

# annual report

1969-70

sangeet natak akademi new delhi

## ANNUAL REPORT 1969-70

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# ANNUAL REPORT 1969-70

#### Tribute to Dr. Zakir Husain

On May 3rd the nation suffered a tragic loss in the sudden passing away of the President, Dr. Zakir Husain. An eminent educationist and a person of highly cultivated tastes the late President took an active part in the promotion of the arts. His gracious presence at Akademi functions lent dignity to the occasion and his wise and tolerant outlook gave a lead to the cultural life of the nation.

The Sangeet Natak Akademi jointly with the sister Akademis, met to express a deep sense of loss in the death of Dr. Zakir Husain.

During the year, death removed from our midst several out-standing figures in the field of music, dance and drama, who had been closely associated with the Akademi. They were: Sri Chintalapalli Venkata Rao, Akademi Award winner for Karnatak Vocal Music in 1967; Acharya P. K. Atre, the well-known play-wright and outstanding theatre personality; Shri Kanthe Maharaj, Akademi Award winner for Hindustani Instrumental Music in 1961; Shri Chinta Krishna Murthy, Akademi Award Winner for Kuchipudi Dance Guru in 1968.

The Akademi pays its homage to their memory.

#### Organisational Set-up

The Sangeet Natek Akademi was registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 on the 11th September 1961. The

objects of the Akademi, the powers and functions of the General Council, the Executive Board and the Finance Committee are set out in the Memorandum of Association and the Rules and Regulation of the Sangeet Natak Akademi.

The highest authority of the Akademi vests in the General Council. The Executive Board which is the governing body of the Akademi, is entrusted with the general superintendence, direction and control of the affairs of the Akademi. The Finance Committee, of which the Financial Adviser is ex-officio Chairman, assists the Executive Board in financial matters.

#### General Council of the Akademi

A list of members of the General Council as on the 31st March, 1970 will be found in Appendix I.

#### Executive Board

Smt. Indira Gandhi
Shri K.P.S. Menon
Shri S.R. Mehta
Shri S. Chakravarti
Dr. V.S. Jha
Dr. V.K. Narayana Menon
Shri S.N. Mozumdar
Dr. V. Raghavan
Smt. Mrinalini Sarabhai
Shri J.C. Mathur
Shri Ramdhari Sinha Dinkar
Swami Prajnanananda
Shri Sombhu Mitra
Shri Adya Rangacharya
Shri Komal Kothari

#### Finance Committee

Shri S.R. Mehta Shri S.N. Mozumdar Dr. V.S. Jha Shri J.C. Mathur Dr. V.K. Narayana Menon

## Officers of the Akademi

The Officers of the Akademi as on 31st March, 1970 are

Chairman : Smt. Indira Gandhi

Vice-Chairman : Shri K.P.S. Menon Financial Adviser : Shri S.R. Mehta

Secretary : Dr. Suresh Awasthi

#### Meetings

During the year, the General Council met on the 10th October, 1969 and 27th February, 1970.

The Executive Board met on the 12th June, 1969, 9th October, 1969 and 26th February, 1970.

The Finance Committee met on the 3rd June, 1969, 4th October, 1969 and 21st February, 1970.

#### Akademi Awards 1969

The following artistes were selected for Akademi Awards for 1969

#### Music

Shri Ramchatur Mallick ... Hindustani Vocal

Shri Dabir Khan ... Hindustani Instrumental

(Been)

Shri M. M. Dandapani

Desigar ... Karnatak Vocal

Shri Devakottai A. Narayana

Iyengar ... Karnatak Instrumental

(Veena)

#### Dance

Shri Vazhenkate Kunchu

Nair ... Kathakali

Shri Thangjam Ojah

Chaoba Singh ... Manipuri

Shri Tiruvalaputtur K.

Swaminatha Pillai ... Bharata Natyam (Teaching)

Smt. Sitara Devi ... Kathak

#### Drama

Shri Manmath Roy Shri Habib Tanvir Shri N.N. Pillai Shri Gahan Chandra Goswami

... Play-writing (Bengali)... Play-Production (Urdu)... Acting (Malayalam)

... Traditional Theatre
(Ankia Nat)

#### Investiture

The Presentation of the Akademi Awards for 1969 took place on the 25th February, 1970 at a special ceremony presided over by the President, Shri V.V. Giri who gave away the Awards to 12 distinguished artistes in the field of music, dance and drama in the presence of a select gathering. On the occasion the Akademi organised a week-long Festival of Dance, Drama and Music featuring the Award winning artistes.

#### Roll of Honour

The Roll of Honour includes Fellows and Award Winners in the fields of music, dance and drama (Details given in Appendix II).

#### Library and Listening Room

The Akademi Library added 910 books in the year 1969-70 Of these 749 were purchased, 128 were presented as gifts from various institutions, individuals and Embassies and 33 were subsidized publications of the Akademi. The Journal and Newspaper clipping service was continued.

The Disc Record Library, one of the most valuable services of the Akademi, is growing each year. In the year 1969-70, 630 discs were added, of which 369 were purchased and 261 were received as gifts from the Prime Minister from her personal collection and various Embassies. Both the Library and more especially the Listening Room have been widely utilised by scholars and students.

#### Finanial Assistance to Institutions

The Akademi continued financial assistance to Institutions working in the field of music, dance and drama during the year 1969-70. The institutions to which grants have been sanctioned

during 1969-70 together with the amounts and the purpose for which these were sanctioned will be found in Appendix III.

Apart from the regular grants, a sum of Rs. 18,000/- was disbursed in deserving cases out of the discretionary grant placed at the disposal of the Vice-Chairman, to experts for attending Chhau Dance Festival and Seminar; Drama Festival at Calcutta; Festival of Kuchipudi and Yakshagana, for organising Bhagavatha Mela Dance and Drama; and for sponsoring the performance of Bohurupee troupe at Cuttack etc.

#### **Recording Studio**

The better equipped Recording Studio has greatly helped in expanding and systematising the Akademi's recording programme of classical and traditional music. Recording facilities are also made available to cultural institutions and individual artistes at a nominal charge of Rs. 30 per hour. In addition, facilities are also offered to music institutions for dubbing tape music for their use. Apart from the Akademi's regular programme of recording classical music, during the year under review, folk, tribal and theatre-music was also recorded and added to the Akademi's tape-music Library.

During the year under review, the important recordings made were

## (a) Classical Music

R.K. Surya Narain—Veena (Karnatak)	$1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.
Badi Moti Bai of Banaras-Vocal	1 hr.
Rasoolan BaiVocal	1 hr.
R. Pichumani-Veena (Karnatak)	2 hrs.
A. Ramlinga Bhagavatar—Vocal (Karnatak)	3 hrs.
Mallikarjuna Mansoor-Vocal (Hindustani)	2 hrs.
Dabbir Khan-Veena (Hindustani)	2 hrs.
Ram Chatur Mallick-Vocal (Hindustani)	2 hrs.
T.N. Raja Ratnam—Nagaswaram (Karnatak)	$1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

#### (b) Folk Music

Folk Music of Haryana	22 hrs.
Folk Music of U.P.	25 hrs.

(c) Folk Theatre Music and Ballads.

Dhola, Nihalde, Dang Leela of U.P.

19 hrs.

	Pabuji Ka Pad of Rajasthan		12 hrs.	
	Maach of Madhya Pradesh		6 hrs.	
	Nautanki, Gopichand, Heer Ranjha,			
	Guga Peer of Haryana		5 hrs.	
	Ankia Nat of Assam		3 hrs.	
	Sankirtan of Manipur		2 hrs.	
(d)	Other Music	a **		
	Chhau dance music		4½ hrs.	
	Kathakali		2 hrs.	
	Vedic chants by A.N. Bhatacharya		1 hr.	
	Tamil Traditional music by			
	P.S. Vedachalam		2 hrs.	
	Ketjak (money) Ramayana		1 hrs.	
	Kuchipudi dance music by Vedantam			
	Satyanarayana Sarma	,	2 hrs.	
	Rabindra Sangeet by Jyotrindra Moitra		1½ hrs.	
	Muslim religious music by Yunus			
	Hussain Khan		2 hrs.	
	Odissi dance music and Astapadis			
	by Rakhal Mohanti		2 hrs.	
	Begum Akhtar		$2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.	
	Kritis of Muthuswami Dikshitar			
	by S. Srinivasa Rao		$2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.	
	Tevaram & Tiruppukal by		01.1	
	Dandapani Desigar		2½ hrs.	
	Songs from old classical dramas by Ganga Prasad Pathak		1 hr.	
	Canga Flasad Fathak		ı mr.	

Institutions and research scholars have been encouraged to obtain copies of classical and folk music from the Akademi's collection. These have helped in wider dissemination and appreciation of the music. During the year, a number of institutions and music departments in India and abroad benefitted from this. In this connection, institutions such as International Institute for Comparative Music Studies and Documentation. West Germany, Japanese Association Tokyo, and scholars such as Prof. Kagan U.S.A., Dr. Richmond, University of Michigan, Anne Marie Groves, Canada, Marlyn Thursby, Duke University, U.S.A., may be mentioned,

#### **Publications**

Publication of books on music, dance and drama, with a view to disseminating knowledge about these arts, forms one of

the major activities of the Akademi. Apart from bringing out publications on its own, the Akademi also encourages other organisations and individuals to publish suitable literature on these subjects by giving them necessary financial assistance. This assistance is rendered in two ways, first, by giving outright grants for publication of unprinted mss. and second, by purchasin bulk copies of books already published. Such publications, which cover practically all Indian languages, are generally distributed free to universities, libraries and individuals interested in these arts.

Applications for financial assistance are examined in the first instance by a Committee of experts, the Publication Committee, which consists of the following members,

Shri K.P.S. Menon (Chairman)
Dr.V. Raghavan
Shri Ashok Mitra
Dr. Maheshwar Neog
Dr. K.C.D. Brahaspati
Swami Prajnanananda
Shri A. Ramakrishna Rao

The Executive Board, which is the final authority in the matter of sanctioning financial assistance, sanctions grants on the recommendations of the Publication Committee.

#### Grants

The Akademi sanctioned the following grants during the year under report

Rs. 1000 for publication of the Journal Natrang.

Rs. 2000 for publication of the Journal Sangeet Kala Vihar

Rs. 1,500 for publication of the Journal Enact.

Rs. 3,000 for publication of the Journal of the Music Academy, Madras

The following books were purchased by the Akademi

Surelekha by Kali Charan Patnaik	50 copies
Saptaswari by Kali Charan Patnaik	50 copies
Marg-Chhau Dance Number	50 copies
Fundamentals of Raga and Tala with	
a new system of notation by Nikhil Ghosh	25 copies
Gavani Kala by H.V. Datye	25 copies

The Akademi also decided to purchase copies of the following books after they were published,

- (1) Satriya Dance and their Rhythms by Maheshwar Neog
- (2) Rajasthan Ke Lok Vadya by Komal Kothari
- (3) Shatranj-ke-Moore by Habib Tanvir

The following subsidised publications were published during the year,

Syamasastrulavari Rachanalu by Mr. & Mrs.

N.C. Parthasarthy

Koothanool edited by S.D. Subramanya Yogi Dakshinatyula Natya Kala Charitra by

Natraj Ramakrishna.

Sangeeta Sampradaya Pradarsani Vol. III.

Kuchipudi Aradhana Nrityamulu by C.R. Acharyulu.

#### Akademi Publications

Sangeet Natak, the Akademi's quarterly Journal on the performing arts, appears every March, June, September and December. Vol. 11 to 14 were published during the year. The Journal first appeared in November, 1965 and during all these years, it has maintained a high standard in both its contents and production values. It is priced at Rs. 3 per copy, the annual subscription being Rs. 10.

The Akademi's bi-monthly News-Bulletin, continued to appear regularly during the year. This bulletin, which contains news of cultural activities, is distributed free to institutions and individuals interested in the work of the Akademi.

## Proposed Publications

Publications proposed to be taken up during 1970-71, include, besides the journal and the news-bulletin,

Tyagaraja Kritis —Vol. I Companion to Indian Music — Part I

A list of the publications available with the Akademi for Sale is at Appendix IV.

#### Calendar of Activities

## Recitals and Concerts

10th April, 1969

The Akademi presented a *Veena* Recital by Shri R.K. Suryanarayan with a view to focus attention on young and promising musicians of India.

## 11th April, 1969

The Akademi in association with the International Centre for Kathakali arranged a Kathakali Dance Recital by the troupe of Kalamandalam Shri Krishnan Nair on the open-air lawns of the Rabindra Bhavan. Excerpts from three famous Kathakali plays, Mohini Rugmangada, Keechakavadham and Duryodhanavadham were presented. An attempt was made to create the traditional setting of Kathakali presentation in Kerala with open-air arrangements, ground-level acting area and the audience seated on three sides. The performance drew a capacity crowd of more than 2000 and the show was open to the general public.

## 4th and 5th June, 1969

As part of the Akademi's regular programme of sponsoring rare and distinctive forms of dance, drama and music from different regions the Akademi presented a programme of Chhau Dances of Purulia (West Bengal) on the open-air lawns of Rabindra Bhavan. About 40 artistes participated in the programme. The invitation was thrown open to the general public and the performance was attended by a large audience. This was the first time that the Chhau Dances of Purulia were presented in Delhi. The Akademi had earlier presented the Chhau Dances of Mayurbhanj (Orissa) and Seraikela (Bihar).

## 11th November, 1969

The Akademi presented a programme of Indian Music and Dance at Rashtrapati Bhavan in honour of H.E. Mr. Pal Losonczi, President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic and Madam Losonczi. The programme

included Orissi dance (Sanjukta Panigrahi), Manipuri Dance (Triveni), Tal Vadya Kacheri (Akashvani Vadya Vrinda) and Kathak Dance (Uma Sharma).

#### 20th November, 1969

To commemorate the Quin-Centenary Celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev, the Akademi on behalf of the Ministry of Education presented a programme of music based on the compositions of the Guru.

#### 25th November, 1969

The Akademi presented a programme of Indian Music and Dance at Mavlankar Auditorium in honour of the Delegates to the 10th General Assembly of International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. The programme was greatly appreciated by foreign delegates.

## 10th December, 1969

The Akademi presented a progamme of Indian Music and Dance at Rashtrapati Bhavan in honour of H.E. Dr. The Hon'ble Sir, S. Ramgoolam. The participants were, Kumkum Das (Orissi), Bharati Gupta and Tirath Ajmani (Kathak), Sonal Mansingh (Bharata Natyam) and Begam Akhtar (Traditional Songs of Bihar).

## 15th Janurary 1970

The Akademi organized a programme of Indian Music and Dance in honour of H.E. Gen. Ne Win, Chairman of The Revolutionary Council of the Union of Burma. The programme which was held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan featured Smt. Kamala (Bharatanatyam) and Shri Amjad Ali (Sarod).

The Akademi also organized a programme of Folk Dances that followed a Lunch the Prime Minister gave at her residence in honour of H.E. Gen. Ne Win. The programme was held on the lawns of the Prime Minister's House.

The Akademi also sent four dancers and choreographers from different parts of the country to attend the Seminar and Festival as observers of the dance in its locale.

#### 27th March to 30th March, 1970

The Akademi conducted a 4-day Seminar on Music and Science at Rabindra Bhavan. The Seminar brought together for the first time musicians, musicologists and scientists from all over the country for an exchange of ideas on the subject and to take stock of the existing situation in regard to the work being done in this field. (see page 20).

#### Lecture Demonstrations

#### 3rd June, 1969

The Akademi arranged a Lecture-demonstration by Dr. Asutosh Bhattacharya, President of the Research Institute of Folk Culture, Calcutta on the "Chhau Dances of Purulia".

## 6th August, 1969

The Akademi organised a Lecture-Demonstration on Bandha Nrittya (a traditional dance-form of Orissa) by Shri Jiwan Pani with demonstrations by Km. Vijayalaxmi at Rabindra Bhavan for an invited audience comprising of dancers, dance teachers and artistes.

## 22nd August 1969

The Akademi organised a Lecture-demonstration on "Kathak Dance with Special Reference to the Tradition of Ras of the Braj Region" by Dr. Mrs. Kapila Vatsyayan at Rabindra Bhavan. The Lecture was illustrated with demonstrations by Km. Uma Sharma and also with slides.

## 22nd-23rd September, 1969

The Akademi organised a Lecture-demonstration by the visiting American Dance Teacher, Mr. Lonny Gordon at the National School of Drama, which was largely attended,

## 28th January, 1970

The Akademi presented a recital of Indian Music and Dance in honour of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Belgium. The programme was held in the Ashok Hall of the Rashtrapati Bhavan and featured Km. Padma Subramanyam (Bharatanatyam), Smt. Sharan Rani (Sarod) Km. Nandini Krishnamoorthy (Kuchipudi) and Km. Uma Sharma (Kathak).

## 13th February, 1970

The Akademi organized a recital of Music and Dance in honour of the Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister of West Germany following a dinner given by Shri Dinesh Singh, Minister of External Affairs, at Ashoka Hotel, on behalf of the Ministry of External Affairs. The programme included Orissi (by Nritya Niketan), Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi (Nandini Krishnamoorthy) and Sitar Recital (Sarvajeet Kaur.)

## 25th February, 1970

The Annual Awards Presentation Ceremony was held at Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. Following the Ceremony Smt. Radha Srinivasan gave a Bharatnatyam recital.

## 25th February to 4th March, 1970.

On the occasion of the Annual Akademi Awards Ceremony, the Akademi organised a week-long festival of music, dance and drama by the artistes honoured this year. The programmes witnessed by thousands of Delhi citizens, were thrown open to the general public (see page 19).

#### Seminars

## May, 1969

In the first week of May, a Seminar and Festival of Chhau Dances of Mayurbhanj was organised by the Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi at Bhubaneshwar in collaboration with the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi. A special grant of Rs. 5,000 was released to the State Akademi for organising the Festival,

## Reception

## 14th September, 1969

The Akademi organized a Reception in honour of the members of the Balinese Dance and Music Ensemble. In a brief dance recital on the occasion four of the major dances Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kathakali and Manipuri were presented in a brief programme for the guests. Token gifts were exchanged between the visiting troupe and the Akademi.

## 19th February, 1970

The Akademi arranged a Reception in honour of Mr. Moiseyev on the eve of his departure from India. Mr. Moiseyev spoke of his work in folk dance in his country and also of his impressions of the dance he saw in India. The Reception was attended by a number of local dancers, choreographers and other workers in the filed.

## Dance Workshop

## 22nd-23rd September, 1969

The Akademi organised a two-day Dance Workshop under the guidance of a visiting American Dance Teacher, Mr. Lonny Gordon at the National School of Drama, Rabindra Bhavan. Mr. Gordon visited India on an invitation of the U.S.I.S. Some 50 students of Drama School and of local dance institutions took part in the workshop.

## Cultural Exchange Programme

Mr. Igor Moiseyev, the famous Russian Folk Dance Choreographer, came to India for a period of four weeks as a guest of the Govt. of India. The invitation was extended by the Ministry of Education and Youth Services as a part of the Cultural Exchange Programme between India and the USSR for 1969-70. Mr. Moiseyev arrived in India on January 21, 1970 and left on Feb. 20, 1970. He was accompanied by Raya Egorova, a Hindi and English official interpreter provided for him from Moscow.

Mr. Moiseyev's itinerary was planned by the Sangeet Natak Akademi. In the first week of his stay, which was in Delhi, he visited local dance institutions and met choreographers and had talks with them. As Folk Dance parties from various States of India were in town at that time, Mr. Moiseyev attended their rehearsals at the Talkatora Camp and also the performances at the National Stadium.

On January 30 to February 3, 1970 Mr. Moiseyev conducted a Choreographers' Workshop at Gwalior. This was organised in collaboration with Little Ballet Troupe, Gwalior. To this Workshop the Akademi invited ten Choreographers from all over India; five of them attended. The Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad (State Akademi) also invited about 25 dance teachers and choreographers from all over the State as observers for the Workhop. The Workshop was on the theme of "Adaptation of Folk Dance for the Contemporary Stage".

Other places visited by Mr. Moiseyev were Madras, Cochin Bombay and Udaipur, at each of which he saw the leading local dance institutions and dances, both classical and folk.

The Akademi presented Mr. Moiseyev and Mrs. Raya Egorova the official interpreter who accompanied him from Moscow with some of its publications.

#### Miscellaneous

## 12th April, 1969

The Akademi held a function to mark the release of its publication entitled "Classical Indian Dance In Literature and the Arts by Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan".

## 7th and 8th July, 1969

The Akademi presented a programme of taped folk and tribal music based on recent field recordings at Rabindra Bhavan, to an invited audience. The recordings included folk and tribal music both of a religious and secular character from Assam, Bengal, Jammu, Gujarat, Orissa and Rajasthan. On

this occasion, the traditional ballad singers of Haryana were also presented in a live programme.

#### Akademi Festival of Arts

On the occasion of the Annual Award Ceremony the Akademi organised a week-long Festival of 'Music, Dance, and Drama presenting the award winning artists of the year. The Festival has become a regular feature of the Annual Award ceremony and an important cultural event in the Capital. The Festival aroused great interest and enthusiasm and was attended by large audiences. In all about 15 thousand citizens of Delhi watched these performances which were open to the general public and were held under a shamiana on the lawns of Rabindra Bhavan, with some indoor performances at Fine Arts and Mavlankar Auditorium. The Festival was marked by great artistic variety and was of a high standard. A programme diary of the Festival is given below:

February 25	Smt. Radha Srinivasan (Bhartana-tyam)
February 26	Agra Bazar (play in Urdu) pro- duced by Shri Habib Tanvir
February 27	Mohd. Dabir Khan (Veena) Shri Vazhenkata C. Kunchu Nair (Kathakali)
February 28	Shri Ram Chatur Mallick (Hindustani Vocal) Shri Dandapani Desigar (Karnatak Vocal)
March 1	Shri Devakottai Narayana Iyen- (Veena) gar Smt. Sitara Devi (Kathak)
March 2	Shri Ojha Thangjam Ojah Chaoba Singh (Manipuri) (Sankirtan) Shri Gahan Chandra Goswami

(Ankia Nat)

March 4

Dharmaghat (Play in Bengali) by Shri Manmatha Ray, produced by Chaturmukh of Calcutta.

#### Seminar On Music and Science

The Akademi conducted a 4-day Seminar on Music and Science from 27th March to 30th March, 1970. The Seminar brought together musician, musicologists and scientists from all over the country for an exchange of ideas on the subject and to take stock of the existing situation in regard to the work being done in this field.

Musicological researches in our country have been mostly concerned with the historical aspect. Valuable work has been done during the past few decades in the study of ancient texts—defining their dates, fixing of authorship and correlating them to contemporary music. Very little has been done in regard to the study of music employing inter-disciplinary ideas and techniques. In the context of recent developments in science, especially in accoustical engineering, radio broadcasting and social sciences it is realised that the time has come to discuss the part that these sciences would play in furthering musical researches.

Besides bringing together scholars in various disciplines for an exchange of ideas, it was expected that the discussions at the Seminar would provide guidelines to the work to be undertaken in the proposed Laboratory for Science of Music.

The following delegates participated in the Seminar,

Prof. C.R. Sankaran & Shri K.S. Sampat (The Alpha-Phonema Phonoid and Towards Experiments on the "Ultimate 'Unit' of Speech"; Dr. B.C. Deva (Some Problems in Science and Music Explorations in Possibilities"); Shri Sudhibhushan Bhattacharya ("Role of Music in Society and Culture"); Dr. K.C.D. Brahaspati ("Jati Gayan"); Shri W.J. Hadden, Jr. ("On Acoustics of Wind Instruments"); Thakur Jaideva Singh ("Aesthetics of Hindustani Musical Forms"); Prof. Antsher Lobo ("Basic Musical Intervals and Colour Symbolism"); Dr. H. V.

Modak ("Automatic Musical Instrument In Aid of Research in Music"); Dr. M. Pancholi ("Acoustics of Auditoria"); Dr. Kirit Parikh ("Role of Computer in Music Research"); Dr. (Mrs.) Prem Lata Sharma ("Rasa Theory and Indian Music"). Shri T.N. Rajan ("A Classification Scheme for Indian Music Literature"), Shri G.N. Ramabhadran ("Communication and Music"); Shri S. Ramanathan ("Scientific Problems in the Construction of Musical Instruments"); Dr. S. Ramaswami ("Voice Culture"); Prof. V.V. Sadagopan ("Aesthetics of Some Karnatak Musical Forms"); Prof. R. Sathyanarayana ("Sruti: The Scalic Foundation"); Prof. S.K. Saxena ("The Fabric of Aamad-A Study of Form and Flow in Hindustani Music"), Shri O. Varkay ("Classification & Preservation of Discs"); Shri K.K. Verma ("Towards A Better Understanding of The Tonal Dynamics and Architectonics of the Indian Melodic System"); Shri K.G. Virmani ("Experimental Psychology and Indian Music").

#### Plan Schemes

During the year under review the Akademi did more intensive work on the Schemes under the Fourth Five Year Plan. These schemes are,

- 1. Survey and Documentation of Folk Music, Dance and Drama,
- 2. Development of the Akademi Museum,
- 3. Research Unit in Science of Music,
- 4. Fellowship for specialised training of teachers in Music and Dance.

An overall amount of Rs. 20 lakhs has been allocated for the Plan Schemes of the Akademi during the entire period of the Fourth Five Year Plan beginning from 196 9-70. A provision of Rs. 2,50,000 was made for the Schemes mentioned above, In the Revised Estimates an amount of Rs. 2,35,800 was provided but the actual expenditure incurred was Rs. 2,16,991.64.

## (1) Survey and Documentation of Folk-Arts

Under this Plan Scheme, the Akademi continued to do a

systematic documentation of the traditional arts of music, dance and drama. During the year, the regions covered included Assam, Nefa, West Bengal, Orissa, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Mysore, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Goa.

In all more than 250 hours of folk music covering a wide range was recorded both in the field and in the Studio of the Akademi which included Ballads, Folk Drama and Tradtional songs etc.

Among the Ballads recorded were—Pabuji Ka Pad of Rajasthan; Dhola, Nihalde and Zikkari Bhajans of Mathura; Nihalde, Heer Ranjha, Kansogarh Ki Larai, Danvir Karna, Pathrigarh Ki Larai; Gopichand, Tajjo Behn, Sadasiv Rao, Rao Tularam, Akbar Ki Larai of Haryana, Harischandra Akhyan, Sagar Raja Akhyan, Ramayan, Draupadi Swayamvar of Goa, Burrakatha of Andhra, Alha of Uttar Pradesh.

Of the Folk and Traditional dramas recorded, mention may be made of two Ankiya Nat Plays—Ras Lila and Parijata Haranam of Assam; Mudiettu, the oldest extant form of play in Kerala and 4 complete Yakshagana plays from South Kanara region of Mysore and a part of the Ramlila music of Varanasi, two Maach plays of Madhya Pradesh, a Nautanki play of U.P. and Veedhinatakam and Bhama Kalapam of Andhra Pradesh.

Special recordings of traditional and light classical music such as Sankirtan of Manipur, Kritis of Muthuswamy Dixitar etc. and also old Theatre music were made of eminent artistes.

The recordings included also music of leather puppets and marionettes of Mysore, Temple music from Orissa, Tamilnadu, and Goa, Marriage songs and boatmens songs from Kerala and Goa, Mappila songs of Kerala and Tibetan music from Nefa.

The Dance music recorded included—Teyyam, Kathakali, Kuthiyottam and other forms of Kerala. Bihu dance of Assam, Bhoota Dance of South Kanara (Mysore), Odissi of Orissa, Kuchipudi, Yakshganam and Bhagwatam dances of Andhra, Dhalo and Khel of Goa. An important feature of the recordings has been the illustrated recordings of the various Dhuns used in Ballads

and folk songs. The major part of the recordings were made in the Studio of the Akademi by specially invited parties from different regions.

## Films and Photographs

More than 3500 feet of 16 m.m. colour film and about two thousand photographs both colour and black-and-white were added to the Akademi collection.

Films and photographs were taken of the following forms, Bihu Dance of Assam,
Chhau Dance of Purulia,
Mudiettu and Teyyam dance of Kerala,
Pabuji Ka Pad of Rajasthan,
Chhau dance of Mayurbhanj,
Ramlila—of Varanasi,
Folk Dances of Kulu,
Yakshagana of North and South Kanara in Mysore,
Leather puppets and marionnetes of Bellary and Coondapur, Bhoota Dance of Mangalore,
Kuchipudi Dance of Andhra,
Dhalo and Khel dances of Goa,
Ankia Nat of Assam,
Sankirtan of Manipur.

During the year under review the Documentation Unit toured Purulia (W. Bengal), Sundergarh (Orissa), Jamagurihat and Jorhat (Assam), Seijusha (Nefa), Varanasi, Nainital and Mathura (U.P.) Kulu (Himachal), Udipi (Mysore), Trivandrum and Alleppy (Kerala), Bardez Madgaon, Konkon, Jambavali (Goa), Bhopal (M.P.), Hyderabad (Andhra) for field documentation and also for covering festivals organised by various institutions.

Apart from tape recordings and photographic and film records, the Akademi has also collected the texts of the songs, ballads and dramas recorded.

Besides collecting ethno-sociological data regarding the people, texts of recordings of the following have been collected.

#### Folk Songs

140 Tribal songs of Orissa with their English Translation, Bihu and marriage songs of Assam,

#### Ritual Songs

Teyyam songs of Kerala describing four characters, Kuruntini, Gandharva, Yaksha, Vishnumurti.

#### Drama

The rare text of the only extant Mudiettu play, Darika Vadham.

#### Ballads

Sadasiva Rao Bhao, Rao Tularam of Haryana, Nihalde, Two Zikkari Bhajans of Mathura, U.P., Harischandra Akhyan, Sagar Raja Akhyan, Ramayan, Draupadi Swayamvar etc. of Goa.

## 2. Development of the Akademi Museum

The Akademi has a small gallery for the display of concert and folk musical instruments. During the year new show-cases have been provided in the gallery and more than 200 folk and tribal instruments, collected from all over the country, are on view. It is proposed to open the gallery to the general public and make available on sale the photographic albums of instruments and also folk music on tapes. During the year the Akademi acquired the following items for the Museum,

1.	Musical Instruments	10
2.	Leather Puppets	181
3.	Wooden Puppets	21
4.	Paper Machie Masks	31
5.	Wooden Masks	1
6.	Chhau Masks (Purulia style)	37
7.	Costumes	1 set of Krishna and Radha costumes of Manipuri Dance;
	, ,	1 set of Ravana of Purulia Chhau Dance costume;

1 set of Rama and Lakshman (loin cloth) of Purulia Chhau Dance costume;

1 set of Sahuka Bhutia of Pithorgarh of Kumaon

1 set of Shamu Paksha (cap) used by Khampas of Nefa;

1 set of Lama caps

1 set of Oraon folk dance costumes.

#### 8. Head Gear

Tapars (ornaments for head) -

-- 22

for Chhau masks

Radha and Krishna

— 2 sets

(Mathura Raslila)

The collection of Masks and puppets is progressing according to a planned programme and it is proposed to organise an Exhibition of Masks and Puppets during 1970-71.

## 3. Research Unit in Science of Music

Work could not be taken up on this scheme because of the lack of necessary scientific equipment. However, some preliminary work on music analysis was carried out by the Special Officer (Music) at the National Physical Laboratory. A Seminar on this subject 'Music and Science" was organised during the last week of March to formulate a programme of work. The Seminar brought together musicians, musicologists and scientists from all over the country for an exchange of ideas on the subject and to take stock of the existing situation in regard to the work being done in this field. Besides bringing together scholars in various disciplines for an exchange of ideas, the Seminar was intended to provide guidelines for the work to be undertaken in the proposed Laboratory for Science of Music.

# 4. Fellowship for Specialised Training of Teachers in Music and Dance.

The Scheme has been formulated by the Ministry of Education and is to be implemented by the Akademi. The Scheme

could not be started because suitable candidates for the various fields viz. Dhrupad, Pakhawaj and Veena could not be selected. However, efforts to select suitable candidates for the Fellowship are continuing.

#### Information Service

To foster exchange of information on cultural matters between various agencies working in the fields of music, dance and drama in different parts of the country a small Information Unit has been organised to handle the work in a more systematic manner.

#### 1. Select Bibliography on Music, Dance & Drama

The Unit released Select Bibliographies in English on Music, Dance and Drama and circulated these to a large number of individuals and institutions both within the country and abroad; they were found very useful. The Unit is now working on the preparation of similar bibliographies on music, dance and drama in major modern Indian languages. The bibliographies in regard to Marathi, Bengali and Hindi have already been compiled. It is hoped that some of these language bibliographies will be released during the next financial year.

## 2. Multi-lingual Theatre Glossary

The Unit had earlier compiled a Theatre Glossary containing some 1500 theatrical terms in English with their Hindi equivalents. This Glossary has now been circulated to the theatre experts in different Indian languages with a view to collecting equivalents in other languages for bringing out a Multi-lingual Glossary

## 3. Statement in regard to Entertainment Tax and Censorship

The Unit collected information in regard to the Entertainment Tax levied by different States and the rules and procedures governing the censorship of the performing arts. A tabulated statement covering all the States and Union Territories has been prepared and circulated to various institutions and State Governments all over the country. The State Governments have also been approached with a request to adopt similar and more flexible rules and procedures in regard to the Entertainment Tax and Theatre Censorship.

## 4. A Calendar of Festivals of Music, Dance & Drama

The Unit has been working on the preparation of a Calendar of Festivals of Music, Dance and Drama which has since been completed. The Calendar contains information about the festivals, both traditional and modern, of music, dance and drama, arranged State-wise and within the State, form-wise. Cyclostyled copies of the Calendar have been circulated all over the country and abroad to the Indian Missions and Cultural Institutions and also to many artistes and research scholars in this field. It is proposed to publish this Calendar during the next financial year after incorporating additional information.

#### Secretaries of The State Akademies Meet

The second meeting of the Secretaries of the State Akademis convened by the Central Sangeet Natak Akadmi was held on 24 February, 1970 at Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. Secretaries of 8 State Akademies participated in the meeting. The States represented in the meeting were, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Jammu and Kashmir. The Secretary of the Central Akademi was in the Chair.

Welcoming the Secretaries the Chairman emphasised the importance of these meetings in achieving greater co-operation and collaboration in our programmes of promotion and development in the fields of music, dance and drama. The first meeting of the Secretaries held in 1969 had already demonstrated the utility of these meetings in establishing closer links.

The Chairman then gave a general resume of the projects and programmes taken up under joint sponsorship during the year 1969-70. It was also pointed out that since funds were limited the subsidy could be given on a matching basis only to a few specialised projects such as theatre training courses and festivals of traditional arts. The Chairman said that it was most satisfying that under this programme we held for the first time festivals of these arts at several centres and these were attended by large audiences. The Technical Unit of the Central Akademi took advantage of these festivals for documentation work.

The State Akademis then gave an account of their activities. The proposals in regard to various programmes planned by them were also discussed. It was felt that there was great demand for short-term training courses in theatre and also that there was need for systematic documentation work. Some of the select projects were discussed in detail and finalised.

#### National School of Drama and Asian Theatre Institute

#### The Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee of the School consisted of the following,

Shri Asok Mitra - Chairman

Col. Pyare Lal

Shri Mohan Rakesh

Shri Sombhu Mitra

Shri J.C. Mathur

Prof. Frank Thakurdas

Shri Jagat Murari

Shri I.L. Dass

Secretary, S.N.A.

Director, NSD & A.T.I.

Shri Sombhu Mitra expressed his inability to continue as a member of the Advisory Committee from July 1969 on account of ill health.

## Regional Representation of Students

Out of eleven students selected for admission in the first

year, only nine students actually joined. The Regional representation in the first year was as follows,

Delhi	4
Mysore	3
Maharashtra	1
Uttar Pradesh	1

The regional representation of the students and the Repertory Company during 1969-70 was as under,

Delhi	11
Uttar Pradesh	2
Mysore	5
West Bengal	1
Maharashtra	5
J. & K.	2
Haryana	1
Orissa	1
Andhra Pradesh	2
Himachal Pradesh	1
Madhya Pradesh	1
Afghanistan	1
South Africa	1
Total	34

The sex-ratio of the students was 14 girls as against 20 boys.

#### **Productions**

In the course of the year the School gave a large number of public performances before different types of audiences in Delhi and outside.

## 1. Jasma Odan, a Bhavai folk play from Gujarat in Hindi

This play continues to be one of the most popular productions of the School and there are repeated demands for its presentation. Two performances of this play were given in April, 1969.

## 2. Summer Festival of Plays

For the first time the School presented a Festival of Plays. poetry readings, improvisations and students' work which also included productions by past graduates of the National School of Drama.

This was in May 1969 and comprised the following:

(1) Aadhe Adhure	-2 performances by Dishantar
(2) Ranga Bharat	-1 performance by Kannada Bharati
(3) The Elephant Calf	-1 performance by the School.
(4) A Marathi Tamasha	-1 performance by the School.
(5) A Brecht Evening	-1 performance by the School.
(6) The Zoo Story	
(in Marathi)	-2 performances by the School.
(7) Shuturmurg	-1 performance by Sanket, Jaipur.
(0) 71 0 1 01 11	

(8) The Caucasian Chalk

Circle —1 performance by the School.

(9) An Evening of Improvisations and Reading of Protest Poetry by the School.

The Summer Festival proved a rewarding experience both to the participants as well as to the audience which were able to witness productions of great variety and range in a very short span of time. It also helped the School to maintain its link with the past graduates and helped to identify problems existing in India today in the writing and presentation of plays.

#### 3. Othello

Shri Sajjad Zaheer's excellent Urdu translation of Shakespeare's Othello began the School's Winter Season of Plays. 13 performances of this play were given. 10 of these were in the School's Open Air Theatre in Oct-Nov., 69 and March, 70. The School also gave 1 performance each of this play at St. Stephen's College and Lady Shri Ram College.

## 4. Visit to Chandigarh

The School was invited in December 1969 to perform in Chandigarh under the auspices of the Indian National Theatre.

It gave one performance each of Jasma Odan and Othello. The response was so enthusiastic that additional standing room had to be provided for more than 200 persons for the performance of Othello. Obviously both plays could have run to packed houses for several nights there had the School had the opportunity.

## 5. The Three-Penny Opera by Bertolt Brecht

Through the kind courtesy of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, the Trade Representation of the German Democratic Republic and the Ministry of Education, the School was able to invite Mr. Fritz Bennewitz, one of the most distinguished Directors in East Germany to come and work here for a period of 8 weeks with the students on a production of *The Three-Penny Opera*.

The basic translation of the play was done by one of our past graduates Smt. Surekha Sikri and the songs were rendered into Urdu by Smt. Sheila Bhatia, a member of our Staff. Shri Vanraj Bhatia was invited to compose the music which he did with great skill and sensitivity winning the respectful admiration of Mr. Bennewitz who felt that it had captured for the Indian production what the original Kurt Weill music had done for Brecht's first production in the 1920's in Germany.

For the students their association with Mr. Bennewitz was a rewarding and enriching experience and the fruitful results of this was evident in the spectacular success of this production with the audiences here.

Eight performances of the play were given at the School Open Air Theatre to full houses and the play continues to be in great demand. It is expected to form an important part of the repertoire of the School's plays in 1970-71.

## 6. Convocation and Award of Diplomas & Prizes

The Convocation Ceremony for the Award of Diplomas and Prizes to the students who graduated from the School in 1968 and 1969 was held on 13th April, 1970 at the School to coincide with the opening night of *The Three-Penny Opera*,

Shri Aburi Krishna Rao, the distinguished Telugu writer, delivered the Convocation Address and distributed the Diplomas and Awards to Graduates of the School.

The following is a list of recipients of diplomas and prizes;

#### Graduates of the year 1968

- 1. Miss Amal Alkazi Direction
  - (a) awarded Bharata Puraskar as the Best All-Round Student
  - (b) awarded Girish Ghosh Puraskar as the Best Student Producer.
- 2. Smt. Prema Karanth Direction
- 3. Shri A Raghavan Direction
- 4. Smt. Shyama Jain -- School Dramatics
- 5. Miss Uttara Baokar Acting
- 6. Miss Savita Bajaj Acting
- 7. Miss Srilata

Swaminadhan - Acting

- 8. Smt. Surekha Sikri Acting
- 9. Shri Mukund Naik Acting

#### Graduates of the Year 1969

Shri Sushil Choudhury
 Shri Balraj Pandit
 Shri Kavi Rattan Sharma
 Miss Naima Khan
 Shri G.S. Nikte
 Shri Mahesh Chander

 Direction
 Acting
 Stage-craft

## 7. Course of Acting in Jammu

The School assisted the Jammu & Kashmir Cultural Academy to formulate and conduct a Course in Acting in Jammu in February 1970. About 40 students from Jammu and Srinagar participated in this Course. The Course was inaugurated by

Shri E. Alkazi who also delivered the preliminary lectures and conducted classes. One of the School's past graduates Shri Kavi Rattan Sharma was also associated in the organising of the Course which was under the overall supervision of Shri Kemu.

## 8. Course in Stage Designing at Kanpur

Shri Goverdhan Panchal, Asstt. Prof. for Stage-Craft, planned and conducted an intensive course in Stage Design at Kanpur under the auspices of Darpan, Kanpur. The Course was inaugurated by Shri E. Alkazi who also delivered the preliminary lectures. An Exhibition of the students, work was held at the end of the Course which was acclaimed as a great success both by the participants as well as by the Press.

#### 9. Student Productions

The following productions were presented by the Final Year Students,

- (i) Lankesh's Parten directed by Venkatram,
- (ii) Synge's Riders To The Sea directed by Mala Thapar,
- (iii) Rege's Rangpanchalika directed by Pratibha Matkari.

In addition a performance of Vijay Tendulkar's Chaar Din directed by Sushil Choudhury was also given.

#### 10. Extension Lectures and Courses

During the year several lectures and courses by external lecturers were organised by the School.

Prof. Vasant Bapat from Bombay delivered in April '69, a series of three lectures on the Marathi theatre, dealing particularly with the Tamasha form and two distinguished Marathi actors, Ganpatrao Bodas and Bal Gandharva.

Miss Nibha Joshi gave three lectures,

- (i) Ajanta
- (ii) Symbolism in Colour In Indian Miniatures
- (iii) Significance of Colour & Design In Traditional Textiles.

In September 1969 through the kind courtesy of the U.S.I.S. Mr. Lonny Joseph, an eminent American Dancer conducted a Dance Movement Workshop.

A demonstration of Indian Percussion Instruments was given by a group of musicians under the direction of Smt. Rita Kothari.

Shri Jatin Das, the well-known painter, conducted a course on *Elements of Design* in which all the students actively participated.

#### 11. News of Past Students

- 1. Km. Amal Alkazi was invited to the German Democratic Republic for advanced study of the Theatre. She has been working there under distinguished directors in the Berliner Ensemble, in Weimer, Leipzig and Dresden. She accompanied Mr. Fritz Bennewitz, Resident Director, Weimer. G.D.R. and assisted him in the production of *The Three-Penny Opera* in Hindustani.
- 2. Shri Om Shivpuri produced Shri Mohan Rakesh's Aadhe Adhure which was a great success. The play with the same cast has now been filmed.
- 3. Km. Srilata Swaminadhan has been awarded a British Council Scholarship for further study in the U.K. She will be attached to the Royal Court Theatre.

## 12. Foreign Students and Research Scholars

Shri Abbas Shaban, a student from Afghanistan, who joined the School last year continued his training in the School in the academic year 1969-70.

Prof. Eduardo Cabus from Brazil who was awarded a Fellowship to study the Indian Theatre joined the School on 19.1.1970 for training and research under the Reciprocal Scholarship Scheme of the Ministry of Education.

#### Kathak Kendra - Institute of Kathak

The Sangeet Natak Akademi took over the Kathak Section of the Bharatiya Kala Kendra on 1st October, 1964 and the

management of the Kendra was left to the Bharatiya Kala Kendra. An Advisory Committee was constituted by the Bharatiya Kala Kendra to manage the affairs of the Kathak Kendra. The Akademi took over charge of management of the Kathak Kendra from the Bharatiya Kala Kendra w.e.f. 16th July, 1969.

#### Enrolment Position

The total number of students enrolled in various classes as on 31.3.1970 was 42 as against 38 in the last year.

## Dance Diploma Course

On Kathak Kendra Scholarships		6
(Ist, IInd & IIIrd year)		
On Free-studentships of the Kendra		2
Other students		1
Govt. of India Scholarships		
Young Workers' Scholarship		2
General Cultural Scholarship	,	1
Vishwa Bharati University Scholarship		1
•		

## Dance (Short Term Course)

	1
Total	

## Staff

Shri Shambhu Maharaj		Kathak Guru
Shri Sunder Prasad		Kathak Guru
Shri Birju Maharaj	-	Kathak Guru
Smt. Siddheshwari Devi		Vocal Teacher

Shri Purushottam Dass		Pakhawaj teacher
Shri Manika Prasad	-	Tabla Teacher
Smt. Reba Vidyarthi	-	Kathak Teacher

#### Ballet Unit

A Ballet Unit of the Kathak Kendra consisting of five dancers, male and female, and four musicians under the directorship of Shri Birju Maharaj, is attached to the Kendra for creatting ballets in Kathak style.

The Ballet Unit gave one performance of Hota Hai Sab-o-Roz Tamasha Mere Aage at Mavalankar Hall, New Delhi in April, 1969; five performances of Krishnayana in Sep. 1969. One performance of Shan-e-Oudh was given at Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad in Dec 1969. Besides these the Unit also presented several dance programmes during the year in and outside Delhi.

#### Results

The following 4 students have passed the Three Years' Diploma Course of the academic session 1968-69:

Shri Prakash Chand, Shri Prakash Khan, Smt. Vishnu Prea Pawar and Shri Manoranjan Joshi.

Shri Prakash Chand and Shri Prakash Khan were awarded scholarships under the Scholarship Scheme initiated by the Kathak Kendra. Smt. Vishnu Prea Pawar was awarded a scholarship by the Kathak Kendra in the Ist year after which she was given a scholarship from the Ministry of Education and Youth Services, Govt. of India under the scheme 'Scholarship to Young Workers in Different Cultural Fields'. Shri Manoranjan Joshi (Nepal) was awarded a scholarship by the Ministry of Education & Youth Services under the scheme 'General Cultural Scholarships'.

## Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy

The Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy has been set up for the teaching of the Manipur School of Dance, under the guidance of traditional Gurus.

The Academy is managed by a Local Advisory Committee under the Sangeet Natak Akademi. The Local Advisory Committee consists of the following persons,

## Advisory Committee

Shri D. R. Kohli— Lt. Governor	Chairman
Dr. Suresh Awasthi, Secretary Sangeet Natak Akademi	Vice-Chairman
Smt. M. K. Binodini Devi, Secretary	Ex-Officio Secretary
Shri Mohan Khokar, Special Officer, Sangeet Natak Akademi	Member
Shri Dwajamani Dev Sharma	;,
Shri R. K. Priyogopalsana	,,
Shri N. Tombi Singh	,,
Shri A.H. Choudhuri, Secretary Education	**
Shri H. Thambal Sharma	,,

#### Gurus

The Academy has 14 Gurus including one Pradhan Guru (Principal). During the year 1969-70 six Gurus have been superannuated. In their place 5 new talented Gurus have been appointed but the department of Research is dormant since the retirement of the previous Research Scholar.

## Students

There are 54 students on the rolls in the year 1969-70. Of these 7 are Manipuri Tribals.

35 students appeared in the Annual Examination 1970 and all of them were successful.

This year the Academy has selected 5 deserving students to undergo training in the 3 year Diploma Course from amongst 19