

Bengali New Year to begin on a musical note today

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LUCKNOW: The 1425th Bengali New Year will begin on a musical note, with the sprawling campus of more than a century old Bengali Club reverberating with Bangla folk songs by renowned folk singer from Kolkata, Partho Bhowmick and his much popular Bangla band, 'Mahul'.

In a programme organised by Bengali Club and Youngmen's Association, 'Mahul' would present some musical melodies like Bengali folk, modern and Bengali Pally Geeti, said Arun Kumar Banerjee, president of the club, on Poila Baisakh eve. The performance will begin on Sunday at 8 pm.

The Sarbajanik Durga Pooja Committee of Gomtinagar would greet the Paila Baisaakh by organising a musical programme by Abhijit Ghishaal, the famous singer, composer and lyricist of Bollywood movies, informed Madhu Banerjee, president of the Namita Banerjee Memorial Religious and Charitable Trust, Gomtinagar.

The venue for the programme is Community Hall, Vivek khand, Gomtinagar and the programme will start at 7 pm.

Yet another organisation, Bondhu Mahal, will usher in the Bengali New Year with a dash of culture and tradition on Monday (one day later) at Rajendra Singh Park, near B-Block post office,

Indira Nagar. Deputy chief minister Dinesh Sharma will be the chief guest on the occasion.

The organisation will give away excellence award to Surajit Das of HAL (administration) and Medhansh Saxena in the field of sports. "We will also distribute stationery among 150 poor children," said BM Chakraborty, secretary of Bondhu Mahal.

"The Bengalis' New Year has always been celebrated with great pomp and show in the state capital. In the past when almost all the Bengalis lived in Sunderbagh, Model House, Hewett Road, Nazar Bagh, Maqboolganj and nearby areas, then there used to be a Prabhat Pheri accompanied with the famous songs of Atul Prasad Sen like 'Nutan Barash Nutan Barash Anchale O Ki Dhaka', said Arun Banerjee.

This year on April 15 (Sunday) Bangalis living in an around Rabindrapalli would try to follow the old tradition of taking out the Prabhat Pheri at Rabindra-palli Colony.

On this occasion, Bengalis preferred traditional Bengali cuisine consisting of dishes like rice, fish, five types of bhaja, shukto and the dessert would include payesh (kheer), mishti doi, rasogolla etc, he said.

"People wear new dresses and offer puja in Kali Mandir. Bengali businessmen open new account book (halkhata) in their business establishments," said Arun Banerjee.