

Basant Utsav 2026

A Celebration of Spring, Culture, and Creative Expression

On 23 January 2026, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi celebrated its second Basant Utsav in the IGDTUW auditorium, filling the space with the vibrant spirit of spring. The auditorium was decorated with flowers and other creatives to honour Goddess Saraswati, the deity of knowledge, language, music, creative energies, and all arts. It marks the beginning of preparations for the spring season and for Holi. Educational institutions take the opportunity to seek the Goddess's blessings. In Punjab, the festival is celebrated by flying kites. Though linked with the blooming of yellow mustard flowers, the festival is also associated with the colours pink and saffron. Basant Panchami is also associated with the God of love, who awakens passions and thus the world blooms anew.

Basant Utsav marks the arrival of spring and embodies themes of renewal, hope, beauty, and unity. More than a seasonal observance, it is a cultural expression of transition and harmony. The event reflected the University's commitment to fostering artistic talent and cultural diversity within its academic environment. The colourful gathering was graced by Prof. Anu Singh Lather, the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Deans, Directors, faculty members, students, staff and other members of the University community. Their presence underscored the importance of Basant Utsav as a shared celebration. Alankaar, the music society of the university, under the mentorship of Dr. Sapna Dudeja, organized this second edition of the Basant Utsav, just as they had organized the first one.

The festival began with the lighting of the lamp and melodious rendition of the Saraswati vandana by the students of Alankaar, the music society. The event marked display of artistic talent by various members of the cocurricular activities' societies and a dance performance by Dr. Dharitri Narzary followed by classical and fusion performances by Team Odori. Their choreography seamlessly blended tradition with contemporary movement, capturing the liveliness and rhythm of spring. The stage then welcomed the theatrical presentations by Team 90s Kids, whose expressive performance brought emotional depth and storytelling to the celebration. Music formed the heart of the evening as Team Alankaar presented soulful classical renditions alongside Western symphonies. The serene melodies created an atmosphere of reflection and joy, demonstrating how diverse artistic expressions can harmoniously coexist. Each performance contributed to a rich tapestry of sound that echoed the spirit of Basant, gentle yet vibrant.

Beyond the stage performances, several CCA societies curated exhibitions and interactive spaces that added joy, colour and warmth to the festivities. Team Kalakriti adorned the entrance and parts of the stage with beautiful decorations, creating a visually immersive experience. Their stall and exhibition added artistic vibrancy and welcomed attendees into a thoughtfully crafted festive setting.

Team Inara organised a small exhibition on spring-summer textiles of India, interpreting the essence of Basant through fabric, colour, and craftsmanship. Their display highlighted the seasonal transitions embedded within Indian textile traditions. A face-painting area further enhanced engagement, allowing participants to express the spirit of spring in creative ways.

Photography added another dimension to the festival through Team SVC's Basant-themed photo exhibition. The showcased images captured moments of light, bloom, and community, transforming everyday experiences into artistic reflections of the season. The exhibit beautifully illustrated how spring can be seen through multiple lenses.

Team Debsoc encouraged dialogue and reflection by hosting an impromptu speaking activity. Participants were invited to speak for a minute on themes of spring and hope, which led to lively, thought-provoking exchanges. This interactive segment reminded the audience that Basant is as much about ideas and conversations as it is about performance.

Team Terra's exhibition promoted sustainability, environmental protection and ecological diversity. They sold bookmarks and postcards made from basil and marigold seed paper, along with succulents symbolising growth and continuity. An interactive quiz exploring the intersection of Basant and environmental awareness added an educational dimension to the festivities, reinforcing the idea that culture and ecological responsibility go hand in hand.

Adding care for animals and inclusivity, Team Tails of AUD set up a cosy stall near the entrance, contributing to the event's welcoming atmosphere. Their home-made delectables were among the highlights of the event.

The spectacular announcement of the dates for *Raagini 2026*, the Annual Cultural Fest of the University by the Honourable Vice-Chancellor added excitement, positivity and continuation of the mode of festivity. The evening concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Colonel Omkar Singh (Rtd.), Registrar of the University who expressed gratitude to the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, the dignitaries, the organising teams, the performers, the faculty members and the student community for their collective efforts in putting up an impressive show of artistic performance which enthralled the housefull audience present on the occasion. His words encapsulated the essence of the celebration as not merely an event, but a shared creation. In its second edition, Basant Utsav at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi reaffirmed its place as a vibrant celebration of culture, creativity, and community. Within the walls of the auditorium, spring blossomed through music, art, dialogue, and togetherness, proving that the true spirit of Basant lies in collective expression and renewed hope.





