

CULTURAL

DIARY

July

India Wins Prizes in World Theatre Festival

Indian artists have been awarded two prizes for their performances at the International Theatre Festival, organised by the *Theatre des Nations*, which concluded in Paris by the first week of July, 1960.

The Little Ballet Troupe of Bombay was awarded the prize for the best decorations. Special mention was made of the *Panchatantra* performances, the decorative costumes and masks of the *Ramayana* displayed by the Troupe.

The next prize went to Shri Narasimha Rao of Shrimati Indrani Rahman's troupe. Shri Rao was adjudged to be the best male dancer.

Dance and Music Troupe for Mongolia

At the invitation of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic, the Government of India sent a ten-member dance and music troupe to Mongolia. The troupe left Palam airport, New Delhi, for Mongolia on July 7. It stayed in Mongolia for about a fortnight.

Photos of Odissi Dance Poses Collected

Over two hundred photographs of manifold dance poses embedded on the walls and parapets of the historic Sun Temple at Konarak, including a few from Bhubaneswar Lingaraj Temple, have been collected by the National Music Association of Cuttack for the revival of classical Odissi dance.

Musician Gets Doctorate Degree

Kumari Vimal Chorghade, a musician of Nagpur, has been awarded Doctorate in Music by the All-India Gandharva Mahavidyalaya

Mandal, for her thesis on "Folk-song Music in Nagpur Region".

Indo-Polish Evening

On the eve of Poland's National Day (July 22) the Indo-Polish Friendship and Cultural Society organised an evening of music and dance at Sapru House, New Delhi. A film was also shown. Half of the programme was devoted to Indian music and dances and the rest to Polish films.

Plea for Karnatic Style in Film Music

Presiding over a function of music at Madras, organised by the Arts Academy, Purasawalkum, on July 19, Shri C. Subramanian, Finance Minister of Madras State, pleaded for the adoption of the traditional Karnatic style in film music.

Tagore Theatre in Kerala

The Kerala Legislative Assembly voted on July 21, rupees five lakhs for building a theatre in Trivandrum in connection with the Tagore Birthday Centenary celebrations. The construction of the Tagore Theatre is part of a larger scheme formulated by the Government of India to set up a theatre in memory of Rabindranath in all State capitals. The State Government had accordingly decided to build a theatre in Trivandrum. A provision of rupees five lakhs was, therefore, made in the budget. The Government of India is also giving a grant of one lakh and seventy-five thousand rupees towards the cost of its construction. The theatre is expected to be ready before the close of the current financial year.

Indian Students in Australia

Seven Indian students, who went to Australia on a seven-week good-will visit as guests of the National Union of Australian University

Students, performed Indian dances when they visited Canberra sometime in the first week of July, 1960.

Britain's Interest in Indian Music

There is a growing interest in Indian music in Britain. Many music students and several leading British composers are becoming interested in the works of Indian musicians. This interest has been stimulated by more frequent programmes of Indian music on British radio by a number of gramophone records that have been issued and by the visits of Indian musical groups in recent years. One such visit was made by a troupe of Indian musicians, led by Prof. K. S. Narayana, Veena player. During their tour the Indian musicians gave recitals at a number of places. After playing at the Bath Festival at the invitation of the violinist Yehudi Menuhin they gave recitals in Bristol, Birmingham, Oxford, Cambridge, London and Leicester.

August

Indian Musicians for Nepal

The Government of India sent a party of six musicians to Kathmandu to participate in the Independence Day celebrations which the Indian Embassy organised in Kathmandu from August 15. The party consisted of Pran Nath (vocal), Nandlal Ghosh (Sarod), Karuna Abrol (vocal), Hari Kishen (Sitar), Harcharan Das Sharma (Tanpura) and Sant Ram (Tabla).

Folk Songs on Border Security

Security of the border was the theme of a folk song tournament, which was held at Lucknow on the Independence Day. The songs were in the Alha Style, the traditional folk medium of martial themes all over the Hindi-speaking India. Teams numbering about a dozen and comprising altogether some seventy persons represented almost all the dialects of Uttar Pradesh where the Alha songs are in vogue.

Sanskrit Plays Staged at Kathmandu

Two Sanskrit playlets *Farmers of Swarnapura* and *The Pigeon Coop* written by Smt. Leela Row Dayal, were presented by a group of some Nepali and Indian actors at the Indian Embassy at Kathmandu on August 14. This was the third time the Sanskrit plays were presented at the Indian Embassy at Kathmandu.

The Farmers of Swarnapura had once been staged earlier also. The other piece, *The Pigeon Coop* was an amusing skit based on Shri J. C. Mathur's Hindi story *Kabutarkhana*.

Maharashtra State Sangeet Mahotsava

A twenty-one-member committee has been appointed on August 3 by the Government of Maharashtra under the Chairmanship of Dr. T. R. Naravane, Minister for Social Welfare, to advise it on the organisation of the State Sangeet Nritya Mahotsava to be held this year and also on matters pertaining to the encouragement of the arts of music and dance in the State.

Tribal Dance and Music Centre

Shri K. K. Singh, Bihar's Deputy Education Minister, announced on August 7 at Ranchi that a full-fledged Tribal Dance and Music centre would be set up at Ranchi during the Third Plan. Inaugurating a three-day seminar on Development of Tribals in Bihar, he said that a Chhow Dance centre would also be started at Ranchi. Such attempts would encourage the Adivasis to conserve the beauties and values of their culture, the Minister added.

Tagore Dance-Drama and Seminar in Burma

The Tagore Society of Burma had been successful in having aroused a great interest in Tagore's works among the Burmese people and foreigners in Rangoon. This time Tagore's Festival of rains and *Shyama* were presented for two successive nights (August 17 and 18) at the Mayo Marine Club Hall of Rangoon. The huge hall was packed to its capacity mainly by Burmese, Chinese and Westerners. A three-week Seminar on Tagore songs and Shantiniketan style of dance was also organised.

September

Music Circle Opened

For the entertainment of music lovers a new Music Circle has been started in New Delhi under the auspices of Indian National Theatre. The inaugural performance was given by Shri Ali Akbar Khan on Sarod on the evening of September 4.

Indian Shows to be Televised

Indian dance and music are becoming increasingly popular with the television system

in the United States. The NBC, which covers 125 stations, has decided to televise two Indian shows, each of fifteen minutes' duration, every week. For these shows, Indian girls, talented in dance and music, are being currently recruited in this country. Mr. Francis Wooton, overseas representative of Public Relations Associates, recently interviewed a number of girls at Calcutta and Madras for this purpose.

Cultural Delegation for Middle East

An Indian Cultural Delegation left New Delhi on September 14 on a visit to Sudan, United Arab Republic, Turkey, Greece and Iran.

The members of the delegation are Smt. Shanta Rao, Bharat Natyam dancer; Kumari Damayanti Joshi, Kathak dancer; Shri Bahadur Khan, Sarod player; and Smt. Shano Khurana, vocalist.

The tour, which has been arranged at the invitation of the Governments of these countries, will last for about two months.

Music and Dance Critics' Club

The music and dance critics of Bombay have formed a club of their own to exchange ideas with artists and musicians through discussions and demonstrations.

The Club which is known as the Bombay Music and Dance Critics' Club was inaugurated by Shri Nikhil Banerjee at Arun Sangeetalaya at Khar, Bombay, on September 12.

The Club will also endeavour to establish contacts with noted foreign musicians who visit Bombay in order to enable them to understand the true classical tradition of Indian music and dance.

Development of Asian Theatre

Experts on theatre art and representatives of Asian countries decided at a meeting on September 7 at New Delhi that there should be greater exchange of drama troupes among Asian countries to help the development of Asian Theatre.

Representatives of the Philippines, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, Burma, Japan, Laos and India were present at the meeting, which was held under the auspices of the National School

of Drama and Asian Theatre Institute, New Delhi.

The meeting approved of a programme for 1961 which included establishment of a workshop to continue the study of the traditional theatres in Asia; survey of theatre forms and the issue of publications including a quarterly journal.

National Theatre for Bangalore

Prof. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, laid the foundation stone of the National Tagore Memorial Theatre near the Town Hall, Bangalore, on September 17. The Theatre is estimated to cost rupee ten lakhs.

Natya Sangh Awards in Drama

Shri B. Gopala Reddy, Union Minister for Revenue and Civil Expenditure, gave away awards in New Delhi on September 12 to the winners in Delhi Natya Sangh Competitions. Thirty-three artists received awards in production, acting, lighting, etc.

Scheme for Financial Aid for New Plays

The Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs has formulated a scheme for assistance to theatre organisations in India for production of new plays. Under the scheme a grant of Rs. 7,500/- per play will be given to recognised institutions for staging new plays. Financial assistance will be limited during 1960-61 to two plays per group. As 1961 marks the centenary of the birth of poet Rabindranath Tagore, at least one of the two plays for which the subsidy is given should be a Tagore play. Dance-dramas, ballet and opera are not covered by the scheme. To be eligible for the grant each registered organisation should have produced at least three separate dramas in the last five years and have staged not less than 100 shows in the calendar year 1959. The scheme envisages the distribution of the grant, as far as possible, on a regional basis taking into account productions in all Indian languages.

Music Festival at Kurnool

A music festival was celebrated under the auspices of the Lalitha Kala Sangam to promote fine arts in Kurnool (Andhra Pradesh) during the Dussehra days. The festival was held for three days commencing from September 22.

October

Inter-State Cultural Tour

The Kuchipudi Shri Venkatarama Natya Mandali made a tour of Madras State during October 1960 under the leadership of Shri Banda Kanakalingeswara Rao, Drama Producer, All India Radio Vijayawada, in connection with the Inter-State Cultural Tour Programme, sponsored by the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, Government of India, and gave performances of Kuchipudi dance in a few cities of that State. The troupe was selected for the purpose by the Andhra Pradesh Sangeeta Nataka Akademi.

Music Recital in Kathmandu

Shri Ravi Shankar gave a Sitar recital on October 2 at the Nepal-Bharat Samskriti Kendra, Kathmandu (Nepal). The recital was the inaugural function of the week-long Gandhi Jayanti celebrations organised by the Indian Embassy here. On October 1, 1960 a team of Indian and Nepalese artists staged a Sanskrit play.

Himachal Pradesh Drama Seminar

The Second Himachal Pradesh Drama Seminar began at Nahan on October 8, 1960. The three-day seminar, which was inaugurated by Shri Thakur Sen Negi, Development Commissioner, Himachal Pradesh, discussed drama in all its ramifications.

Degree Course in Music

The Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Osmania University to institute a Three-Year Degree Course in Music. The request has already been accepted by the Syndicate of the University and will be considered by the Academic Council. The proposal is to create a separate Department of Music in the University under the Faculty of Arts.

The committee, appointed by the State Government last year, under the chairmanship of Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundale, M.P., to examine the curriculum of studies followed in the Government School of Music and Dancing at Hyderabad and suggest a scheme for upgrading the Institution, had recommended the introduction of a Degree Course in Music in the Osmania University.

New Course in Music

At a meeting of the Academic Council of Shri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, held on October 15, Shri S. Govindarajulu Naidu, Vice-Chancellor, presiding, approval was given to the request of the Syndicate for the institution of Sangitha Visarada title course in the faculty of fine arts with effect from the academic year 1960-61.

November

New Karnatic Music Association

A new Association of music lovers, called the Thyaga Brahma Sabha, has been formed in Karol Bagh, Delhi. The Sabha hopes to arrange frequent Karnatic music performances by leading artists. The inaugural programme was a clarinet recital by Shri A. K. C. Natarajan on November 6, at the Constitution Club.

Setting up of Theatre and Music Councils

The Indian delegation to the UNESCO general conference, which left for Paris on November 12, 1960 would press for the setting up of a National Theatre Council and a National Music Council in the country with UNESCO assistance. These recommendations have been made by the three Sub-Commissions on Education, Science and Culture of the Indian National Commission for co-operation with UNESCO.

Institute of Dance and Music Planned

The Little Ballet Troupe, which recently returned to India after a successful tour of Europe, Latin America and West Asia, had plans for an institute for the teaching of dance and music. Smt. Gul Bardhan, Secretary of the Troupe, announced on November 1, 1960 at Bombay, that the new institution would be located at Dehra Dun. The estimated cost of the institute is Rs. 7,50,000.

Tagore Centenary Celebrations

The latest assessment of preparations in Tagore Centenary celebrations is mounting. Mysore may earn the distinction of being the first State to complete the construction of a national theatre. The theatre is expected to be ready by May 7, 1961, when the first play is likely to be staged there.

Younger Artists' Music Conference

The Kala Vihar of New Delhi organised an All-India Younger Artists' Music Conference with a view to bring to light those artists who had reached a definite stage of maturity in their respective spheres, but were not given due official or non-official recognition. It was for the first time that a conference like this was being convened by a public body giving adequate opportunity to the younger talents in the field of Indian classical music.

The Advisory and Selection Committee, consisting, among others, of Ustad Mushtaq Hussain Khan (Padma Bhushan), Shri Shambhu Maharaj (Padma Shree), Ustad Hafiz Ali Khan (Padma Bhushan) and Shri Moin-ud-din Khan Daggar had, after careful consideration, selected twentytwo artists for participation.

The conference was inaugurated by Ustad Mushtaq Hussain Khan on November 11.

Grant Given to Stage Actor

The Mysore State Sangeetha Nataka Academy paid a sum of Rs. 1,000/- in November, 1960 as an out-right grant to Natabhayankara Abhinaya Kanteerava Shri M. N. Gangadhara Rao, one of the oldest actors of Kannada Stage, to meet the expenses for his serious illness. Shri Rao hails from Mukanahallipatna village of Tumkur district.

Mobile Stage for Tagore Plays

The Delhi State Tagore Centenary Celebration Committee is considering a proposal to have a mobile stage for showing some of the famous plays of Rabindranath Tagore. The above Committee, headed by Smt. Sucheta Kripalani, was formed by the Chief Commissioner.

Eighth Anniversary of Kala Vikash Kendra

The Eighth Anniversary of the Kala Vikash Kendra, Cuttack, Orissa, along with the convocation of the College of Indian Dance and Music and the Bhatkhande Centenary Celebration was observed at the Kendra Rangamancha for three days from 6th November to 8th November, 1960, with Shri A. T. Kannan, musician, as the chief guest. Shri R. L. Nara-

simham, Chief Justice, Orissa High Court, inaugurated the function.

Punjabi Folk Dance Contest

The first All India Punjabi Folk Dance Competition was organised by the Indian Social and Cultural Organisation at the Talkatora Gardens, New Delhi, on November 20. Ten teams from Punjab participated in the competition, which was inaugurated by Shri Jagjivan Ram.

International Centre for Kathakali

An "International Centre for Kathakali", with Shri K. M. Panikkar as Chairman of the thirtyone-members governing council of the Centre has been formed in New Delhi. The Centre proposes to organise periodically lectures on and demonstrations of Kathakali in the capital. It also proposes to provide facilities for learning the various techniques of the dance form and its vocal and instrumental music. Yet another aim of the Centre is to arrange translation into Hindi and other languages, its technique and music and bring out publications on the subject. The Centre was inaugurated at New Delhi on January 13 by Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

December

Tamil Drama Festival

Sri Shanmukhananda Fine Arts and Sangeetha Sabha organised a four-day Tamil drama festival from 15th December at the Cosmopolitan Club grounds, Kings Circle, Bombay. The Mayor, Shri V. N. Desai, inaugurated the festival.

Indian Theatre Team for Russia

At the invitation of the Soviet Government the Bharatiya Natya Sangh sent a delegation of theatre experts to study the Russian techniques of theatre production.

The delegation which consisted of Smt. Sheila Vats, Professor of Acting in the National School of Drama & Asian Theatre Institute, New Delhi, Shri S. V. Sahasranamam, a professional actor from Madras, and Shri Tapas Sen, an expert on audio-visual production of Rabindranath Tagore's works, left for the U.S.S.R. on 20th of December.

Training Course for Light Music Producers

A two-week training course for light music producers of South Indian stations of All-India Radio was inaugurated on December 19 at the Madras Station by Chief Justice P. V. Rajamanner. He said that lightness of treatment, lightness in the structure of the time and a direct appeal to emotions both in theme and content were the essential qualities of light music.

Music Competition at Gwalior

The third annual music, dance and drama competition under the auspices of Kala Mandir was held at Gwalior from December 27 to 31. Shri Kishore Sahu, film actor and director, gave away the awards and certificates of merit. The function was inaugurated by Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

January

New Branch of Sangeet Vidyalaya

The Adarsh Sangeet Vidyalaya of New Delhi opened a branch of the Vidyalaya at Lajpatnagar, and for that occasion a programme of music and dance recitals was presented on January 3, at Lajpat Bhawan Hall, New Delhi. Shri Bhagwan Sahay, Chief Commissioner of Delhi, inaugurated the function.

Exhibition of Theatrical Structure

A two-day exhibition of Theatrical Structure was opened at Patna on January 3, at the Sinha Library Hall. The exhibition which contained over one hundred exhibits covering the trends prevailing in about a dozen foreign countries, had been organised by the Bharatiya Natya Kala Mandir, the sponsors being the Bihar Academy of Music, Dance and Drama.

Musicians Honoured at Madras

On January 3, the Madras Music Academy conferred the title of "Sangeetha Kalanidhi" on Vidwan T. K. Jayarama Iyer, who is the President of the Academy for the year. Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, M.P., Vice-President of the Academy, presided over the "Sadas" held by the Academy to confer the title. The Academy also honoured Vidwan Veeriah Choudhury of Pedanandipadu in Guntur District (Andhra Pradesh), who had specialised in drama and Harikhatha Kalakshepam and

Vidwan Narasimhalu Naidu of Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) a specialist in "Pallavi".

Auditorium Planned

Sanskritik Sangam, a cultural organisation of Delhi, issued an appeal on January 15, for funds for the building of an auditorium. The Sangam organised a programme of dance and drama at the Red Fort on January 25, to raise funds for the auditorium.

Grants to Music and Dance Institutions

The Kerala Government has classified dance, drama and music associations into two categories for the purpose of grants. Art institutions come under the first category and art organisations under the second. These are again classified into first and second grade institutions and organisations. The first grade art institution will be required, among other things, to have a minimum number of twenty students and two teachers, and a second grade institution, a minimum of at least ten students and one teacher. The maximum annual grant for a first grade institution has been fixed at Rs. 400 and that for a second grade institution Rs. 250.

A first grade art organisation should have conducted through its own members or under its auspices at least six performances in the previous year and a second grade organisation at least four performances. The maximum annual grant fixed for a first grade art organisation is Rs. 500 and that for a second grade organisation Rs. 350. The Kerala Sangeeta Nataka Akademi will receive applications and recommend sanction of grants and the grants will be distributed by the Government through that organisation.

Cultural Grant for Danish Singer

Shri Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, gave on January 19, a grant of Rs. 500 to Mrs. Agnette Obhing, a famous Danish Dramatic soprano, as a token of appreciation, under the Cultural Activities Programmes.

Cultural Troupe to Karachi

The Government of India sent an eight-member dance and music troupe to Karachi to participate in the Indian Republic Day Celebrations which the Indian High Commission organised there on January 26. The troupe consisted

of Shri Birju Maharaj and Kumari Bharati Gupta (Kathak dancers), Shri Dev Shankar Dwivedi (Singer), Shri Manika Prasad Misra (Tabla player), Shri Mohammad Jan (Sarangi player), Begum Akhtar (Vocalist), Shri Sabri Khan (Sarangi player) and Shri Gulam Ahmed (Tabla player).

Folk Songs Festival

Folk dance parties, who came to New Delhi, in connection with the Republic Day Celebrations, presented a programme of folk music under the auspices of the Republic Day Folk Music Festival Committee before an invited audience at Talkatora Gardens, New Delhi, on January 25. The seventeen parties, comprising more than two hundred persons, participated in the programme. The themes of their songs were the nation-building activities of their respective States.

February

Drama Contest for Girls

Thirteen short plays were presented during the Hindi Drama Competition sponsored by the Directorate of Education in New Delhi, on 6th and 7th February, 1961. Teams from Higher Secondary schools for girls took part in the two-day contest, which aimed at promoting interest in dramatics among school students.

Exchange Visits by Musicians

A programme of exchange of visits by musicians from the north and the south to promote better cultural understanding and emotional integration was being sponsored by the All-India Fine Arts and Crafts Society at New Delhi.

Tagore Memorial Theatre

Shri Y. B. Chavan, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, laid the foundation-stone of the proposed Tagore Memorial Theatre at Nardulla Tank in North Bombay in February, 1961. The Rs. 16-lakh project will be finalised by the State Government. The Bombay Municipal Corporation has donated 10,000 square feet of land worth about Rs. 5 lakhs for the project. The proposed theatre will provide modern facilities including a sliding stage, open air rehearsal stage and residential blocks for artists coming from outside. It will accommodate 800 persons and is expected to be com-

pleted before the Tagore Centenary Year, i.e., by the end of December 1961.

Music Schools for Jammu and Kashmir

The Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Culture and Arts has decided to conduct research in indigenous varieties of music. It will set up two schools of music, one in Jammu and the other in Kashmir. The Academy has decided to organise cultural troupes to tour other areas of India. An open air theatre is also proposed to be started in Jammu.

Children's Drama Festival

The Second Drama Festival for Children organised by the Vidarbha Sahitya Sangh, Nagpur, was held at Nagpur on February 19. Some local schools and organisations of children presented their dramas in the festival this year. The Vidarbha Sahitya Sangh started the holding of the children's drama festival last year with a view to encouraging the students interested in dramas.

Two Academies for Gujarat

Gujarat would soon have two academies one for fine arts and the other for music and dance, the Education Minister, Shri Hitendra Desai, announced at Surat on February 11. He said that the State Government was not only keen on continuing the cultural activities sponsored by composite Bombay State, but was anxious to encourage the expansion of such activities.

Spreading Cooperation through Drama

A drama troupe in a car is moving from village to village to carry home the message of cooperation in rural folks of Rajasthan. The mobile unit owned and organised by the State Cooperative Department and known as "Sahkar Rangmanch" consists of sixteen artists specialised in music, drama, Kathak and Bharat Natyam dances and folk-lore. It has so far visited over one hundred and twentyfive villages during the one year of existence and has put up many performances which have been witnessed by nearly four lakhs of people, mainly villagers.

March

Theatre Crafts Museum Opened

A museum of theatre crafts was inaugurated at the Exhibition Grounds, New Delhi, on March 1, 1961, by Dr. P. V. Rajamannar, Chief

Justice of the Madras High Court and Chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademi. The museum had been set up by the Bharatiya Natya Sangha with the help of the All India Handicrafts Board. In it would be preserved authentic theatre articles and crafts of the country. Exhibits of the museum included traditional Indian theatrical costumes, jewellery and ornaments, head-gear, masks, puppet, "bommallatam" dolls from Madras, rod puppets from West Bengal, Manipuri dance costumes; truculent effigies of Megh Nath and Kumbhakarna used in Ramlila performances in Banaras, marionettes from Andhra, weird Yakshagana masks from Mysore and Naga dance head-gears.

Inter-Ministry Drama Contest

The Inter-Ministry Drama Competition concluded at the Community Hall, New Delhi, on March 18, 1961. On that day the following three plays were presented *Alpam Vaiki* in Malayalam by V. Sundareswaran (Ministry for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs), *Deepak* by K. L. Ralhan (Finance Ministry) and *Pagal* by Romesh Mehta (Home Ministry).

The first prize went to *Parda Uthane Se Pahle*, written and directed by R. K. Sharma of the Defence Ministry. The second prize was shared by the External Affairs Ministry, *Kya Musibat Hai*, directed by S. N. Mathur and written by Romesh Mehta, and the Home

Ministry's *Pagal*, directed by Raj Puri and written by Romesh Mehta. The third prize was given to the Finance Ministry's *Deepak*, directed by M. M. Tawakley and written by K. L. Ralhan.

Shri Purandaradasa Festival

The two-day Shri Purandaradasa Festival, organised by the National Cultural Organisation, in honour of the celebrated Karnataka musician Shri Purandaradasa, was inaugurated on March 25, 1961, by Mr. Justice T. L. Venkatarama Aiyar, Judge of the Supreme Court of India, and Chairman of the Law Commission, at the Punjab National Bank Auditorium, New Delhi. Shri B. N. Datar, Chairman of the National Cultural Organisation, presided over the function.

Seminar of Theatricians

More than one hundred playwrights, producers, directors, and artists, connected with the theatre, assembled at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on March 31 to discuss contemporary play writing and play production. The three-day Seminar was organised by the Bharatiya Natya Sangh, and was inaugurated by Smt. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya. Participants from principal theatre centres in the country, and observers from the United States, Philippines, Japan, Thailand and Indonesia attended the Seminar.

