

ANNUAL REPORT - 1984-85 to 35-36

SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI, NEW DELHI



ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
1. Introduction	1
2. Tributes	5
3. Organisational Set-Up	6
4. Fellowships and Akademi Awards 1984	9
5. Festivals, Programmes and Exhibitions	13
6. Festival of India in France & USA	18
7. Assistance to Young Theatre Workers	20
8. Promotion and Preservation of Rare Forms of Traditional Performing Arts & Award of Fellowships	24
9. Inter-State Exchange of Cultural Troupes	26
10. Promotion and Preservation of Puppetry	28
11. Publications	29
12. Documentation and Dissemination	32
13. Budget and Accounts	37
14. Financial Assistance to Cultural Institutions	38
15. Library and Listening Room	41
16. Museum of Musical Instruments	42
17. Visitors to the Akademi	44
18. Kathak Kendra	45
19. Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy	50

(For Appendices please see next page)

## APPENDICES

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Appendix I         | - SNA Memorandum of Association(Excerpts)   |
| Appendix II        | - Members of General Council as on 31 March 1985  |
| Appendix III       | - Scheme of Assistance to Young Theatre Workers   |
| Appendix IV        | - List of Publications  |
| Appendix V         | - Institution which have been sanctioned grants during 1984-85  |
| Appendix VI        | - List of Institutions to whom Grants are to be given at fixed amounts for 5 ensuing years starting from 1982-83  |
| Appendix VII       | - Statement showing the Discretionary Grant sanctioned to Individual/Institutions during the year 1984-85   |
| Appendix VIII      | - Consolidated Balance Sheet as on 31st March, 1985 of Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, Kathak Kendra, New Delhi & Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal.                           |
| Appendix IX        | - Consolidated Income & Expenditure Account for the year 1984-85 of Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, Kathak Kendra, New Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal             |
| Appendix XA and XB | Consolidated Receipts and Payments Account for the year 1984-85 of Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, Kathak Kendra, New Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy (Non-Plan and Plan). |

## INTRODUCTION

Sangeet Natak Akademi - the National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama - was established by the Government of India in 1953. The idea was to constitute an independent, autonomous organisation which could coordinate and oversee all activities in the sphere of the performing arts, traditional as well as classical, within the country. The aims and objectives of the Akademi are spelt out in its Memorandum of Association (excerpts - Appendix I) drawn up by the Government of India, which also funds all Akademi activities.

Over the years, in furtherance of its objectives, the Akademi has implemented several programmes and schemes for the purpose of preserving, nurturing and promoting the performing arts in various parts of the country. In recent years, priority has been given to projects pertaining to the folk and tribal arts threatened by rapid socio-economic development. These schemes - Preservation and Promotion of Rare Forms of Traditional Performing Arts, Development of Tribal Culture, Promotion and Preservation of Puppetry - have been incorporated in the Five Year Plans for the overall development of the country.

Several other schemes, designed by the Akademi to sustain and develop specific performing arts, are now part of Akademi's Five Year Plans. Among these are Assistance to Young



Theatre Workers, Organising of Music Festivals, Grant of Fellowships to promising young artistes, Research in Science of Music, Documentation and Dissemination of Archival Material pertaining to Performing Arts, and Inter-State Exchange of Cultural Troupes. The implementation of these schemes has been reported, from time to time in the Annual Reports of the Akademi.

Annually, the Akademi honours outstanding performers and performing-art scholars with Awards and Fellowships. A Fellowship is the highest honour the Akademi confers on an individual performer or scholar. The Awards, carrying a purse of Rs 10,000, are for artistic excellence, achievement and sustained contribution.

The Awards ceremony is a notable annual event, followed by a week-long festival of music, dance and drama featuring Award-winners. This year, marking a break with previous practice the Awards ceremony was held outside the Capital, in Madras, and was presided over by the Vice-President Shri R. Venkataraman. The Akademi proposes in future to hold the ceremony, by rotation, in different parts of the country in furtherance of its object of cultural cross-fertilization.

The Akademi publication programme takes in books and monographs on the performing arts and the quarterly Sangeet Natak - now in its twentieth year. The SNA News Bulletin, a quarterly reporting current Akademi activities had been part of the programme too for two decades. Temporarily in abeyance, the

Bulletin is sought to be revamped in content and format, and should reappear refurbished next year. The Publication grants given by the Akademi, have, over the years, been of some help to writers and institutions publishing on the performing arts of India.

The Documentation Unit of the Akademi, equipped with sophisticated audio and video equipment, covers many of the major programmes of music, dance and drama throughout the country. Over the years the Archival collection has grown considerably; the Akademi has now 4,500 hours of audio recordings, 140 hours of video, some 34,000 black & white photographs and transparencies, and 1,05,000 feet of 16 mm film.

The Library, open to the public 10.00 a.m. - 7.30 p.m., continues to be widely used. Its specialized holdings on the performing arts draw researchers in the performing arts; as the attached Listening Room draws music lovers. The Listening Room collection of discs includes a wide variety of Indian and foreign music, and the facility is offered free to interested individuals.

The Museum of Musical Instruments continues to attract visitors, particularly those interested in Indian folk instruments, of which it has a near-unexampled collection as also of masks and puppets. Several rare instruments were added to the collection during the year.

Kathak Kendra, New Delhi, and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal - training institutions in Kathak and Manipuri dance and music - are constituent units of the Akademi. They are now recognised as the premier institutions in the country for teaching Kathak and Manipuri.

TRIBUTES

On 31st October 1984, the nation mourned the tragic death of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Apart from being a national leader, the late Prime Minister was known for her patronage of the arts and had endeared herself to the community of artists throughout the country.

The General Council of the Akademi, at its meeting on 27th November 1984, condoled the death of Shrimati Gandhi and paid tributes to her memory. The Chairman, Dr. Narayana Menon, recalled her long association with the Akademi as its Chairman for nearly seven years: 1965-72. He mentioned that condolence messages were received in the Akademi from nume-  
rable art organisations throughout the country and from abroad. The Chairman particularly referred to the message received from the Composers Union of the USSR. All messages were conveyed to Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Several other luminaries in the world of performing arts passed away during the year. Among these were :

Shri Ashutosh Bhattacharya (died 19 March 1984)-  
Fellow of S.N.A.

Shri Adya Rangacharya 'Shriranga' (died 17 October 1984) -  
Fellow of S.N.A.

Shri Dattaram N. Walwalikar (died 19 September 1984)  
Awardee of S.N.A.

Shri M.D. Ramanathan (died 27 April 1984) -do-

Shri T.S. Subramanya Pillai (died 4 June 1984) - do -

The Akademi pays its homage to their memory.

.....

ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP

Sangeet Natak Akademi is a national institution set up by the Government of India in 1953 for the promotion of the performing arts. Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860, it functions as an autonomous organisation.

The management of the Akademi vests in its General Council. The general superintendence, direction and control of the affairs of the Akademi vests in the Executive Board, which is in fact the governing body of the Akademi. The Finance Committee, of which the Akademi's Financial Adviser is ex-officio Chairman, assists the Executive Board in financial matters.

The principal executive officer of the Akademi is the Secretary who is assisted by a Finance and Accounts Officer, five Assistant Secretaries, a Special Officer (Documentation), a Technical Officer (Filming), and other officers and staff. The registered office of the Akademi is in Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. The Akademi manages and runs two training institutions - Kathak Kendra, New Delhi, and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal - the management of which vests in the Executive Board of the Akademi, assisted by the Advisory Committee of the two constituent units. Detailed report of activities of these two institutions are given separately in the report. The Akademi is financed entirely by the Department of Culture, Government of India.

A list of Members of the General Council as on 31 March, 1985 will be found at Appendix II.

The composition of the Executive Board and Finance Committee as on 31 March 1985 was as follows:-

Executive Board

Dr. V.K. Narayana Menon	-	Chairman
Shri P.V. Krishnamoorthy	-	Vice-Chairman
Shri Manmohan Singh	-	Financial Adviser
Pandit Ravi Shankar	-	Member
Miss P.S. Sakuntala	-	"
Shri Komal Kothari	-	"
Miss Usha Bhagat	-	"
Shri Ashok Vajpeyi	-	"
Smt. Vijaya Farrokh Mehta	-	"
Shri Kavalam Narayana Panikkar	-	"
Dr (Miss) Padma Subrahmaniam	-	"
Shri T.N. Krishnan	-	"
Dr. Ashok D. Ranade	-	"
Shri Rattan Thiyam	-	"
Smt. Dipali Nag	-	"
Shri Narendra Sharma	-	"
Dr Modali Nagabhushana Sarma	-	"
Shri K.S. Kothari, Secretary (SNA)	-	Ex-Officio member

Finance Committee

Shri Manmohan Singh	-	Chairman
Shri Pran Kishore	-	Member
Miss P.S. Sakuntala	-	"
Shri Hafeez Ahmed Khan	-	"
Miss Usha Bhagat	-	"

The General Council of the Akademi met on 27 November, 1984.

-: 8 :-

The Executive Board of the Akademi met on the following dates:-

7 and 8 May 1984, at Imphal  
24 August 1984 at New Delhi  
26 November 1984 in New Delhi  
25 February 1985 at Madras.

The Finance Committee of the Akademi met on 22 November 1984 in New Delhi.

Officers of the Akademi

The officers of the Akademi as on 31 March 1985 were:

Chairman	- Dr. V.K. Narayana Menon
Vice Chairman	- Shri P.V. Krishnamoorthy
Financial Adviser	- Shri Manmohan Singh
Secretary	- Shri K.S. Kothari

During the year, four new Assistant Secretaries were inducted into the Akademi. They are:

Miss Sharbari Mukherjee appointed as Assistant Secretary for Music on December 12, 1984.

Shri J.P. Kastuar appointed as Assistant Secretary for Dance in January 1, 1985.

Smt. Bandana Srinivasan appointed as Assistant Secretary, General, on January 1, 1985.

Shri Abhijit Chatterjee appointed as Assistant Secretary for Publications on March 1, 1985.

Siya Ram Tewari

AWARDS

Music

Sharafat Hussain Khan

Kishan Manaraj

Maharajapuram Santhanam

Natesan Ramani

Balakrushna Dash

Shahir Sable

Surinder Kaur

Hindustani Vocal

Hindustani Instrumental  
(Tabla)

Carnatic Vocal

Carnatic Instrumental  
(Flute)

Odissi Sangeet

Marathi Folk Music

Punjabi Folk Music

Dance

Subramaniam Sarada

Sudharani Raghupathy

Durga Lal

R.K. Singhajit Singh

Bharatanatyam

Bharatanatyam

Kathak

Creative and experi-  
mental dance



Drama

Vasant S. Kanetkar	Playwriting (Marathi)
Uttara Baokar	Acting (Hindi)
Rajarambhai R. Kadam	Gondhal
Gulab Bai	Nautanki

Investiture

The Awards Investiture Ceremony took place on 23 Feb., 1985 at the TTK Auditorium in Madras. This was the first time that this prestigious function had been organised outside Delhi. Shri R. Venkataraman, Vice-President of India, conferred the Fellowships and gave away the Awards. Shri C.C. Mehta and Shri Sharafat Husain Khan could not attend the function due to ill health.

Shri Hari Prasad Chaurasia, Award Winner for Hindustani Instrumental Music (flute) in 1983 and Shri R.S. Manohar, Award Winner for Drama (Direction) in 1981, who could not attend the earlier presentation ceremonies, received their Awards on this occasion.

To coincide with the Awards Ceremony, a week-long festival of music, dance and drama featuring the Awardees was organised 23 February - 1 March 1985. The performances were held at TTK Auditorium.

The Awards Ceremony and festival were organised in collaboration with the Music Academy, Madras, and the Tamilnadu Eyal

Isai Nataka Manram, Madras. The festival schedule was as follows:

23 February

Awards Presentation Ceremony

Hari Prasad Chaurasia (Flute)

23 February

Gulab Bai (Excerpts from Nautanki)

N. Ramani (Flute)

24 February

Surinder Kaur (Punjabi Folk Music)

Balakrushna Dash (Odissi Music)

Rajarambhau Ramchandra Kadam (Gondhal)

Shahir Sable (Marathi folk music)

25 February

Kishan Maharaj (Tabla)

Jugalbandis

Kishan Maharaj (Tabla)

Umayalpuram Sivaraman (Mridangam)

Krishnaveni Lakshmanan (Bharatanatyam).  
(Disciple of S. Sarada)

Maharajapuram Santhanam (Vocal)

26 February

Jasma Odan (Hindi play: featuring Uttara Baokar  
Repertory Company National  
School of Drama)

27 February

Siyaram Tiwari (Vocal)

Durga Lal (Kathak)

28 February

Sudharani Raghupathy (Bharatanatyam)

1 March

Shakuntala, Manipuri dance-drama directed by Singha **jit**  
Singh

ooo 00 ooo

Festivals, Programmes and Exhibitions

Children's Play

In July, two shows of the children's play Durga Zali Gauri by Avishkar of Bombay were presented on 2 and 3 May. A large number of children participated in the production.

Audition of Trainees

Students of Ustad Aminuddin Khan Dagar, training in Dhrupad, and the students of Pandit Purushottam Das learning Pakhawaj under the Akademi's scheme of Promotion and Preservation of Rare Forms, were auditioned at Rabindra Bhavan in June.

An Evening of Dhrupad

The programme was held at India International Centre on 2 June 1984 featuring a solo recital by Ustad Aminuddin Khan Dagar and a duet by the Dagar Brothers - Zahinuddin Khan Dagar and Fayyazuddin Khan Dagar. In the foyer of the auditorium an exhibition of photographs of musicians of the Dagar family was mounted.

Clarionet Recital

India International Centre collaborated with the Akademi in presenting a clarionet recital on 3 August 1984 by Ralph D' Mello. Mr D' Mello, a musician of Indian origin, has distinguished himself as a clarionetist in the West.

Programmes for International Buddhist Conference

A series of cultural programmes were presented during the ICCR-sponsored International Buddhist Conference held

1584-85

at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, 10-15 October 1984. The programmes were held at Siri Fort Auditorium in the evenings. The Akademi collaborated in these presentations.

### Lok Utsav

Lok Utsav was a major event of the year, a festival of folk performing arts held in October on Rabindra Bhavan lawns. During the six-day long festival some 250 artistes presented nearly 40 different forms of music and dance from all over the country, providing a kaleidoscopic view - rarely obtained - of our rich and variegated folk heritage. Some of these forms, like Padayani and Khongjom Parba, were seen in Delhi for the first time.

Memorable among performances was that of 93-year-old Raja Ram Bhau Kadam, who sang Gondhal songs from Maharashtra. Panchavadyam featured - an ensemble of instruments played in Kerala temples. Other percussion ensembles were Thayambaka (Kerala), Tala Vadya Anjuman (a melange of popular percussion) and Goan percussion. Two martial arts featured - Kalari-payattu (Kerala) and Thang-Ta (Manipur). Also from Manipur were the ritual arts of Sankirtan and Lai Haroba, and popular tribal group-dances like Thabal Chongbi and Kitlam. Burra Katha (Andhra Pradesh) and Powada (Maharashtra) were forms of ballad presented, while forms of puppetry included Tolu Bommalata from Andhra Pradesh and Katputli Rajasthani. The vigorous dance of the Panthis from Madhya Pradesh (Chattisgarh) proved

to be one of the most popular presentations at the Festival.

Lok Utsav was a big draw, and most successful in terms of audience appeal. It served besides as a exercise for selection of forms and troupes to be presented in the Festival of India in France.

### 1. Koodiyattam Festival

In collaboration with the Margi Koodiyattam School, Trivandrum, the Akademi organised 14-22 December 1984 the Koodiyattam Festival 1984 at Trivandrum. The Festival was held under the auspices of Ammannur Chachu Chakyar Smaraka Gurukulam, Irinjalakuda.

Shri Ammannur Madhava Chakyar and his troupe presented three plays - Toranayudham, Baliyudham, Kalyana Saugandhikam.

### 2. Tal Vadya Utsav

The Akademi collaborated with ICCR in yet another international event, the Tal Vadya Utsav, in February 1985. To this festival of percussion music held at Siri Fort Auditorium, the Akademi contributed the entire Indian component, comprising items like Tal Vadya Anjuman, Manipuri drum dances, Tatkar in Kathak style, drum dances by the tribals of Orissa. A memorable duet by eminent percussionists Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman and Zakir Husain on the Mridangam and **Tabla** was one of the highlights of the festival. At the Bombay chapter of the Utsav, the Akademi presented a Tal Vadya Kacheri featuring the eminent percussionist Palghat R.Raghu,

while Zakir Husain was presented in a solo recital.

#### Organisation of Music Festivals

Under its scheme "Organising Music Festivals in the Country" the Akademi funded a Festival of Himachal Pradesh folk dances and music at Una, the Rai Umanath Bali music festival at Lucknow and a festival of music organised by Delhi SPIC MACAY. To celebrate the International Year of the Youth the Akademi organised two festivals of dance and music at Trivandrum and Pune in collaboration with Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi and the Directorate of Culture, Maharashtra respectively. These were held in the last week of March 1985.

At Una the Akademi's Documentation Team was present and a large number of folk dances and music of Himachal Pradesh like Songhe Chham (Lion Dance), Rupana Geet and Harnatar were recorded on video and audio tapes.

"Yuva Utsavs" held at Pune and Trivandrum provided a platform to very large number of promising young professionals in the field of music and dance. They covered the artistes of the western and the southern zones predominantly but in order to promote cross fertilization in art there was also an exchange of artistes between them.

#### Workshop on Body Connotation and Voice Culture

An International Workshop on Body Connotation and Voice Culture was organised 20 February - 10 March 1985 by Sopanam,

Trivandrum, in collaboration with the Akademi and ICCR. Designed for actors' inter-action with the traditional performing arts of Kerala, the workshop had seven participants from China, Africa, England and Japan, 17 from India (15 Kerala actors and two graduates of the National School of Drama). Mr John Martin, Theatre Director from the Pan Project, and Shri K.N. Panikkar were Artistic Directors of the Workshop.

#### ➤ Marathi Musical Play

Two shows of a new Marathi musical play, Padgham, written by Shri Arun Sadhu, produced by Theatre Academy, Pune, and directed by Shri Jabbar Patel, were staged in Delhi 5-6 March, 1985; the Akademi co-sponsored the shows with Shri Ram Centre, Delhi.

#### ② Tradition and Innovation in Indian Dance

The programme was presented by National Centre for the Performing Arts at Max Mueller Bhavan, Bombay, with the co-sponsorship of the Akademi. It featured newly choreographed works by leading dancers, both Indian and foreign. These included Astad Deboo, Ileana Citaristi, Govindan Kutty Nair and Kumudini Lakhia.



## (6) Festival of India in France & USA

Encouraged by the success of the Festival of India in UK 1982-83, the Government of India decided to hold similar Festivals in France and the USA in collaboration with the respective Governments. This series of Festivals was conceived by the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi with the aim of projecting Indian life and culture in all its aspects.

The Festival of India Committee was set up by the Government of India, with Smt Pupul Jayakar as Chairman. The Chairman and Secretary of the Akademi being closely associated with the Committee as members, the Akademi has taken on the task of selecting performers for the various performing arts events planned for the two Festivals.

The following folk troupes from different regions, comprising some 200 artistes in all, have been identified by the Akademi for performances at the inaugural ceremony of the Festival of India in France to be held in June 1985. Most of these forms were presented at the Lok Utsav organised by the Akademi about which a report appears elsewhere. The Lok Utsav served the purpose of selection of forms and troupes to be presented during the course of the Festival of India in France.

Manipuri Music and Dance; Thayambaka and Panchavadyam - Kerala; Panthi Dancers - Madhya Pradesh; Teratali - Rajasthan;

Langas and Manganiyars - Rajasthan; folk singers - Gujarat; Theyyam - Kerala; Nobat Vadan - Gujarat; Kalaripayattu - Kerala; Mer Raas - Gujarat; Folk Dancers - Himachal Pradesh; Baul singers - West Bengal; Dangi Dancers - Gujarat; Pandavani - Madhya Pradesh; String and Rod Puppets - West Bengal; Lavani - Maharashtra; Gidda - Punjab; Quawwali - Uttar Pradesh; Therukoothu - Tamil Nadu; Folk and Classical Percussionists - an ensemble of Hindustani and Carnatic musicians drawn from different regions.

The Festival in France will be inaugurated in Paris on 7 June 1985 by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and French President Francois Mitterand.

ooo 00 ooo

(15) Assistance to Young Theatre Workers

The objective of the scheme is to support the endeavours of young theatre workers engaged in exploring and developing a theatre idiom indigenous in character, inspired by the traditional/folk theatre of the country. Through such support it is hoped to ensure the continuity of the existing indigenous thrust in our theatre and provide the impetus for a broad-based movement.

The scheme is operated on the basis of a State-wise division of the country into four zones - North, South, West and East. Four Zonal Festivals are held every year by rotation in the States comprising the zone with the collaboration of the respective State Sangeet Natak Akademi or the State Cultural Department. The Zonal Festivals are followed by a National Festival held in Delhi. The objectives of the scheme will be found at Appendix III.

The Akademi has constituted a separate experts Committee for each zonal festival. The Committee's task is to help in selection of plays for the respective zonal festival and, at Delhi.

The following members comprised the four expert Committees: Shri B.V. Karanth, Prof. G. Shankara Pillai, Sh. K.N. Panikkar, Dr. Chandrasekhar Kambar, Shri Girish Karnad, Shri N.C. Jain, Shri Mohan Maharishi, Shri Rajinder Nath, Shri Brij Mohan Shah, Shri Bhisham Sahni, Shri Samik Banerjee,

p.t.o.

Shri Manoranjan Das, Shri Kanhai Lal Singh, Shri Habib Tanvir, Smt. Vijaya Mehta, Shri Kailash Pandya, Shri Satish Alekar and Shri Goverdhan Panchal.

The South Zone Theatre Festival, in the year under report, was presented 7-12 January 1984 in Bangalore in collaboration with the Karnataka Nataka Akademi. The Festival was inaugurated by Smt Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya and Shri Adya Rangacharya presided over the function. The Festival featured the following plays:

- 7 January: Thurkura Avalam (Tamil adaptation of Antigone)  
Real Theatre Movement, Tanjavur  
Director: Shri M. Ramaswamy
- 9 January: Toorpu Rekhalu (Telugu)  
Natya Bharti, Vishakapatnam  
Director: Attali Krishna Rao
- 10 January: Snehdoothan (Malayalam play by Prof. G. Sankara  
Natak Vedi, Trichur Pillai)  
Director: Shri C.K. Thomas
- 11 January: Huliya Neraloo (Kannada play by Dr. Chandra-  
sekhar Kambar)  
Janapada Repertory Company, Bangalore  
Director: Shri Prasanna

The North Zone Theatre Festival, second in the series, was presented 3-7 April 1984 at Lucknow in collaboration with Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi. Eminent Hindi poet and scholar, Dr Shiv Mangal Singh 'Suman', inaugurated the Festival and Dr Narayana Menon, Chairman of the Akademi, presided over the function. The Festival featured the following plays:

- 3 April: Aashiq Te Gopali (Kashmiri)  
National Bhand Theatre, Kashmir  
Director: Shri R.S. Kemmu

- 4 April: Ghasi Ram Kotwal (Hindi translation) (Vijay  
Darpan, Kanpur Tendulkar)  
Director: Shri Alopi Verma
- 5 April: Antigone (Hindi adaptation)  
Awadh Theatre Group, Delhi  
Director: Shri Kartik Awasthi
- 7 April: Harishchannar Ki Ladai (Hindi)  
Darpan, Lucknow  
Playwright & Director: Shri Urmil Kumar  
Thapaliyal

East Zone Theatre Festival was presented in Bhubaneswar  
28-30 October 1984 in collaboration with Orissa Sangeet  
Natak Akademi. The Chief Minister of Orissa, Shri J.B. Pat-  
naik inaugurated the festival and Dr Narayana Menon presided.  
The following plays featured:

- 28 October: Ahilya (Bengali)  
Living Theatre, 24-Parganas  
Playwright & Director: Shri Probir Guha
- 29 October: Amla (Bhojpuri)  
Kala Sangam, Patna  
Director: Shri Satish Anand
- 30 October: Ati Achambita Katha (Oriya)  
Manana, Bhubaneswar  
Director: Manoj Patnaik

Performance of Chakravyuha (Meitei) directed  
by Rattan Thiyam, for Chorus Repertory Theatre,  
Imphal, scheduled for 31 October, was cancelled  
when news was received of Smt Indira Gandhi's  
assassination.

The West Zone Theatre Festival, last of the zonals, was  
at Panaji, Goa, 13-17 November 1984, presented in collabora-  
tion with the Kala Akademi for Goa, Daman and Diu. The  
Chief Minister of Goa and Kala Akademi Chairman Sh. Pratap  
Singh Rane, inaugurated the Festival. The following plays

were staged:

- 13 November: Vidhi Likhit Na Tale (Marathi)  
Progressive Dramatic Association, Pune  
Director: Shri Ajit Satbhai
- 14 November: Sagpan Ek Ukhanu (Gujarati adaptation of Good  
Woman of Setzuan)  
Chorus Theatre Group, Ahmedabad  
Director: Shri Nimesh Desai
- 15 November: Pashu Gayatri (Rajasthani translation of K.N.  
Panikker's play)  
Disha, Udaipur  
Director: Shri Bhanu Bharati
- 17 November: Hasya Choodamani (Malvi adaptation of Vatsraj)  
Madhya Pradesh Lok Kala Akademi, Ujjain  
Director: Bansi Kaul

Zonals concluded, the National Theatre Festival was held in Delhi 13-19 December 1984, to which members of all Zonal Expert Committees were invited. Other eminent playwrights, critics and directors were also invited as observers in the National Festival, which featured the following plays:

- 13 December: Khel Guru Ka
- 14 December: Harish Channar Ki Ladai
- 15 December: Huliya Neralu
- 16 December: Ahalya
- 17 December: Thurkira Avalam
- 18 December: Chakravyuha
- 19 December: Ashik Te Gopali

A three-day Seminar on Perspectives of Contemporary Indian Theatre was organised 17-19 December 1984 in collaboration with India International Centre, New Delhi, to coincide with the Festival.

.....

Promotion and Preservation of Rare Forms of  
Traditional Performing Arts & Award of Fellowships

The Rare Forms Scheme was devised to promote and preserve traditional performing arts threatened with extinction for want of support and resources. A number of such forms have been identified and training programmes in several of them have been initiated with the financial assistance of the Akademi.

Training programmes in Rudra Veena, Pakhawaj, Koodiyattam, Dhrupad, Sarangi, Navajanardhanam, Ashtapadi-singing and Ravan Chhaya were identified in the past by the Akademi under traditional masters; some of these continue.

In addition, two programmes in Pakhawaj commenced this year under Raja Chhatrapati Singh in Bijna, and at Kathak Kendra under Pandit Prem Vallabh. A training programme in Adhyatma Ramayan began under Smt Saride Manikyam, one of the few living exponents of the art; the programme is being conducted under the general supervision of Dr Natraj Ramakrishna in Hyderabad.

These programmes apart, the Akademi offers Fellowships to outstanding students for advanced training in rare instruments under eminent gurus or institutions. The value of a Fellowship is Rs 500 a month, the guru receiving an equal amount. A Fellow is also allowed a grant up to Rs 1000 a

year for equipment and contingent expenditure. The following received Fellowships in the year under report: Mohammed Zaffer and Irshad Hussain, in Sarangi, under Hafizullah Khan; Sunder Lal and Gauri Shankar Sarwayya, in Pakhawaj, under Chhatrapati Singh; Shri Mohan Shyam, in Pakhawaj, under Prem Vallabh.

ooo OO ooo



INTER-STATE EXCHANGE OF CULTURAL TROUPES

.....

The broad objective of the Scheme, operative since 1957, is to create opportunities by which people from different parts of India get to know more about each other's performing arts and culture, and thus catalyze the emotional and cultural integration of the country. It is implemented through exchange of the performing troupes and individuals between the different Indian States. In course of time, this exposure of the people of one region to the arts of another is expected to contribute to mutual awareness and integration.

Originally administered by the Department of Culture, Government of India, the Scheme was transferred to the Akademi in 1979-80.

The exchange programme is chalked out every year in consultation with representatives of State Governments. In the current year, the following exchanges took place :

1. A 35-member troupe from Haryana visited Himachal Pradesh 22 November - 1 December 1984, performing folk music and dances at Chamba, Dalhousie, Joginder Nagar, Nahan, Palampur, Shimla and Solan.
2. A 22-member Nagaland troupe visited Goa, Daman and Diu 8-16 January 1985, performing at Curchorem, Mapusa, Margao, Panaji, Parsem, Ponda and Vasco. The troupe also performed in Maharashtra 18-27 January 1985.

3. Smt. Chitra Vishweswaran, Bharatnatyam dancer from Tamil Nadu, led a 26-member troupe to Rajasthan 5-15 February 1985 for performances in Bhilwara, Bundi, Jaipur, Jhalawar, Jodhpur and Udaipur.

4. A 41-member music and dance ensemble from Goa, Daman & Diu visited Manipur 13 February - 5 March 1985.

5. A 25-member Raslila group from Uttar Pradesh visited Tamil Nadu 18-27 February 1985, performing in Kalai-  
vanar, Madurai, Nagercoil, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli and  
Vellore.

6. A 40-member folk dance and music ensemble from Himachal Pradesh visited Haryana 20 February - 2 March 1985, performing in Chandigarh, Daderi, Gurgaon, Find, Karnal, Kurukshetra and Mahendergarh.

7. A 22-member Rajasthan folk music and dance group visited Dadra and Nagar Navoli 21-28 February 1985, performing in Dadra, Dudhani, Khanvel, Mendoni, Nareli, Randha and Sil-  
vassa.

8. A 20-member Bhumika Creative Dance Centre troupe from Delhi visited Kerala 20 March - 1 April 1985, performing at Alwaye, Badagara, Cannanore, Kodungalloor, Sher-  
thalai and Trivandrum.

.....

### Promotion and Preservation of Puppetry

The scheme seeks to sustain and promote the threatened art of puppetry by supporting training in the various forms of Indian puppetry by recognised institutions and individuals, and by organising puppet shows and workshops.

A major event this year was Putli Natak Samaroh, a four-day Puppetry festival, presented in Delhi 20-23 March, 1985; the venue was Shah Auditorium. The schedule of performances follows:

- 20 March: Circus Circus (Hindi)  
SRC Puppet Theatre, Delhi
- Kambaramayana (Malayalam)  
Natana Kairali, Kerala
- 21 March: Him Bala (Hindi)  
Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandal, Udaipur
- Kalyana Saugandhikam (Malayalam)  
Natana Kairali, Kerala
- 22 March: Veer Pabuji (Hindi)  
Naika Puppet Theatre, Delhi
- Chudamani (Kannada)  
Sri Ganesha Yakshagana Gombeaata  
Mandali, Mangalore
- 23 March: Ramayana (Bengali)  
Calcutta Puppet Theatre, Calcutta

Some of the participating groups also performed in rural Delhi and nearby towns: Sonapat, Faridabad, Chatarpur, Bhiwani, Chandigarh. These performances were presented in collaboration with India International Rural Cultural Centre, New Delhi.

A Puppet Workshop was organised at Shri Ram Centre, New Delhi, in which several puppeteers participated.

## PUBLICATIONS

The Akademi has been publishing, since its inception, literature on music, dance and drama with the object of disseminating knowledge about the performing arts. The publication programme, begun on a modest scale, has grown considerably over the years and now takes in the quarterly Sangeet Natak as well as books and monographs on music, dance and drama. Part of the publication programme too is S.N.A. News Bulletin which, temporarily, ceased publication in January 1984 : it is expected to reappear refurbished next year. Available Akademi publications are listed at Appendix IV.

Its own publications apart, the Akademi offers financial assistance to institutions and individuals for the publication of books and journals on the performing arts.

The Publication Committee, set up by the Executive Board guides the Akademi's Publication programme, framing its policy, recommending choice of titles and financial assistance for publications not the Akademi's own. The Committee is an advisory body, and its recommendations are subject to approval by the Executive Board.

The following are members of the Publication Committee :

Shri P.V. Krishnamoorthy	Chairman
Dr. M. Nagabhushana Sarma	Member
Shri Komal Kothari	Member
Dr. (Mrs.) Kumud Mehta	Member
Shri Rahul Barpute	Member
Shri Samik Banerjee	Member

Financial Assistance for Publications :

During the current year, the following grants were sanctioned for outside publications - books and journals :

- 1) Rs. 2,000 for Indian and World Arts & Crafts, New Delhi, a performing arts news-magazine.
- 2) Rs. 5,000 for Folklore, Calcutta - a journal of folkloristics.
- 3) Rs. 3,000 Journal of the Indian Musicological Society, Baroda.
- 4) Rs. 5,000 for a Centenary Volume on Dinendranath Tagore published by Tagore Research Institute, Calcutta.
- 5) Rs. 3,000 for Saman Chants by G.H. Tarlekar published by Indian Musicological Society, Baroda.  
for of
- 6) Rs. 3,000 Journal/ the Music Academy, Madras.
- 7) Rs. 1,500 for Rang Bharti published by Nakshatra International, Lucknow.
- 8) Rs. 7,000 for Raga Pravaham (English Version) published by Smt. D. Pattamal, Madras.
- 9) Rs. 3,000 for Natarang, a theatre journal in Hindi edited by Shri N.C. Jain, New Delhi.

The Akademi bought copies of the following books by way of subsidy :

- 1) The Science of Bharatnatyam : 20 copies  
Saroja Vaidyanathan.
- 2) Bharatiya Sangeet Mein Tal Aur Roop Vidhan : 25 copies  
Subhadra Chaudhary.

### Akademi Publications :

The following books were published during the year :

- i) Who's Who of Indian Musicians (second edition)
- ii) Koothampalam & Kutiyattam : Goverdhan Panchal

### Publications under Print :

The following publications were in press :

- i) Ustad Fayyaz Khan : Dipali Nag
- ii) Tolu Bommalata - Shadow Puppets of Andhra Pradesh : Dr. M. Nagabhushana Sarma
- iii) Marathi Stage Sangeet : Dr. Ashok Ranade

### Proposed publications :

The following titles have been approved for publication :

- i) Tolpavakathu : Shadow Puppets of Kerala: G. Venu
- ii) Sammangudi Srinivasa Iyer : V. Subramaniam

### Sangeet Natak :

Four issues (Nos. 68 - 71) of the Akademi's quarterly journal appeared in the course of the year. Founded 1965, the journal attracts contributions from scholars of Indian performing arts, and has achieved a sizeable readership at home and abroad. The annual subscription to the journal is Rs.15/- \$ 7.50 for overseas subscribers.

### Documentation and Dissemination

The Documentation Unit of the Akademi is a professional team of photographers, cinematographers and sound engineers which has been filming, and recording on tape, the entire range of Indian performing arts from the inception of the Akademi. Archival holdings have swelled over the years, and now stand at 1,0,5000 feet of 16 mm silent film, 23000 photographs and 11000 transparencies, 4500 hours of audio recording and 150 hrs. of video recording. The documentation team covers all performing art events of note - folk, traditional, classical - and the archives continue to grow.

#### Documentation

The following events were documented during the year:

Festival of Folk & Tribal Performing Arts of Himachal Pradesh, held in Una September '84.

Lok Utsav - a festival of Folk Performing Arts, held at Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi, was documented in its entirety. The following forms were presented at the festival:

Thayambaka, Padayani, Theyyam	Kerala
Baul	Bengal
Powada	Maharashtra
Gondhal	Maharashtra
Folk Song & Percussion Ensemble	Goa
Bhakha and Chhakri	Jammu & Kashmir
Folk Music by Langas and Manganiars	Rajasthan
Burrakatha	Andhra Pradesh

Republic Day Celebrations, New Delhi, January '85

Some rare forms presented by folk and tribal performers were documented, among them:

Chawnglafzuan: tribal dance, Mizoram.

Jhika Dasai: folk dance, Bihar.

Patada Kunitha, Puja Kunita, Soman Kunitha: folk dance, Karnataka.

Rava: tribal dance, West Bengal.

Gurawayyalu: folk dance, Andhra Pradesh.

Lam Kut Lam: dance, Manipur.

Kokalli Kattai: dance, Tamil Nadu.

Dhol/Gouri: dance, Maharashtra.

Drogpas: dance, Ladakh (Jammu & Kashmir).

Akademi Awards Festival, Madras, March '85

The following Awardees and Fellows were recorded:

Siya Ram Tiwari: Hindustani Classical (vocal)

Maharajapuram Santhanam: **Carnatic** Classical (vocal)

N. Ramani: Carnatic Classical (Flute)

Kishan Maharaj: Hindustani Classical (Tabla)

Shahir Sable: Marathi folk music

Gulab Bai: Nautanki songs

Bala Krushna Dash: Odissi music

Rajaram Babu Kadam: Gondnal

Surinder Kaur: Punjabi folk songs

S. Sarada: interview of the Bharatanatyam dancer by V.R. Devika

Sudha Rani Raghupathy: Bharatanatyam

Durga Lal: Kathak

Apart from the above items by the awardees, Flute recital by Hari Prasad Chaurasia (Awardee - '83) and Tabla - Mridangam Jugalbandi by Kishan Maharaj and Umayalpuram Sivaraman were also recorded.



Putli Natak Samaroh, a Puppet theatre festival organised by the Akademi in Delhi 20-23 March '85. Excerpts of plays were recorded on video.

Festival of Tribal Performing Arts of Manipur, organised by the Akademi at Imphal 28-30 March '85. Performances by the following tribes participating in the festival were recorded:

Mao, Tarao, Kom, Tangkhul, Lamkang, Moyon, Kabui, Kuki, Tongan, Zou, Aimol, Maram, Chiru and Khoirentak.

Special Award Ceremony for Ustad Sharafat Hussain Khan, who was unable to attend the Awards Ceremony in Madras on account of ill health. The special ceremony, in which the musician received the Award from Chairman, Dr Narayana Menon at his residence on 29 March '85 was video-filmed.

A video film on Shri Mani Madhava Chakiar is being produced for the Akademi under the supervision of Shri K.N. Panikkar. An interview with Shri Chakiar has been video-filmed.

Audio and video recordings of the following distinguished performers were added to the archives:

Nasir Aminuddin Dagar: Dhrupad

Purushottam Das: Pakhawaj

Bimal Mukherjee: Sitar

Nikhil Banerjee: Sitar

Raja Chattrapati Singh: Pakhawaj

Dilawar Hussain Khan: Nagara

Ramkishore Das: Pakhawaj

M.L. Vasantakumari: Vocal

Pallavoor A. Marar and party: Panchavadyam  
 K.N. Nambisan and party: Padams (Kathakali music)  
 Smt Narayana Kesi: Flute  
 Tal Vadya Anjuman led by Pandit Birju Maharaj  
 Smt H.S. Annusuya Kulkarni: Indian Melodies on  
     Wanklung, an Indonesian instrument  
 K.V. Narayanaswami: Vocal .

Tal Vadya Utsav: The international percussion festival in New Delhi 15-18 Feb. '85 was extensively documented by the Unit.

The Seminar on Perspective of Contemporary Theatre 17-19 December '84 held in New Delhi was audio-taped.

The Archives were further enriched by acquisition of audio and video recordings of several masters, past and present. Recordings of the following performers were acquired:

Mangaliam: Telugu folk songs  
 Navagraha Krithis: Smt Mani Krishnaswami  
 Veena: by Veena Dhanammal  
 Devotional music of Karnataka: produced by South  
     India Recording Company, Madras

### Dissemination

During the year over 80 groups availed of the playback facilities provided by the Akademi for audio and video recording. Some 99 hours of audio and 102 hours of video recordings were played for various delegations, research scholars and others. The dubbing service for classical music has been discontinued on account of copyright problems, but the

service is still offered for music other than classical. Copies of 19 hours of folk and tribal music were supplied on request this year.

Similarly, copies of photographs and slides from the photographic archives were supplied on request for research and publication - copies of 1460 photographs and 280 slides. Some 27 groups viewed more than 60 films from the Akshari archives.

To keep the Unit technically abreast of current work in filming and recording, members of Unit have regularly been attending seminars and workshops. Shri S.C. Bansal, Special Officer (Documentation), and Shri R.S. Mahotra, Technical Officer (Filming), attended a two-day Workshop on Video Software Production Techniques organised by Sony in Delhi. Shri Dilip Kumar, Technical Officer (Recording) attended the Workshop on Audio Technology organised in April 1984 by the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Bombay.

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTS

The Akademi receives grant-in-aid from the Department of Culture, Government of India, for meeting expenditure on Non-Plan and Plan activities. The budget of the Akademi in respect of Non-Plan and Plan expenditure was as follows.:

	<u>Budget Estimates</u>	<u>Revised Estimates</u>
	1984-85	1984-85
- Non-Plan	Rs. 48,00,000	Rs. 53,00,000
Plan	Rs. 40,36,500	Rs. 50,00,000

The consolidated statement of annual certified audited accounts comprising (i) Receipts and Payments Account (ii) Income and Expenditure Account (iii) Balance Sheet for 1984-85 relating to Sangeet Natak Akademi and its constituent units - JNMDA, Imphal and Kathak Kendra, New Delhi - are at Appendix VIII, IX, XA and XB.

.....