

Condolence

Resolutions



LATE SHRI CHINTAMAN GANESH KOLHATKAR

THE Akademi passed condolence resolutions on Nov. 25, 1959, on the sad demise of Shri Chintaman Ganesh Kolhatkar, who was the recipient of the Akademi Award for Acting for the year 1957, expressing deep sense of sorrow and sympathising the members of the deceased's family for their sad bereavement.

Shri Kolhatkar had been on the stage for the last 50 years. He had dominated the

Marathi Stage for more than three decades and was an actor of extraordinary merit. He had appeared on the stage and screen in many Marathi, Hindi and Urdu plays. He was also an accomplished director, producer and playwright and had devoted his life for the progress and development of the stage. In his death the country has lost a personality which is irreplaceable.

LATE SHRI PANNA LAL GHOSH



The Sangeet Natak Akademi conveyed its sentiments of grief on April 2, 1960, to the members of the bereaved family of late Shri Panna Lal Ghosh, an eminent flute-player of the country, who died on April 20, 1960.

Shri Panna Lal Ghosh was born in 1911 in Barisal District, now in East Pakistan. His father, the late Shri Akshay Kumar Ghosh, a Government Servant, was an indefatigable *Sitar* player, and his grand-father was a singer and a *Pakhawaj* player. Accordingly, Shri Panna Lal used to get an opportunity to listen to music from his very childhood. He took training in physical culture and especially in boxing. Later on he became a trainer in boxing.

Since he was seven he took to playing flute and his reputation as a flute-player spread over Bengal. He accepted a job at New

Theatres, Calcutta, and used to provide background music for pictures. In 1937 he chose Shri Bhai Khushia, the staff harmoniumist of New Theatres, as his Guru. On an invitation by the rulers of the Seraikella State, Shri Panna Lal Ghosh toured round Europe in 1938 with the Chhow dance troupe of the State as its Music Director. For a year (1939) he learnt music from the late Shri Girija Shanker Chakravarty. In 1940 he went to Bombay and directed music in two films. He then joined the Bombay Talkies and composed music for *Basant*. Thereafter he directed music for a number of films. From 1947 onward he went on taking lessons from time to time from the veteran musician, Shri Alauddin Khan.

In 1956 he left the film world to join All India Radio as an artist, and after two years (in 1958) he became the conductor and composer of the All India Radio orchestra.