Course Proposal

1. Title: Journey to Proscenium

2. Credit Structure (L-T-P-Cr): 3 0 0 3

3. Course Code: HM4xx

4. Semester: SEM VI

5. Category: Open Elective

6. Prerequisites: Not required

7. Foundation for: not applicable

8. Abstract Content:

Performing art is an age old means of communication. Like any other communication medium the form of performing art changes time to time depending on societal needs. However the foundation remains more or less the same. Theater, in this context, is a classic example. Moreover theater gets its substance from the society and the reverse is also true. So theater plays a bigger role in our society.

It is strongly believed that there is a strong relationship between the social changes and theatre. This course will make an attempt to unveil this relationship in modern Indian context. Indian society is witnessing rapid changes in last 200 years, in all walks of life. Downfall of the great Mughal Empire, rise and fall of British rule, evolving as the largest democratic nation in this planet are some major landmarks of history. At all landmark points, theatre changes its form, presentation and content accordingly.

The entire period is divided into 4 sub periods.
1. 1800-1900
2. 1901-1947
3. 1948-1990
4. 1991- till now

The course will discuss the major changes and the impact of the same on the society for each sub period. Lights would be thrown on the work of major performers and performing groups of each sub period. A link of their works would also be pointed out.

Books:

Bengali theatre: 200 years, India.
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Publications Division
Publications Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, 
Govt. of India, 1999 - 287 pages 

Girish Chandra Ghosh By Utpal Datta 

The Bengali drama: its origin and development, By P. Guha-Thakurta 

The Indian theatre, By Hemendra Nath Das Gupta 

History of Indian theatre, Volume 1,2,3 By Manohar Laxman Varadpande 

Bengali stage, 1795-1873, Brajendra Nath Banerjee 

The Columbia encyclopedia of modern drama, Volume 1,2 By Gabrielle H. Cody, Evert Sprinchorn