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'Biennale is opening up another dimension for students'



V. Venu, director-general of the National Museum in Delhi (in blue), viewing Xu Bing's work at Aspinwall House in Kochi on Sunday.

Prominent figures from the world of art, film personalities, art students, and the public turned up in large numbers at the Kochi Muziris Biennale on Sunday, even as the event completes a month on January 12.

Among the visitors to the contemporary art event on Sunday was V. Venu, director-general of the National Museum in Delhi. "The kind of consistent engagement by people from every walk is what makes the Biennale an unparalleled successful event in the country," said Dr. Venu.

He said that an event of this magnitude should get major support from the State government as it positioned Kerala as an important cultural and art destination in the world.

Over 100 architecture students from Bangalore's R.V. College of Engineering also visited Aspinwall House, the main venue of the Biennale and a heritage property facing the sea.

"The Biennale is opening up another dimension for the students. We brought them here so that they can observe the works and learn how art is evolving in this changing world," said Ceejo Cyriac, a faculty who accompanied the students.

"Though we have been familiar with art, the visit to Biennale has evoked a new sense of aesthetics in us. The installations and the works of art have given us a new perspective," said Vivek S., a student in the group.

Mexican ambassador Jaime Nualart, filmmakers I.V. Sasi and Sohan Roy were among the other dignitaries who visited the Biennale on Sunday. A 'Let's Talk' programme was held at the Aspinwall pavilion with Mexican artist Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, whose work 'Pan-anthem' is exhibited at David Hall, said a release.