Isha celebrates Mahashivarathri

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Coimbatore: It was an electrifying evening that refused to dissolve into the darkness of the night and just mellifluously melted into the crimson morning. And the sprawling foothills of Velliangiri in the Western Ghats reverberated with beats, chants, flames and footfalls of divine inspiration.

For the 15th year now, the Isha Yoga Centre here turned Mahashivarathri, which marks the divine matrimonial union of Shiva and Shakti, into a massive ‘spiritual’ fair. There was a big crowd cutting across social strata, a classical Hindustani music concert by Gundecha brothers, Umakant and Ramakant, fusion music by Indian Ocean, a folk dance by men who wore anklets weighing four kgs each, a scintillating tap dance and Isha Yoga’s original score, and of course sumptuous free meals.

For the children, there was a giant ferris wheel, merry go-round and other fun games. As the evening, which opened with a special aradhana at the Dhyanalinga temple at Isha Yoga Centre, inched towards the dramatic moment of 12 pm, mesmeric mantras of ‘shambho’ and ‘Om Namashivaya’ resounded in the air, evoking hysterical cries among some fervent devotees. Put simply in Isha Yoga founder, Jaggi Vasudev’s words: “It is not only a night of wakefulness, it is meant to be night of awakening.” From next year on, the Isha Yoga will celebrate Mahashivarathri for 14 days with lots of music and dance, Jaggi Vasudev announced.