

# Taking Us to Greece!

PICS: SIDDHARAJ SOLANKI

**G**reece in Gujarat... Yes, a play on Greek philosopher Socrates, *Kanshuk Bhanigayelo*

*Manas* — *Socrates*, will be staged in the city on Saturday. *Mirror* went to a dress rehearsal of the drama at Rangmandal on Wednesday evening, to understand and see how it is shaping up. Actor-director Rajoo Barot, who is not only directing but also acting in the drama as Head of Athens, Pericles, elaborated on the storyline, " Bharat Dave came up with the idea of this play. It is based in Athens of 400 BC and talks of philosopher, Socrates. He wanted to establish democracy in the country. People who opposed his views and ideas manipulated fake crimes against him. He was given a death sentence; poisoned with Hemlock."

"In this play, we have used Greek chorus, costumes and there are 52 actors," added Barot.

Pravin Hirpara, who



**Clockwise: Actors rehearsing; Rajoo Barot and Pravin Hirpara**

plays Socrates, said, "It is a great experience to be a part of the play. We talk about democracy, but a person is still a slave in a democratic country. Inner democracy comes from opening your mind. Knowing the difference between right and

wrong is democracy. Once you know yourself well, then you are actually free."

**CREW:** Chorus written by Chirag Tripathi; music composed by Nitish Parekh; costume and props by Arpita Dhagar Gujarat State Sangeet Natak Academy has supported the play