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Ever since that fateful July day in 2008, when she first heard the (https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/carcinoma)', Ananda S (https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Ananda-Shankar-Jaya the dreaded disease, the metaphor she relies on is the one of ${\bf N}$ (https://www.speakingtree.in/topics/god/durga), the fearless one, with 18 arms, riding a fearless and the epiteme of creative feminine energy.



On Friday evening at Nishagandhi Auditorium here, it was another turn for the renowned Kuchipudi and Bharathanatyam dancer, choreographer and scholar to become one with Simhanandini, the rare piece from the ritualistic repertoire of Kuchipudi revived from an artform of the 13-14th century East Godavari. Drawing the lion with her feet, she was once again making clear and positive affirmations.

The fight with breast cancer was not easy, rather quite difficult. "I felt horrible when I heard of it. I was angry, irritated. I asked my husband whether it's the end of the road for me. He said no. I somehow pulled myself up with positivity, and my husband supported," the Padma Shri recipient recalled.

Jayant refused to take a break from dancing even while undergoing cancer treatment. In fact, she called up her friends and relatives to tell them of her ailment. "Look, I am diagnosed with breast cancer. If you feel upset or uncomfortable, please don't bawl in front of me," she told them. She had a reason. Usually, people visit the ailing with a long sad face, making the patient more miserable. "I want to tell families, in case a member is going through it, try not to mollycoddle them. Instead, allow them to do what they love to do, which is what my husband did. Even during the chemo, he said, listen to your body. If it says dance, go and dance. I am there to protect and support you. But I will not stop you from doing anything,"

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Jailed RJD chief Lalu Prasad to be shifted to AIIMS

Jailed RJD chief Lalu Prasad will be shifted to AllMS-Delhi from Ranchi hospital as his health has deteriorated, news agency PTI reported



Covid vaccine may not be sold in open market anytime soon

<u>Union health secretary Rajesh Bhushan said on</u> Friday that the two Covid-19 vaccines given approval for restricted use would not be

quoting officials. Lalu Prasad, who is admitted at Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) in Ranchi, has been diagnosed with pneumonia.

available in the open market till the country's apex drug regulator, Drug Controller General of India (DCGI), approved the data sought from their manufacturers.

"Your art, your talent or your passion will be your strength. When you nourish it early in life, you will be well prepared to ride out your challenges with greater ease," Ananda says.

Is this missing in our education? The educators and administrators should now make way for this kind of training, to give the child something to hold on to, be it art, craft or sports. "I became a cancer conqueror only because I was able to focus on my dance. Thanks to my gurus, I have been able to nurture and nourish my passion, because of which I continue," she said.

This Hyderabad-based IRTS officer has shown to the world how to balance a career and life-long passion so successfully. What next? To upgrade her 40-year-old studio institution into an establishment like Kerala Kalamandalam. It's her dream. To leave her legacy for the future, where even foreign students can come and learn.

"A space where they can learn mathematics and mridangam together. Many are doing it, but I want to do it in a larger scale," she adds.

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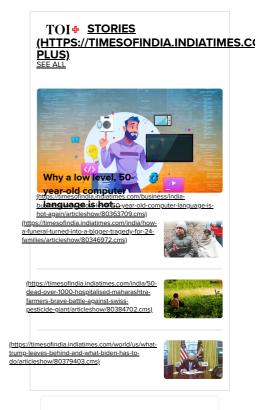


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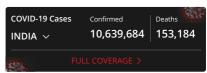


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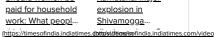
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