

The Festival of India in Madagascar concluded with the Gujarati Folk Dance performances held both in Antananarivo and Mahajanga on 27 and 29 November respectively.

27 November, Antananarivo

The performance of Gujarati Folk Dance by Avishkar Academy of Performing Arts, Ahmedabad was organized at Espace Salohy in Antananarivo on November 27, 2015. H.E. Mrs NDAHIMANANJARA Bénédicte Johanita, Minister of Water, represented the Malagasy Government in the function. Apart from her, Mauritian Ambassador, Thai Consul General, spouse of the Indonesian Envoy also attended event. In all, approximately 700 persons attended the event. Audience thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

29 November, Mahajanga

The second performance of Gujarati Folk Dance by Avishkar Academy was held in Maison de la Culture, the auditorium in Mahajanga city, which belonged to the Ministry of Culture of Govt. of Madagascar, on November 29, 2015. The audience numbering around 700, included Chef de Region, representative of the Mayor, members of the Diplomatic Corps, prominent members of the Malagasy community and members of the Indian diaspora. It was nice to see substantial number of Gujarati Muslims among the audience, which is quite unusual because Muslims usually stay away from dance performances. Since this being the first Indian folk dance event that was held in Mahajanga in the city's living memory, the audience deeply appreciated the performance by the Avishkar troupe and profusely thanked the Government of India for organizing the event.