the raag in the upper octave or the laykaari interwoven with tiska gat (three beat patterns within the cycle of sixteen). The audience, in trying to match the beat cycles, were just short off slipping off their chairs. The bandish and the jhaala that Anupamaji played were intense, her energy infectious and highly entertaining to say the least and the audience was left asking for more. Her second piece in Raag Gavati set to Jhap Taal were filled with delicateness and nuances of the Imdadkhani gharana. She concluded her rendition with a short beautiful Thumri in Tilak Kamod.

Anupamaji's performance was preceded by performances by alumni of BITS Goa. Bharatanatyam by Mr. Anand Satheendran opened the event with a delicate 'abhinaya' rendition of a devaranama. This was followed by Mr. Balakrishnan's melodious rendition of Tyagaraja's "Intasaukhya" in Kaapi Ragam, and a viruttam on Lord Muruga in Sindhu Bhairavi. He was accompanied by Sreecharan on mridangam and Mr. Pranav Palande on harmonium. Director of BITS Goa, Prof. Raghurama and Prof. Radhika Vathsan felicitated the artistes.