

## Ms Isha Ambani's speech at the opening of Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC)

Namaste, ladies, and gentlemen. A special Jai Shri Krishna to Bhai Shriji, Maharajji and Sadhguruji.

Dear friends and distinguished guests from all over the world. Once in a lifetime comes only once in a lifetime. Today is that time for us. On behalf of my family, a very very warm welcome to each and every one of you. Welcome to the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre. Welcome to what we hope will become India's finest platform to present our culture in all its diversity and depth.

A home to art and culture in all its forms. From the visual arts to the performing arts. From musical fountains to musical theatricals. From costume to canvas. From fashion to food. From conventions to celebrations.

All under one roof! Only at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre. Bringing this centre to life has been an absolute labour of love and joy. Named after my mother, the NMACC is a tribute to her lifelong devotion to the arts. As a trained classical dancer, the stage has always been my mother's temple. But her love for the arts has transcended beyond medium or form. Over the years, I have seen her dedicate herself to reviving, preserving, and promoting traditional Indian arts and crafts.

Be it Pattachitra paintings from Odisha, or weaves from Kashmir, or pottery from Kutch, or music from Bollywood and around the world. The Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre is the embodiment of her vision. At this Centre, we hope to showcase the best of India to the world and bring the best of the world to our home, India. The NMACC is not only the fulfilment of a lifelong dream. It is also the beginning of a journey.

A journey to rejuvenate and reimagine creative experiences and expressions. A journey to encourage and nurture talent no matter where it comes from. To give a platform and voice to the arts, the artists, and you, our very dear audiences.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Your presence here today, for our inaugural weekend, means the absolute world to us. Thank you for coming here today and for sharing in our joy and excitement for the opening. We have been looking forward to this day for years! But we couldn't have imagined the warmth, beauty, and glory that you have brought to it! We have cherished putting this weekend together for you, and I truly hope you enjoy and savour every moment of it. And now, it is with the greatest pleasure and pride, that I bring to you...

For the first time ever, over 350 artists on stage in a musical, For the first time ever, over 1100 costumes in a theatrical production, For the first time ever, the Budapest Scoring Orchestra live in Mumbai.

The Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre presents OUR OPENING SHOW, DIRECTED BY FEROZ ABBAS KHAN, THE GREAT INDIAN MUSICAL – CIVILIZATION TO NATION!