



2002-2003
SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI
ANNUAL REPORT

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ORGANIZATIONAL SET UP

Sangeet Natak Akademi – the National Akademi of Music, Dance and Drama – was founded in 1953 for the furtherance of the performing arts of India, a task in which it co-operates with counterparts in the States and voluntary organizations all over the country. Through sponsorship, research and dissemination, it seeks an enhanced public exchange of ideas and techniques for the common gain of Indian performing arts. The objectives of the Akademi are more specifically stated in its Memorandum of Association (excerpts : Appendix D). The Akademi completed fifty years of its life in January 28, 2003. Year-long celebrations of the Golden Jubilee were inaugurated in Delhi by the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika is the present Chairman of Sangeet Natak Akademi, the Vice-Chairman is Shri Shyamanand Jalan. The management of Sangeet Natak 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 assisted by the Finance Committee, Grants Committee, Publication Committee and Advisory Committees for Music, Dance, Theatre and Documentation and Archives. A list of the Members of the General Council, Executive Board and other Committees is at Appendix II.

The Secretary and Principal Executive Officer of the Akademi is Jayant P. Kastuar. The Secretary is assisted by Deputy Secretaries for Music, Dance, Drama, Coordination, Finance, Administration, Publication, Documentation, Film; the Librarian of the Akademi; and the Directors of Kathak Kendra and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy – constituent units of the Akademi. Kathak Kendra, New Delhi, and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal, are training institutions in traditional dance. The management of the two institutions vests in the Executive Board of the Akademi, which in turn is assisted by the Advisory Committees of the two constituent units. The Rabindra Rangshala, Delhi, which was taken over by the Akademi in 1993, is the third constituent unit of the Akademi. Reports on the activities of these institutions are included in this Report.

During the period under report, meetings of the General Council, the Executive Board, and various committees constituted by the Executive Board were held, namely, the Finance, Grants, and Publication Committees, the Advisory Committees for Music, Dance, Theatre etc., and the Advisory Committees of Kathak Kendra and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy. These meetings are listed at Appendix III.

AKADEMI AWARDS

Awards Ceremony & Festival

The 2001 Akademi Awards Ceremony was held at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra, Guwahati, on 3 April 2002 in association with the Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Assam. The Awards Ceremony was presided over by His Excellency the Governor of Assam, Lt. Gen. S K Sinha (Retd) PVSM, who gave away the three Fellowships and 25 Awards to eminent artistes, musicians, playwrights, and scholars for their outstanding contribution to the performing arts of India. The Award Ceremony was followed by a festival from 4-9 April at Rabindra Bhavan, Guwahati. Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademi, welcomed the distinguished gathering at the function and delivered the inaugural address. Shri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister of Assam, Bhai Prabhu Parmanand, Governor of Haryana, and Ustad Bismillah Khan, Bharat Ratna and Fellow of Sangeet Natak Akademi, were present in the gathering. Shri Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi presented the Citation of the Fellows and Awardees, and Shri Shyamanand Jalan, Vice-Chairman, presented the vote of thanks. The Ceremony was followed by a Shehnai recital by Ustad Bismillah Khan.

A week-long festival featuring performances by some of the Fellows and Awardees followed from 4-9 April 2002 at Rabindra Bhavan, Guwahati. This was one of the most successful Awards Ceremony organized by the Akademi; more than five thousand people thronged the venue, according to one report. Excitement and interest in the week-long festival was palpable all over Guwahati and the event received wide media coverage not only in Assam but throughout the North East. Of the 25 Awards conferred, 5 went to artistes of North-Eastern India.

In the past, the Akademi annual Awards Ceremonies have been held chiefly in Delhi and in other cities like Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Jaipur, Lucknow, Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad. Guwahati hosted the Akademi Awards Ceremony for the first time this year. Organizing the event in Guwahati was part of the new initiatives taken by the Akademi in north-eastern India. In 2000 and 2001 the Akademi had held major festivals of music and dance as part of Ganatantra Mahotsav at Guwahati, Shillong, Agartala, Imphal and Gangtok. The Ganatantra Mahotsav concluded with a festival of music and dance held in Sikkim in October 2001. Details of the festival programme follow:

4 April 2002

Haridwaramangalam A K Palanivel : Thavil
M Balamurali Krishna : Carnatic Vocal Music
Vempati Chinna Satyam/Sri Krishna Parijatham – Kuchipudi
Dance-Drama

5 April

Charu Sija Mathur : Manipuri Dance
Prathibha Prahlad : Bharatanatyam
Ghana Kanta Bora : Sattriya

7 April

Komik Khongjirem : Folk Music of Meghalaya
Khude Patuar Rupkatha, puppet play
Direction : Hiren Bhattacharya
Presentation : People's Puppet Theatre, Kolkata

8 April

Seerhiyan, play in Hindi
Direction : Daya Prakash Sinha
Presentation : Sneha Bharti, Delhi

9 April

Gokula Nirgamana, play in Kannada
Direction : B V Karanth
Playwright : Pu. Thi. Narasimhachar

AWARDS 2002

The General Council of the Akademi met on 25 March 2003 in Mumbai and selected 28 eminent artists in performing arts for Akademi Fellowships and Awards for year 2002. Each Fellowship and Award of Sangeet Natak Akademi carries a purse of Rs. 40,000/-, a shawl and a tamrapatra. The name of Fellows and Award- winners for 2002 are given below:

FELLOWS

Shanno Khurana
Kavalam Narayana Panikkar

AWARDS

Music

Sushila Rani Patel
Sharayu Kalekar
Suresh B Gaitonde
Anindya Chatterjee
T R Subramaniyam
E Gaayathri
Yella Venkateswara Rao
K P Udayabhanu

Dance

Malavika Sarukkai
Rajendra Gangani
K Ongbi Leipaklotpi Devi
Kiran Segal
Sambhu Bhattacharya

Theatre

Arun Mukherjee
Satish Anand
Niranjan Goswami
Nissar Allana
Ashok Sagar Bhagat

Traditional/Folk/Tribal Music/Dance/Theatre and Puppetry

Dilip Sharma & Sudakshana Sharma
E Chaobhal Singh
Sangyusang Sharma
Jagir Singh
S Natarajan

Overall Contribution to Theatre

J N Kaushal
Ramesh Chander

SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI GOLDEN JUBILEE

The President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, inaugurated the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Sangeet Natak Akademi on 28 January 2003 at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi. The inauguration was followed by a three-day festival in which leading musicians, dancers, and a playwright director – all Fellows of the Akademi presented their performances.

At the inauguration, the Siri Fort Auditorium wore a festive look with festoons, banners, and a display of photographs in the foyer offering a glimpse of the activities of Sangeet Natak Akademi since its formation on 28 January 1953.

The President was ushered in with Panchavadyam, featuring musicians from the International Centre for Kathakali, in Delhi. The stage came alive as thirteen distinguished Fellows of the Akademi took their seats to the accompaniment of Dhol and Mohuri (played by artists and trainees associated with the Akademi's project supporting the Chhau dance tradition of eastern India).

The Fellows followed the President in lighting fifty ceremonial lamps on the stage. The auditorium resounded with the beat of the Pung Dhol of Manipur, the Nagaswaram of Tamil Nadu, and the Mizhavu of Kerala. A seven-piece women's Veena ensemble from Bangalore regaled the audience with Golden Showers, a special composition for the occasion.

The President felicitated the Fellows of the Akademi with a golden jubilee memento and a shawl: Pandit Ravi Shankar, Ustad Bismillah Khan, Ebrahim Alkazi, Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma, Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, Komal Kothari, Kelucharan Mohapatra, Mrinalini Vikram Sarabhai, Ammannur Madhava Chakyar, Badal Sircar, Pandit Birju Maharaj, Vijay Tendulkar and M. Balamurali Krishna. On behalf of all the Fellows, Pandit Ravi

Shankar expressed his thanks to **Sangeet Natak Akademi** for its work.

Overwhelmed by the presence of the eminent artists on the stage, President Kalam said: "I listen to the works of these artists almost every day. When I see this esteemed group of people before me I feel that I have orbited the sun 72 times but never in my 71 years have I ever felt so happy and honoured than here in the presence of such a galaxy of artists".

He congratulated the Akademi for having lived up to the expectations with which it was formed 50 years ago. "I would like to request the great masters present here to sing the song of India, a song to unite minds and souls", Dr. Kalam said.

The inaugural ceremony was presided over by the Union Minister for Tourism and Culture, Shri Jagmohan, and the Minister of State for Tourism and Culture, Shri Vinod Khanna. The Chairman of the Akademi, Dr Bhupen Hazarika, in his address summed up the Akademi's growth over the last fifty years. "We can now look back and think of our objectives and keep up our efforts to preserve the country's culture" he said.

The felicitation ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by the Akademi's Vice-Chairman, Shri Shyamanand Jalan.

The addresses were followed by a brief programme. The presentation that touched the President most was by children of the Langa and Manganiyar communities of Rajasthan. Breaking away from his securitymen, he rushed to greet the lead singer, and was immediately surrounded by the group of enthusiastic children, eager to touch his feet. He made a request to the senior artists and to the Akademi to tap young talent in the country.

The second half of the inaugural ceremony consisted of a Shehnai recital by Ustad Bismillah Khan. The second day of the festival featured a

Carnatic vocal music by M. Balamurali Krishna, a Kathak recital by Birju Maharaj, and a short play in Bengali written and directed by Badal Sircar.

The last day of the festival featured an Odissi recital by Kelucharan Mohapatra, a narration in dance and words by Mrinalini Sarabhai of her life in dance, and a Kuchipudi performance by Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma.

The programme follows:

Programme

Tuesday 28 January

Inauguration

National Anthem

Invocation

Mantras from Rig Veda and Sangeet Ratnakar

Welcome Address by Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademi

Address by Shri Jagmohan, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism & Culture

Lighting of Ceremonial Lamps

Golden Showers: Veena ensemble

Presentation of the Golden Jubilee Mementoes to the Hon'ble President and Minister of Tourism & Culture

Felicitation of Akademi Fellows by the Hon'ble President of India

Pandit Ravi Shankar, Ustad Bismillah Khan, Shri Ebrahim Alkazi, Dr Kapila Vatsyayan, Shri Komal Kothari, Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, Shrimati Mrinalini Vikram Sarabhai, Guru Ammannur Madhava Chakyar, Shri Badal Sircar, Pandit Birju Maharaj, Shri Vijay Tendulkar, Dr Balamurali Krishna, Guru Vempati Chinna Satyam

Address by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Hon'ble President of India. Traditional songs of Felicitation of Rajasthan

Vote of Thanks by Shri Shyamanand Jalan, Vice-Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademi

Shehnai Recital by Ustad Bismillah Khan, Bharat Ratna & Akademi Fellow

Wednesday 29 January

Dwairath, a short play in Bengali written and directed by Badal Sircar

Carnatic Vocal music by M. Balamurali Krishna

Kathak dance by Birju Maharaj

Thursday 30 January

Kuchipudi dance by Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma

'Spoken Thoughts': Mrinalini Sarabhai on her life in dance

Odissi dance by Kelucharan Mohapatra

FESTIVALS/WORKSHOPS/ EXHIBITIONS

Vadya Darshan

A Focus on Musical Instruments

22-26 July 2002

To celebrate the diversity of musical instruments and to explore their role and function in India's musical traditions, the Akademi has launched the Vadya Darshan series of programmes. The first event in the series was an exhibition of musical instruments together with lecture-demonstrations on the art and craft of making instruments which was held in New Delhi in March 2002.

The second event was a symposium on lesser-known traditional instruments together with corresponding performances from 22 to 26 July 2002 in Delhi. Also in focus were instruments with a diminishing listenership and practice like the Sarangi, Nagaswaram and Pakhawaj. The event brought together a number of eminent scholars, academicians and musicologists. The audience had the pleasure of witnessing exhilarating performances by a number of eminent musicians. The programme follows:

22 July 2002

Asad Ali Khan: Rudra Veena
Accompanied by Dalchand Sharma (Pakhawaj)

23 July 2002

Pramod Gaikwad: Sundari
Chitravina N Ravikiran: Chitra Veena
Accompanied by Delhi Sunder Rajan (Violin)
Umayalpuram K Sivaraman (Mridangam)
E.M.Subramaniam – (Ghatam)

24 July 2002

Anant Lal (Shehnai)
Ram Ashish Pathak (Pakhawaj)

25 July 2002

Thiruvizha Jayashanker (Nagaswaram)
Accompanied by Valayapatti A.R. Subramaniam – (Thavil)
E. Gayathri (Veena)
Accompanied by Madiri Mangalam
Swaminathan – Mridangam
E.M.Subramaniam – (Ghatam)

26 July 2002

Ram Narain (Sarangi)
Accompanied by Harish Narayan –
Sarangi, Subhash Nirwan – Tabla

Symposium

During the festival, a symposium was conducted at Triveni Chamber Theatre, New Delhi. The Symposium sessions focused on:

Rudra Veena, chaired by Prof. S.K.Saxena. *Participants* were Ustad Ali Khan, Shri Murari Mohan Adhikari, Ustad Fahimuddin Dagar.

Rabab and Sursingar, chaired by Shri Buddhadev Dasgupta. *Participants* were Shri Somjit Dasgupta, Shri Anindya Banerjee

Vichitra Veena and Chitra Veena, chaired by Shri M.G.Swaminathan. *Participants*: Shri Gopal Krishna, Shri N. Narasimhan Iyengar, Shri Ravi Kirtan, Shri Mustafa Raza

Veena, chaired by Shri N. Ramanathan. *Participants*: Shri Karaikudi Subramanyam, Shri R. Vishweshwaran, Dr. R. Kaushalya, Dr. Suma Sudhindra

Surbahar, chaired by Pt. Debu Choudhury. *Participant*: Prof. Santosh Banerjee

Nagara, Dukkad Thavil and Gattuvadyam, chaired by Shri Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman. *Participants*: Shri Valayapatti A. R.Subramanyam, Shri Madan Lal, Shri N. Srinivasan, Shri H. Subramaniam

Double-reeded Instruments (Shehnai, Sundari and Nagaswaram), chaired by Shri Komal Kothari. *Participants*: Shri Anant Lal with Shri Dayashankar, Shri Thiruvizha Jayashankar, Shri Krishnaram Choudhury, Shri Pramod Gaikwad.

Pakhawaj, chaired by Dr. Aban E. Mistry. *Participants*: Ramasheesh Pathak, Shri Gopaldas, Shri Bhagwat Upreti.

Sarangi, Israj, Dilruba and Sursagar, chaired by Dr. N.Rajam. *Participants*: Buddhadev Das Gupta, Shri Allauddin Khan, Shri Mohammed Ali, Ustad Sabir Khan.

A discussion on various problems of manufacturing of musical instruments was chaired by Shri Bhaskar Chandavarkar.

The participants were Shri Bishandas Sharma, Dr. Suvarnalata Rao, Shri O.P.Prahladka, Shri Loknath Sharma and Dr. Suneera Kasliwal.

**Brahaddesi Sangeet Mahotsav
Festival and Seminar on Regional Music
Traditions of Northern India**

27-31 October 2002

Sangeet Natak Akademi has organized a series of festivals titled Brhaddesi Sangeet Mahotsav in different parts of the country focusing on musical traditions of the respective regions. The first festival in the series was organized in Pune, which brought together select musical traditions of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and Rajasthan. The festival in Chennai presented various performances forms of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. The third event in the series, at Guwahati, focused on traditions of the north-eastern region: Manipur, Assam, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Sikkim.

The fourth event, held at Chandigarh from 27 to 31 October 2002, showcased the musical traditions of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Haryana and Punjab. It was organized with the collaboration of the Directorate of Public Relations, Chandigarh Administration, and the North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala. It was inaugurated by his excellency Lt. General (Retd) J.E.R. Jacob. Hon'ble Governor of Punjab, Prof. Atamjeet Singh, Shri Balwant Thakur, Prof. Nand Lal Garg, Shri Kamal Tiwari and Shri Vijay Shankar Choudhary participated in the festival and contributed to its success. Together with performances, the event included a seminar on the music of northern India.

The programme details are as follows:

Festival Programme 27 – 30 October 2002

Kala Bhavan, Punjab Arts Council, Chandigarh

27 October

Inauguration : Dev Yatra – Procession of Instruments :
Baldev Chauhan

Punjab / Jammu & Kashmir

Gurbani Bhai Avtar Singh Ragi

Sufiana Kalam Ghulam Mohd. Saznawaz & Mohd. Yaqoob Sheikh

Bhakhan Krishna Kumari & Pradyumna Singh

Chhakri Gulzar Ganai

Jugni Gurmeet Bawa

28 October

Jammu & Kashmir

Surnai and Daman Abdul Aziz Bhat

Buddhist Chants & Monastic Music Rev.

Tsering Chosphel

Karkan Girdhari Lal

Daastan Ismail Meer

Chhinjan Kishan Singh

Songs of Ladakh Mirup Namgyal & Tsering

Dolker

Himachal Pradesh

Naupad (Nagara, Dhol, Shehnai) Lachhi Ram

Traditional Songs of Chamba & Kangra Roshan Lal

Bharunwa Songs of Shimla & Bilaspur Krishna Kumari

Bel Vadan Shyam Lal

Folk songs of Mandi & Kullu Region Jawala Prasad

Tribal Songs and Instruments from Kinnaur Negi

Nati Songs of Mahasu/Sirmaur Sunita Devi

29 October

Uttaranchal

Hudka Vadan and Ramaola Singing Harda Surdas

Chanchri and Nyoli Geet Gokul Singh

Dhol Vadan Sohan Lal

Beda-Bedi Shiv Charan and Vachan Dei

Hudka, Daur Thali and Binai Ramcharan Jua

Rang-Bang Lok Kala Kendra, Darkot

Veeragatha Gayan Jhusia Damai

Haryana

Nagara Jhamman Khan with Mamman Khan(Sarangi)

Songs from Swang Tule Ram

The song Traditions of Braj Region – Patka Rasia Sibban Singh

The Song of Mewat Region Asghar Hussain

Shaivait / (Jangam) Songs Suraj Bhan

30 October

Punjab

Songs of Dhadi Bhai Daya Singh Dilbar & Desraj Lackhani

The songs of Malwa Region (Kawishri) Master Bheem

Songs of Tumbi and King, Jagatram Lalka

Kafi and Heer Barkat Siddhu

Women's Songs from Punjab Kulwant Kaur

Sufiana songs Puranchand Wadali & Pyarelal Wadali

Seminar 28-31 October 2002

Gandhi Bhavan, Punjab University, Chandigarh

28 October

Welcome Address

Shri Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi

Inauguration : Prof. B.N.Goswamy,

Keynote Address: Margi-Desi in the Modern context,
Prof. K.D.Tripathi

Session I

Chaired by Dr. Ajit Singh Paintal

'An Overview of the Musical Tradition of Punjab':

Dr. Gurnam Singh

**'The Tradition of Gurmat Sangeet of Punjab :
Physics and Aesthetics':** Dr. Nivedita Singh

Session II

Chaired by Prof. Shafi Shouq

**An Overview of the Traditional Music of Jammu &
Kashmir:** Pandit Bhajan Sopori

**An Analysis of the Historical Development and the
system of Raga And Tala in Sufiana Kalam:** Shri Miraj-
ud-din

**The Literary Heritage of the Music of Kashmir with
Special Reference to Habba Khatoon:** Dr. Neerja
Mattoo

29 October

Session III

Chaired by Shri Motilal Kemmu

The Special Characteristics of Bhakha and Chinjan:
Shri Nilambar Dev Sharma

**The traditional Music and Monastic Chants of the
Ladakh Region:** Shri Mipham Otsal

The Musical Tradition of the Gujjar Tribe: Shri Jawed
Rahi

Session IV

Chaired by Dr. Sharayu Kalekar

**An Overview of the Musical Tradition of Himachal
Pradesh:** Prof. Nand Lal Garg

**The Traditional Music of Himachal Pradesh relating
to the Life Cycle Ceremonies:** Dr. Manorama Sharma

**The Traditional Musical Instruments of Himachal
Pradesh with Special reference to stringed and wind
instruments:** Dr. Jayaram Sharma

Session V

Chaired by Shri Bhaskar Chandavarkar

**The Musical Contents and Format of the Narrative
Form of Himachal Pradesh:** Shri Jagdish Sharma

**An analysis of the Tala System of the Persussion
Instruments of Himachal Pradesh:** Prof. Nand Lal Garg

30 October

Session VI

Chaired by Shri Girish Tiwari

**An Overview of the Musical Traditions of
Uttaranchal:** Dr. Shekhar Pathak

Kumaon Ka Lok Sangeet: Shri Dev Singh Pokharia

The Musical Traditions of the Bhotia (Sauka): Shri
Sher Singh Pangti

The Traditional Music of Garhwal: Dr. Data Ram
Purohit

Session VII

Chaired by Shri Komal Kothari.

**An Overview of the Musical Traditions of Haryana
Region:** Shri Puran Chand Sharma

Traditional Song Repertoire of Swang: Shri Kishan
Chand Sharma

The song Tradition of the Braj Area: Shri Sudhir
Sharma

**The Tradition of Music from the Narrative Songs
and**

**Ballads with Special Reference to the songs of the
Jogis:** Shri R.K.Bhardwaj

31 October

Session VIII

Chaired by Dr. Shanno Khurana.

The Traditional Instrumental Music of Punjab: Bhai
Baldeep Singh.

**The Sufi Tradition in the Music of Punjab with
Special**

Reference to Kafi: Shri Kuldeep Kumar

Session IX

Chaired by Smt. Neelam Mansingh.

**The Heritage of Traditional Music of Women of
Punjab (Sanskrit Geet):** Dr. Simmi R. Singh

**The Folklore Tradition of Punjab with Special
Reference to Ballads and Narrative Forms:** Shri
Kanwaljeet Singh

Concluding Session

An Overview and Summing up: Shri Bhaskar
Chandavarkar

Nritya Parva

Festival of Sattriya Dance

15-17 November 2002 Guwahati

A festival of Sattriya dance, Nritya Parva, was presented by the Akademi in collaboration with the Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Government of Assam, from 15 to 17 November 2002 at Rabindra Bhavan, Guwahati. Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, Fellow of Sangeet Natak Akademi, inaugurated the festival. The festival featured performances by young practitioners of Sattriya dance in the evening and lecture-demonstration by senior artists and gurus in the morning (16 and 17 November). The festival gave a platform to emerging Sattriya dancers and was well received by the public and the media. It was attended by members of the Akademi's Advisory Committee for dance, the Sattriya Committee, and a few dance critics from outside the state.

With the Nritya Parva festival in Guwahati, the Akademi has launched a special project of support to Sattriya dance and associated traditions of music and theatre. The project envisages training programmes to identified Sattras for sustaining and developing the art in its original context, expanding performance opportunities for Sattriya artists through annual festivals in Guwahati (and sponsorship elsewhere), and enhanced support for documentation, research and publication on the subject.

Programme

15-17 November, Rabindra Bhavan, Guwahati

15 November

Uttarkamalabari Sattri (Gayan Bayan)

Aparajita Dawka & Pranabi Sarma

Ramkrishna Talukdar, Vedajyoti Choudhury

Pallabi Khaund & Anjali Barbora

Bhogpur Sattri (Gayan Bayan)

16 November

Barpeta Sattri (Gayan Bayan)

Chitrlekha Gogoi & Jolymoni Saikia Bhanu Chaharia

Deka, Mirananda Borthakur Satarupa Chatterjee & Krishna Chetri

Natun Kamalabari Sattri (Gayan Bayan)

17 November

Belaguri Sattri (Gayan Bayan)

Anita Sarma, Manalisha Bora & Kunja Das, **Tarali Das**

Kamalabari Sattri (Gayan Bayan)

LECTURE-DEMONSTRATIONS:

16 November

Govinda Saikia, Sharadi Saikia, **Sailen Saikia**

17 November

Ghanakanta Bora, Garima Hazarika, **Jatin Goswami**

Bharatanatyam Mahotsav

Festival of Bharatanatyam

23 November – 1 December, Bangalore

Sangeet Natak Akademi organized a major festival of Bharatanatyam at Ravindra Kalakshetra, Bangalore, from 23 November to 1 December 2002 featuring Bharatanatyam artists of Karnataka. There were performances by dancers, both young and senior, in the evening and lecture-demonstrations by gurus with their disciples during the morning sessions. The event was a part of the series of Bharatanatyam festivals planned by the Akademi in different regions of the country with a view to making an assessment of standards of training and performance in the field of Bharatanatyam and identifying committed teachers for future measures of support. Similar events will follow in Tamil Nadu and other regions where Bharatanatyam is widely practiced. The festival was inaugurated by Shrimati Mrinalini Sarabhai, Padma Bhushan and Fellow of Sangeet Natak Akademi.

The morning sessions of presentations by the gurus was inaugurated on 24 November by the eminent guru and Akademi Awardee, Prof. U.S.Krishna Rao. The event was organized in collaboration with the Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka.

In nine days of the festival, over a hundred dancers and fifty dance teachers participated, including several eminent names from Karnataka. Besides Prof. U.S.Krishna Rao, Shri H.R.Keshava Murthy and Smt. Pratibha Prahlad were among the participants. The eminent Bharatanatyam artist and Akademi Awardee, Smt. Alarmel Valli, came from Tamil Nadu to perform in the festival on the concluding day. To interact with the participating artists, several observers and experts from south India attended the event.

The festival brought together the entire community of Bharatanatyam artists of celebration

together with rasikas of this dance.

The festival proved to be a significant step in reassessing the current scenario in the field of Bharatanatyam

The programme follows:

23 November to 1 December 2002

Ravindra Kalakshetra, Bangalore
Dance Performances

23 November

Inauguration: Keerthi Ramagopal, Ranjani Ganeshan
Pratibha Prahlad, Uma Rao Group

24 November

Karupa Phadke, Shubha Dhananjaya, Sridhar/Anuradha,
M.R.Krishnamurthy Group

25 November

Ashok Kumar / Prakash Naidu/ Pulikesi / Nagesh /
Sudheer, Suman Nagesh, Radhika Nandakumar Radha
Sridhar Group

26 November

Priyamvada Murli, Praveen Kumar/Sathyanarayana Raju/
Subhashini Vasant Rangashree, Revathi Narasimhan Group

27 November

Navia Natarajan, Soundraya, Padmaja Suresh, Padmini Rao
Group

28 November

Laxmi Bai, Seshadri Iyengar, Preethi Sunderaj, Hamsa
Moily Tosniwal, Poornima Ashok, K. Ramamurthi Rao
Group

29 November

Sheela Shekhar/Radhika Chaitanya, Shubarani Bolar, Dr.
A.R.Sreedhara, Padmini Ramachandra Group

30 November

Ajay Vishwanathan / Chandrika Narayan, Chetna
Radhakrishna, Kiran Subramanyam / Sandhya Kiran
Padmini Ravi, Lalitha Srinivasan Group

1 December

Subha Patwardhan, Lakshmi Gopalaswamy, Alarmel Valli,
Bhanumathi Group.

Rag Darsan

28 November – 1 December 2002

To explore the realm of uncommon ragas in Hindustani music, and to highlight ragas which are rarely heard on the concert platform today, a week-long series of lecture-demonstrations – Rag Darsan – was organized by Sangeet Natak Akademi from 28 November to 1 December 2002 in Kolkata. The event explained the musical traditions of different Gharanas, the influences as also the evolution and development of various Ragas. A number of Sangeet Natak Akademi awardees in Hindustani vocal music – Parveen Sultana, Dinkar Kaikini, Ajay Chakarborty, L.K.Pandit, Rahim Fahimudin Dagar and Abhay Narayan Mallik – participated in the event.

The event was supported by the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs, Government of West Bengal, and the ITC Sangeet Research Akademi.

The rasikas of Kolkata enjoyed the lecture-demonstrations of Hafeez Ahmad Khan, Dinkar Kaikini, T. D. Janorikar, Suhasini Koratkar, Prakash Wadhera, Shrikrishna Haldankar. Bharti Vishampayan, Dipali Nag, Sulochana Brahaspati, Ramashray Jha, Kumar Prasad Mukherji, Mashkoo Ali Khan, Ghulam Mustafa Khan, Laxman Krishnrao Pandit, Abhay Narayan Mallick, Ulhas Kashalkar, Shanno Khurana, Rajshekhar Mansur, Ajoy Chakraborty and Iqbal Ahmad Khan.

Natya Parva

Akademi Theatre Festival

1-16 December 2002, Mumbai

Sangeet Natak Akademi presented a theatre festival, Natya Parva, in Mumbai from 1 to 16 December 2002 in association with National Centre for performing Arts, Prithvi Theatre, Y.B.Chavan Centre, and Ekjute of Mumbai. The shows were held at Tata Theatre, NCPA Experimental Theatre, Y.B.Chavan Centre and Prithvi Theatre.

The event was among the major expositions of contemporary theatre held by the Akademi over the years, presenting before audiences select plays in various languages from various parts of the country. The Akademi's last venture of this kind had been the Nehru Shatabdi Natya Samaroh held in Delhi 1989. While plays – and therefore playwrights – were the focus of attention in that event, in Natya Parva the focus was on directors. (All the directors represented in the festival were recipients of Sangeet Natak Akademi's awards for theatre since 1985.) The programme included productions based on epic and popular poetry, folklore and contemporary fiction, renderings of classic plays from Indian and foreign sources; and productions based on stories of the directors' own making. A strong engagement with social and political issues was discernible in many of the plays, and in some others a search for a distinctive idiom of theatre was evident.

In addition to other languages, Natya Parva offered a sample of theatre in Kashmiri, Dogri, Punjabi, Assamese, and Tamil – not often encountered in All India theatre festivals.

Natya parva was dedicated to the memory of four eminent personalities in Indian theatre who had passed away in recent months. Shanta Gandhi, Dina Pathak, B.V.Karant, and Manohar Singh

Programme

1 December

Ritusamharam (Manipuri)

Directed by Ratan Thiyam, Chorus Repertory Theatre, Imphal

2 December

Sonata (English)

Directed by Amal Allana, Theatre & Television Associates, Delhi

3 December

Aka Nandun (Kashmiri)

Directed by Moti Lal Kemmu, National Bhand Theatre Wathora, Kashmir

4 December

Kahan Kabir (Hindi)

Directed by Satish Alekar, Theatre Academy, Pune

5 December

Mahanirvan (Marathi)

Directed by Satish Alekar, Theatre Academy, Pune

6 December

Sarkari Inspector (Assamese)

Directed by Satish Alekar, Theatre Academy, Pune

7 December

Padukalam (Tamil)

Directed by N.Muthuswamy, Koothu-p-Pattarai Trust, Chennai

8 December

Dewar Main Ek Khidki Rahti Thi (Hindi)

Directed by Mohan Maharishi, NSD Repertory Company, Delhi

9 December

Ghumayee (Dogri)

Directed by Balwant Thakur, Natrang, Jammu

10 December

Madhab Malanchi Kainya (Bengali)

Directed by Bibhash Chakraborty, Anya Theatre, Kolkata

Suman Aur Sana (Hindi), directed by Nadira Zaheer

Babbar, Ekjute, Mumbai

11 December

Chitrapat (Kannada)

Directed by B. Jayashree, Spandana, Bangalore

Natak Munshi Khan Da (Punjabi)

Directed by Gursharan Singh, Chandigarh School of Drama, Chandigarh

12 December

Nupi (Manipuri)

Directed by Kanhai Lal Singh, Kalakshetra Manipur, Imphal

13 December

Tum Sa-adat Hassan Manto Ho (Hindi/Urdu)

Directed by M.K.Raina, Prayog, Delhi

Mithyabhiman (Gujarati)

Directed by Kailash Pandya, Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, Ahmedabad

14 December

Mahamayi (Hindi)

Directed by Bhanu Bharati, Aaj, Udaipur

15 December

It's All About Money, Honey (Hindi/English)

Directed by Barry John, Imago Theatre Group, Delhi

Shobhayatra (Hindi)

Directed by Usha Ganguli, Rangakarmee, Kolkata

16 December

Romeo and Juliet (English)

Directed by Alyque Padamsee, Q Theatre Productions, Mumbai

Putul Yatra

National Festival of Puppet Theatre: Performances, Seminar & Exhibition 17-28 March, 2003, Delhi

As a part of its golden jubilee celebrations, Sangeet Natak Akademi organized Putul Yatra, an all-India festival of puppet theatre from 17 to 28 March 2003 at Meghdoot Theatre, Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. The festival featured performances by thirty-two puppet theatre groups from all over the country, skilled in traditional and contemporary puppetry. There was also an exhibition of Indian puppets, screenings of video documentaries, and an international seminar during the festival.

The largest event showcasing India's puppet theatre so far presented by Sangeet Natak Akademi, Putul Yatra was organized in association with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, the India International Centre, and the Union Internationale de la Marionette (Unima).

Puppeteers during the festival demonstrated various forms of the art, from the traditional string puppets of Karnataka, the shadow puppets of Andhra Pradesh, the rod and glove puppets of West Bengal, to more contemporary techniques.

The programme follows:

Monday 17 March

Inauguration

Yakshagana Gombeyata – Traditional String
Puppet Theatre of Karnataka; Lankadahana Sri Ganesh
Yakshagana Gombeata Mandali, Karnataka
Group leader: Bhaskar Kogga Kamath
Tolu Bommalata – Traditional Shadow Puppet Theatre of
Andhra Pradesh; Sundara Kandam
Chhaya Nataka Brundam, Andhra Pradesh.
Group Leader: S. Chidambara Rao

Tuesday 18 March

Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod and Glove): almost
Twelfth Night
Kat-Katha, New Delhi, director: Anurupa Roy
Danger Putul – Traditional Rod Puppet Theatre
Of West Bengal : Sitar Banabas Satya Narayan Putul



Remembering Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay

Putul Yatra was dedicated to the memory of Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay (1903-1988), former Chairman of the Akademi, whose birth centenary coincides with the fiftieth anniversary of Sangeet Natak Akademi.

It is in some measure owing to her interest that the Akademi has lent its support to the puppet theatre since its early years. This has taken the form of training programmes in puppetry; workshops involving traditional and non-traditional puppeteers; seminars where present-day problems and issues have been discussed; and festivals in which puppetry in various forms has been presented to the public. In 1990 the Akademi organized an international festival of puppet theatre (the India International Puppet Festival) in Delhi in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, and from 1992 to 1998, a series of six workshops focusing on the practice of puppetry in various regions of India.

Natya Sanstha, West Bengal
 Group Leader: Nirapada Mondal
 Tolpava Kuthu – Traditional Shadow
 Puppet Theatre of Kerala: Kamban Ramayana
 Krishnan Kutty Pulavar Memorial Tholpava
 Koothu & Puppet Centre, Kerala Group
 Leader: K.K.Ramachandra Pulavar

Thursday 20 March

Ravanachhaya – Traditional Shadow Puppet Theatre of Orissa: Ramayana
 Ravan Chhaya Natya Sansad, Orissa. Group Leader: Kolha Charan Sahoo
 Kandheri Nach – Traditional Rod Puppet Theatre of Orissa: Utkal Vishwakarma
 Kalakunja Kandheri Nacha, Keonjhar. Group Leader: Maguni Charan Kuanr
 Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod Puppets): Aladin
 Calcutta Puppet Theatre, Kolkata, West Bengal
 Director: Suresh Dutta

Friday 21 March

Celebrations of UNIMA World Puppet Day
 Benir Putul – Traditional Glove Puppet Theatre of West Bengal
 Bishnu Priya Putul Party, 24-Paraganas,
 Group Leader: Rampada Ghorai and Basanto Ghorai
 Tol Bommalatam – Traditional Shadow
 Puppet Theatre of Tamil Nadu: Sundara Kandam
 Selvaraja Shadow Puppet Group, Tamil Nadu
 Group Leader : A. Selvaraja

Saturday 22 March

Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod & Hand)
 1001 Indian Nights
 Pi Theatre, Delhi, Director: Varun Narain
 Salaki Gombeyatta – Traditional Puppet Theatre (String and Rod Puppets)
 Karnataka, Sri Bhavaneshwari Sutrada Bombe Mela,
 Mandya District
 Group Leader: Puttasamachar B.
 Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod Puppets) : Kshude Patuar Roopkatha
 Peoples Puppet Theatre, Kolkata, West Bengal
 Director: Hiren Bhattacharya

Sunday 23 March

Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Glove Puppets): Rutir Goppo
 Tal-Betal Puppet Theatre, Kolkata
 Director: Subhasis Sen
 Pavakathakali – Traditional Glove Puppet Theatre of Kerala: Dakshayagam

Natanakairali, Trichur, Kerala
 Group Leader: G.Venu
 Togalu Gombeyata – Traditional Shadow
 Puppet Theatre of Karnataka: Excerpts from Gandhi
 Sri Ramanjaneya Togalu Gombe Mela, Bellary,
 Group Leader: B. Veeranna

Monday 24 March

Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod Puppets):
 Death Trap
 Salaam Baalak Trust, Delhi
 Director: Kapil Dev
 Bommalatam – Traditional String Puppet Theatre of Tamil Nadu: Seetha Kalyanam and Marriage of Valli with Lord Muruga
 Sri Murugan Sangeetha Bommalatta Sabha, Tamil Nadu, Group Leader: Kumbakonam Thiru T.N.Sankaranathan
 Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rob Puppets):
 Taming of the Wild
 Dolls Theatre, Kolkata, Director : Sudip Gupta

Tuesday 25 March

Kathputli – Traditional String Puppets
 Theatre of Rajasthan: Dhola Maru
 Aakar Puppets Theatre, Delhi
 Group Leader: Puran Bhatt
 Yakshagana Bombeyata – Traditional String And Rod Puppet Theatre of Karnataka:
 Nanakasura Vadhe
 Sri Gopalakrishna Yakshagana Bombeyata Sangha, Kasergod
 Group Leader: K.V.Ramesh
 Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod Puppets):
 Idgah and Rangeela
 Mayur Puppet Theatre, Lucknow
 Director: Milan Yadav

Wednesday 26 March

Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod Puppets): Maindak Budhi
 Nori Puppet Group of the Nori Art & Puppetry Centre, Hyderabad.
 Director: Ratnamala Nori
 Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod and Glove):
 Holde Jhunti Morogti
 Burdhan Puppet Theatre & Cultural Centre
 West Bengal, Director: Swapan Roy
 Contemporary Puppet Theatre: Vadakkan Puttu
 Samanwaya Pavantaka Sangham, Ayancheri

Kerala, Director: T.P.Kunhiraman

Thursday 27 March

Putul Putul – Traditional String Puppet Theatre of West Bengal:

Sindhu Badh Dhiren Natya Putul Nach Party, West Bengal, Group leader:

Krishna Pada Sardar

Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod Puppets): Tido Jhoshi
'Meher' – The Troupe, Ahmedabad

director: Mansingh Zala

Kalasutri Bahulye – Traditional String

Puppet Theatre of Maharashtra

Ganapat Sakharam Masge and Group, Pinguli, Maharashtra

Group Leader: Ganapat Sakharam Masge

Friday 28 March

Putul Nach – Traditional String Puppet Theatre of Assam:

Sita Haran and Laba Kusha Rupii Puppet Theatre
Kamrup, Assam.

Group Leader: Abani Sharma

Koyya Bommalata – Traditional String

Puppet Theatre of Andhra Pradesh

Group Leader: M. Upplaiiah

Contemporary Puppet Theatre (Rod Puppets): Tetnai

Tripura Puppet Theatre, Agartala, Tripura

Director: Prabhitangsu Das

UNIMA at the festival

Besides large local audiences, the festival was also attended by sixteen foreign delegates including members of the Executive Body of Unima (headed by Mme Margereta Niculescu of France), which met in Delhi during this period. It was coordinated by Shri Dadi Pudumjee, eminent puppeteer (and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award-winner), who is also the Vice-president of Unima. The Unima, an organization affiliated to Unesco, aims to help those interested in knowing more about puppetry as well as encouraging partnerships in new areas like training, teaching and therapy. It has a strong presence in 58 countries.

World Puppet Day

In a meeting during the festival, Unima decided to observe 21 March every year as World Puppet

Day. Thus the Akademi in collaboration with Unima celebrated the first World Puppet Day during the festival in Delhi. Unima decided to celebrate the occasion in a low key on account of the outbreak of war in Iraq. The CEVA group from Chandigarh made a brief presentation with a pacifist theme by two gigantic, faceless rod puppets.

At the request of Ms. Margareta Niculescu, President, Unima, Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan read out a message on the occasion of World Puppet Day in Hindi and English, followed by translations in Spanish and French.

Exhibition of Puppets

An exhibition of puppets and the puppeteer's art (21 March – 4 April, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.) was mounted on the occasion at the Meghdoot Theatre Complex, Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. The exhibition comprised over two hundred puppets from the collection of the Akademi, including string, rod, glove, and shadow puppets from Assam, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. A number of puppets were also loaned by contemporary practitioners of puppetry who were performing during the festival.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Ms. Margareta Niculescu on 21 March 2003.

Video Shows

Over the years, the Akademi has prepared a considerable amount of video documentation of puppetry. Some of this material was screened during Putul Yatra. Two large screens were set up in the Meghdoot Theatre for the purpose.

The videos depicted the traditional puppet theatre of north India and south India as well as the contemporary puppet theatre. The films were screened 22 – 24 March 2003 in the evening (5 p.m.) before the performances.

International Seminar on Puppetry

An international seminar on the occasion, 'Puppet: East-West, West-East', was held 23-25 March 2003 (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.) at India International Centre (Annexe), New Delhi. Participants in the seminar included the Unima's executive committee members as well as other puppeteers and specialists invited by the Akademi. The following papers were presented at the Seminar:

'From exotic entertainment to source of aesthetic inspiration': John McCormick

'Globalization - Negotiating the terrain for East-West Puppetry encounters': Jenny Pfiffer

'Prospero's demi. Puppets: A tale of three Tempests': Bradford Clark

'West-East as the two angles of human existence': Gharibpour Behrouz

'Communication through puppets: an exhibition on Non-Western puppetry as an example of culture interchange': Elizabeth Den Otter

'Contemporary Puppet Theatre in Slovakia': Ida Hledikova

Presentation following the previous evening Pava-Kathakali performance: G. Venu

'The traditional puppet play and possibility of innovation: an experiment: S.A.Krishnaiah

'Adaptation and influence': Dadi Pudumjee

'Memory, displacement and recreation in south Indian puppetry tradition': M.D.Muthukumaraswamy

'Actors without Memory': Inventing a form in the absence of tradition in Tambours sur La Digue': Brian Singleton

'England-India, India-England': Penny Francis

'Powder puppets, a Luso-Chinese legacy to Brazil': Megda Modesto

'Indian influence in American puppetry': Nancy Staubb (paper read by Bradford Clark)

'Influence of Obratsov in Calcutta Puppet Theatre': Suresh dutta

'Adaptations in the Kathputli tradition': Komal Kothari

John McCormick, Margareta Niculescu, Penny Francis, Dadi Padumjee and M.D.Muthukumaraswamy chaired the various sessions. Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan acted as coordinator. The seminar ended on 25 March with her valedictory address.

WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG THEATRE WORKERS

Under the scheme of Assistance to Young Theatre Workers, the Akademi has initiated a programme in which four to five workshops are organized each year. They aim at providing integrated training in contemporary theatre for theatre workers of the younger generation. Along with the basic requirements of theatre, emphasis is given to the State's traditional and folk culture. Practical aspects of training include classes in mime, movement, voice and speech; sets, light, costume design, theatre music etc. They are also taught how to use the indigenous material available in their areas and how to adapt resources and material available at hand for their use. Apart from experts from other States, local experts are also invited to contribute to the workshop. Inputs on other allied arts are also given alongwith lecture-demonstrations as well as performances of folk and traditional forms of the region. Video recordings from the Akademi's archives on theatre are screened for the benefit of participants. These workshops are organized zone-wise, generally in collaboration with Departments of Culture of the States or other institutions working in the performing arts.

Four workshops in northern India were organized by the Akademi in 2001-2002 at Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. In 2002-2003, three workshops were organized, at Dehradun, Bokaro and Gangtok The details follow:

Dehradun (25 June - 15 July)

Workshop Director : Shri Lalit Mohan Thapaliyal

The workshop was organized in collaboration with the Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Uttaranchal, at Bhatkande Sangeet Vidyalaya, Dehradun. Twenty-nine candidates (including four women) were selected from Garhwal, Roorki, Pauri, Pithoragarh, Chamoli, Nainital, Champa,

Haldwani, Rishikesh and Dehradun. Shri Ahsan Baksh, a theatre person of Uttaranchal, coordinated the workshop. Noted experts in theatre and allied subjects were invited to the workshop: Smt. Usha Ganguly (for training in direction), Smt. Uttara Baokar (acting), Shri V Ramamurthy (lighting), Shri Narendra Sharma (movement), Dr. Govind Chatak (playwriting), Shri B.S.Kulkarni (make-up), Smt. Kriti V. Sharma (costumes), Shri Mushtaq Kak (set design) and Smt. Apporva (Yoga). Shri Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi, inaugurated the workshop. The workshop continued till 15 July 2002.

Jharkhand (2-31 October 2002)

The first workshop in the East Zone was organized at Bokaro from 2 to 31 October 2002 in collaboration with SAIL, Bokaro Steel City, Jharkhand. Twenty-eight candidates were selected from Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Lohardagha, Dhanbad, Bokaro and Dumka. Shri Bipin Kumar, a theatre person from Jharkhand, coordinated the workshop. Theatre experts including Shri J.N.Kaushal (Delhi), Shri Ratan Thiyam (Imphal), Dr. Mahendra (Chandigarh), Shri V. Ramamurthy (Bangalore), Shri Salil Sarkar and Shri Niranjan Goswami (Kolkata), Shri Sudhir Kulkarni, Shri Shashadhar Acharya (Delhi), and Shri Sanjay Upadhyay (Patna) were invited to form the faculty. Dr. Girdhari Ram Gunjhu, Dr. Anil Thakur, Dr. Mahavir Nayak and Dr. Ratan Prakash represented the region's own art forms. Performances of Nagpuri Jhumur by Kala Kunj Pandra (Ranchi) and Birsā Kala Kendra (Hatia) were presented. The Fir Kaal Martial Dance was presented by the Adim Bhoomi Kherwar Sangh (Chamundi, East Singhbhoom). Khadia was performed by Bibiyana Dungdung Kharia Sanskrit Sangh (Ranchi).

Gangtok (10 February – 9 March 2003)

Under this programme, the Akademi, in collaboration with the Department of Culture, Sikkim, organized a residential workshop for

young theatre workers 10 February – 9 March 2003 at Gangtok. This was the second workshop in the series in the East Zone. A total of 75 applications were received both by the Akademi in Delhi and the Department of Culture, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok. Finally 24 young theatre workers were selected for the workshop.

Visiting experts included Kanhailal, Sabitri Heisnam, Govind Dhakal, Dolly A. Tewari, Bhaskar Chandavarkar, Dulal Roy, Satyabrata Rout, Birjit Naganomba, Ratan Thiyam, Niranjan Goswami and Kanishka Sen. Regional experts who were invited to the workshop included Banitalgun, Malati Chettri, Shakunta K. , Tika Maya Pradhan, Samten Bhutia and Tara Dhital.

Two Telugu Plays Premiered in Hyderabad

Sangeet Natak Akademi's scheme of Assistance to Playwrights in Indian Languages is meant to encourage young writers to write new plays in Indian languages. The scheme was launched in response to the long-felt need of theatre workers all over the country for new plays, and for dialogue and interaction between directors and writers.

Under this scheme, two plays written in Telugu were premiered in Hyderabad 10-12 March 2003 in collaboration with the Department of Culture, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The first play, *Darpanam*, was directed by K.G.R. Gandhi of Kala Tarangini, Visakhapatnam, while the other play, *Gunanidhi*, was directed by D.S.N.Murthy of Navodaya Arts Academy, Hyderabad.

Interaction Programme in Theatre

Under this programme, an eminent director from one region is sponsored with his group for a performance and interaction with theatre workers of another region. The programme is devised to give an opportunity to theatre workers of the younger generation to meet an eminent director, interact with him, and gain an insight into his life and work. The programme is meant to promote

theatrical activity in regions/States which may benefit by such an opportunity. The visiting director presents one performance of his play and stays on for three or four days to interact with theatre workers, who are invited by the host agency from different parts of the State. An established theatre person of the State is invited to coordinate the interaction session. In addition, the host agency is requested to present one show of a local theatre group of good standing in the local language. These interaction programmes are also organized in collaboration with the Department of Culture of the State concerned or the State Sangeet Natak Akademi/Zonal Cultural Centre. Three interactive events were organized under this programme during the period under report. The details follow:

Udaipur

An interaction with the eminent theatre director, Shri B.V.Karanth, was organized in collaboration with the West Zone Cultural Centre and Bharatiya Lok Kala Mandal of Udaipur, from 12 to 15 May 2002. Shri Bhanu Bharti coordinated the programme.

Fifty young theatre workers from Rajasthan participated. A Kannada musical play, *Gokula Nirgamana*, directed by Shri Karanth and produced by Nepathya, Bangalore, was presented. This was followed by two plays produced in Rajasthan: *Chandrabas*, directed by Shri Laique Hussain (in Mewari), and *Doodhan* directed by Shri Sabir Khan (in Rajasthani). Shri Karanth spoke about his journey in theatre. He dwelt at length on production process, and his varied work in Indian theatre, particularly in theatre music and sound. The plays presented by Shri Hussain and Shri Khan, were also discussed, with Shri Karanth.

Nagpur

An interaction with the eminent theatre director, Shri K. N.Panikkar was organized in collaboration with South Central Zone Cultural Centre, at

Nagpur, from 8 to 11 April 2002. It was coordinated by the eminent playwright, Shri Mahesh Elkunchwar.

A Malayalam play, *Kallurutti*, directed by Shri Panikkar and produced by Sopanam of Thiruvananthapuram, was presented on the inaugural day of the Interaction Programme. This was followed by *Sayankalchya Kavita*, a Marathi play directed by Shri Girish Pande and presented by Rangrekha of Nagpur, in honour of the visiting director. Shri Panikkar discussed voice culture, movement and the production process, involved in Sanskrit theatre. Fifty young theatre workers participated in this interaction programme.

Jammu

Barry John and his group, Imago, of Delhi visited Jammu under this programme 8 – 12 February 2003. He presented his play *It's all about Money Money!* on 8 February at Abhinav Theatre, Auditorium, Jammu. He stayed there for four days to interact with young 50 theatre workers of Jammu and Kashmir. Barry John spoke about his production process and his work. A play in Dogri, *Ghumayee*, directed by Balwant Thakur (Natrang, Jammu), was also staged on the occasion. The collaborating agency was the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, Jammu.

Exhibition of Musical Instruments, New Delhi

Following the success of Sangeet Natak Akademi's Vadya Darshan exhibition, an exhibition of musical instruments was mounted by the Akademi from 15 to 17 April 2002 at Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi, upon a request by the Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Government of India, to coincide with the 51st PATA Conference.

The exhibition displayed about eighty Indian musical instruments, along with fifty photographs and other visual aids. An illustrated catalogue was also published by the Akademi and distributed among the delegates.

Indian Musical Instruments in Spain

As part of its golden jubilee celebrations this year, Sangeet Natak Akademi presented an exhibition of 70 instruments in Spain from 4 to 13 March 2003 in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Universidad de Valladolid. Shri R.S.Malhotra, Deputy Secretary (Film) in Sangeet Natak Akademi, represented the Akademi during the event.

The exhibition provided a glimpse into the varied world of Indian musical instruments; it was a small part of the Sangeet Natak Akademi's collection of 500 musical instruments from all over the country.

The selection was made keeping in view the four-fold classification followed in India since ancient times; tata vadya (chordophones), sushira vadya (aerophones), ghana vadya (idiophones) and avanadha vadya (membrano-phones). The principle of regional representation was sought to be followed in the exhibition ; the instruments on display represented a number of musical systems, of varied provenance and histories of development.

Promotion and Preservation of Puppetry

Under the scheme of Promotion and Preservation of Puppetry, the Akademi supported identified puppet groups with financial support amounting to Rs. 1.5 Lakhs. The Akademi also supports Training programmes in Ravan Chhaya under guru Kolhacharan Sahoo in Orissa and will support a programme in Gombeyatta under Shri Kogga Kamath in Karnataka.

The training programme to revive the Ravan Chhaya puppet theatre – a tradition of Shadow puppetry – has been started by the Akademi in January 2002 under the Akademi Awardee Guru Kolha Charan Sahoo at Odash, Dhenkanal, Orissa, six students have been selected to learn this art, including the making of puppets and mastering the music of Ravan Chhaya.

PROMOTION AND PRESERVATION OF TRADITIONAL PERFORMING ARTS

The scheme supports training in forms of music, dance and theatre which are in danger of extinction. Honorarium to teachers and stipends to students are paid by the Akademi by way of incentive, the effort being to sustain these arts through the traditional teaching-learning process. Details of training are regularly reported.

Besides training, the scheme also envisages support to young artists from traditional practising families and gharanas, etc., who do not receive support in normal course.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL CENTRES OF SPECIALISED TRAINING IN MUSIC AND DANCE

Under the scheme of 'Establishment of National Centres of Specialized Training in Music and Dance', the Akademi has identified Kutiyattam and the Chhau dance of Seraikella, Mayurbhanj and Purulia as artistic traditions which appear to be threatened. Support is extended both for strengthening the existing training centres and to set up new centres.

Support To Kutiyattam

Under the Scheme Establishment of National Centre for Music and Dance, Akademi launches training programme and performance subsidy to the following institutions

(a) Margi, Thiruvananthapuram

Akademi is providing regular performance opportunities to the trained artistes since May, 1991. Revival and production of old plays were also started w.e.f. July 2000. Akademi provides performance subsidy to cover remuneration to artists for 2 performances in a month i.e. 24 performances in a year in addition to Annual Grant. During the financial year a sum of Rs. 5,00,800/- has been released to Margi, Thiruvananthapuram. Akademi also sponsors artists

to other agencies/government on request.

(b) Ammannur Chachu Chakyar Smaraka Gurukulam, Irinjalakuda

With a view to ensure and support a system process of transmission of the art of Kutiyattam from ageing gurus to the younger generation incorporating the best elements of personalized training in an atmosphere of intimacy on the lines of traditional gurukulam, Akademi under its Project of Support to Kutiyattam is providing financial support to the Gurukulam since May, 1991. During the financial year 2002-03 a sum of Rs. 2,85,700/- has been released to the institution. The institution produced the Sanskrit play Sakuntalam which is being presented in 4 days.

(c) Training in Mizhavu Playing under Guru P.K.Narayan Nambiar at Lakkidi

Training in Mizhavu playing under Guru P.K.Narayan Nambiar has also been started w.e.f. May 1991. A sum of Rs. 1,03,200/- has been released towards remuneration to Guru and Scholarships to trainees. The artists under this scheme presented Mizhavu Tayambakka in various festivals organized by the Akademi

(d) Training in Pathakam under Guru K.G.Nambiar

Trainees receiving Mizhavu Training under Guru P.K.Narayan Nambiar are also being given training in Pathakam and Vidushaka roles under Guru P.K.G. Nambiar. Shri Nambair is being paid a monthly remuneration @ Rs. 2500/-. A sum of Rs. 30,000/- has been incurred for financial year.

(e) Kerala Kalamandalam, Cheruthuruthy

Kerala Kalamandalam, Cheruthuruthy, is being providing financial support @ Rs. 5000/- per performances for 12 performances in a year by the trained artists. A sum of Rs. 60,000/- has been released for the financial year.

Support to Chhau Dance of Mayurbhanj

Akademi under its project of Support to Chhau

Dance of Mayurbhanj, started a training programme at Baripada and Rairangpur (Orissa) in 1st February 2003. During 1st October 2001 Akademi started its own repertory with the trained artists in Dance and Music. Artists under this project has been performed widely in India including festivals being organized by the Akademi. A sum of Rs. 10,88,524/- and Rs. 1,73,006/- has been released towards remuneration/scholarships for the financial year. Akademi also financially supported for a sum of Rs. 50,000/- for organizing Chaitra Parba.

Support to Chhau Dance of Seraikella

(a) Training under Guru Lingaraj Acharya, Seraikella

A training programme in Seraikella Chhau Dance started under Guru Lingaraj Acharya, at Acharya Chhau Nrithya Bichitra started w.e.f. July 1998. A sum of Rs. 2,16,116/- has been incurred for the financial year towards remuneration to Guru/ Teachers/Accompanists and scholarships to trainees. Artists under the project are being sponsored by the Akademi in various festivals.

(b) Training in Music and Dance co-ordinated by Government Chhau Dance Centre, Seraikella

Training in Music and Dance co-ordinated by Government Chhau Dance Centre, Seraikella started w.e.f. September 1998. Artists under the Projects are being sponsored in various festivals. A sum of Rs. 2,92,766/- has been incurred for the financial year 2002-2003.

(c) Training in Mask-making

Under the Akademi Project of Support to Chhau Dance of Seraikella a training programme in mask making under Two Gurus namely Shri Sushant Kumar Mahapatra and Shri Kanhai Lal Maharana with four trainees each has been started w.e.f. May 2002. A sum of Rs. 1,00,000/- has been released during the financial year 2002-2003.

SPONSORED PROGRAMMES

The Akademi partly sponsored the following events in different parts of the country under collaborative arrangements with various Cultural institutions:

- A grant of Rs. 30,000/- was given to Bade Ghulam Ali Khan Yaadgar Sabha, New Delhi towards the Centenary celebrations of Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan on 2 April 2002 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi
- A grant of Rs. 20,000/- was given to Swar Rang, New Delhi towards celebrating Pt. Omkar Jayanti Sangeet Samaroh at Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi on 24 June 2002
- Akademi sponsored Shri K D Tripathi as faculty member to Kerala Sangeet Natak Akademi's production oriented drama workshop which was held in July 2002 at Kannur
- The Akademi sponsored the play Yayati directed by Shri Vipin Kumar, presented by Kshitji, Delhi on 21 September 2002 for the NCZCC National Theatre Festival, Chandigarh
- A grant of Rs. 50,000 was given to Swaralaya, Palakkad towards organizing Folklore festival held at Fork Maidan, Palakkad, Kerala from 24 to 26 January 2003

INTER-STATE CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Under this scheme, operative for many years, the Akademi has envisaged a programme to be actively implemented and sponsored by State Governments, where the Akademi will subsidise and coordinate exchanges of select individual artists and groups between various States and Union Territories of the country. To begin with, the Akademi has decided to send identified traditional theatre groups to perform in the North-eastern States of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur and Sikkim. These tours will take place in 2003-2004.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

The bilateral Cultural Exchange Programme implemented by the Akademi in accordance with the Department of Culture consists mainly of exchange of information and material such as books and tapes on the performing arts.

PUBLICATIONS

The publication programme of the Akademi, initiated soon after its inception in 1953, includes books and monographs on the performing arts, and the quarterly journal *Sangeet Natak*. Besides, to promote publishing on music, dance and drama, the Akademi helps authors and publishers with grants for books and periodicals in English and Indian Languages. A list of available Akademi publications is at Appendix IV.

Sangeet Natak Volume XXXVI, numbers 3 and 4, and Volume XXXVII, 1 and 2 were published during the period under report. The *Sangeet Natak Akademi News Bulletin* resumed publication in a new format. Numbers 1-4 of 2002 and No 5 (January-March) 2003 were brought out.

Financial assistance was provided to the following performing-arts periodicals: *Boburuppee* (Rs 25,000); *Natarang* (Rs 30,000); *Sudrak* (Rs 25,000); *Natak Budreti* (Rs 40,000); *Sayak Natyapatra* (Rs 22,000); *Journal of the Indian Musicological Society* (Rs 25,000); *Sruti* (Rs 1,00,000); and *Mukabhinaya* (Rs 10,000), *Nartanam* (Rs. 60,000).

Financial assistance was also provided to K. Rajammal 23,580/- and 19,130/- for the publication of *Kalyana Mala* and *Navavarana Keertanaigal*.

DOCUMENTATION

During the period 2002-03, 11,009 black-and-white and colour photographs, 590 colour slides, 122 Hrs. 24 Min. 30 Seconds of audio recordings and 358 hrs. 15min. 38 sec. of video recordings were added to the archives of the Akademi.

The total holdings up to March 2003 stand at 1,58,267 black and white and colour photographs, 39,843 colour slides, 6679 hours 24 min. 30 sec.

of audio recording and 4535 hrs. 15 min. 38 sec. of video recordings and approximate 1.44 lac feets of 16mm film material.

Over the years, the Akademi has built up a large archives of audio/video tapes, photographs and films on the performing arts. Since 1981, it has also added video tapes to its holdings. The material is disseminated through various means: the Public facilities of audio and video viewing, music dubbing, and film projection. Material from the Akademi's archives has been extensively used in publications, films, television - and for research on the performing arts of India. List of Audio/Video recorded during the year is at Appendix V.

MUSEUM

Since the inception of the Akademi in 1953, the Akademi has been acquiring objects and artifacts relating to performing arts. Primarily based on this collection, the Gallery of Musical Instruments was opened to the public in 1964 on the ground floor of Rabindra Bhavan. The gallery was inaugurated by renowned violin maestro Yehudi Menuhin. A major thrust in acquisition of objects was given during a exhibition of musical instruments held in Delhi in 1968. The museum now holds about 1600 objects apart from other related artefacts, out of which a representative permanent display has been made in the Gallery of Musical Instruments. The collection comprises musical instruments, masks, puppets, headgear, costumes and other artifacts related to performing arts, besides some musical instruments received as gifts from other countries. The museum caters to the needs of research, scholars, students, musicologists, musicians, etc.

LIBRARY AND AUDIO-VISUAL LIBRARY

The Akademi Library has over the years acquired a specialized collection of books on the performing arts, many of which are rare and out of print. Catering chiefly to students and researchers in the performing arts, the Library receives about a hundred Indian and foreign periodicals. The total collection now stands at 22,302 books, in addition to 679 books received by way of gifts.

The collection of the Audio-visual Library now stands at 9,722 discs and 761 pre-recorded cassettes from the archives of Akademi, 92 video-cassettes of dance, drama, music, 1602 commercial audio cassettes, 102 'audio cassettes (received in gift), 747 compact discs, and six Video Compact Discs (VCDs) of Indian music.

The membership has grown to 774 and a computer has been installed to modernize the library services in a phased manner.

PROGRESSIVE USE OF HINDI

An Official Languages Implementation Committee was constituted in the Akademi to ensure compliance of the Official Language Policy in the Akademi. The Committee met at the regular intervals to ensure compliance of the Official Language Policy.

A Hindi fortnight was celebrated from 16 to 30 September 2002. Competitions were organized for staff members and the winners were given prizes and certificates.

GRANTS TO CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

Since its inception, the Akademi has been rendering financial assistance to music, dance and theatre institutions and individuals. The Grants Committee which met on 21st and 22nd August 2002 considered 457 applications and recommended grants amounting to Rs.65.94 lakhs to 341 cultural institutions of the country (Annexure VI). Further Rs.2.50 lakhs were recommended to 11 Puppet groups (Annexure VII) for training, production and purchase of technical equipment, etc. Support to individuals for research projects continued.

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTS

The Akademi receives a grant-in-aid from the Department of Culture, Government of India, to meet the expenditure on its Plan and Non-Plan activities. The budget of the Akademi for Non-Plan activities was Rs. 410 Lakhs and for Plan Rs.600 Lakhs + 172.29 (for North East)

The consolidated statement of annual accounts comprising the Receipts and Payments Account, Income and Expenditure Account, and the 2002-2003 Balance Sheet of the Sangeet Natak Akademi and its constituent units – Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal, Kathak Kendra, New Delhi, and Rabindra Rangshala, New Delhi are at Appendix X-XX.

KATHAK KENDRA, NEW DELHI

A constituent unit of Sangeet Natak Akademi, Kathak Kendra is one of the leading dance-teaching institutions in the country. Established in 1964, it offers courses in Kathak dance as well as allied subjects like vocal music and Pakhawaj. The elementary courses are : a (part-time) five year Foundation course in dance for the age group 7-16, and a (part-time) three-year Diploma (Pass) Course for the age-group 13-22. The advanced full-time courses in dance are a Diploma (Honours) course of three years (age-group 16-24) and a two year Post-Diploma Course (age-group 19-26). There are special courses of three years each in Hindustani vocal music and in Pakhawaj-playing; there is also a refresher course of up to a year for dance teachers and for students of the Kendra who, having completed the Diploma (Honours) or Post-Diploma course, desire to teach Kathak.

Kathak Kendra has a Production Unit, which strives to enrich the repertoire and technique of Kathak through experimental work. The Kendra has on its staff teachers of eminence in various disciplines. The management of Kathak Kendra vests in the Executive Board of Sangeet Natak Akademi, which is assisted by the Advisory Committee for Kathak Kendra. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee is the Vice-Chairman of Sangeet Natak Akademi.

Academic Unit

During the year the Kendra has been carrying on its primary and regular work of training Kathak Dance students. Every year the Academic session for the students of the Kendra starts from 16th July and ends on 15th May. Students seeking admission into any course of training have to appear in the pre-admission test held during first/second week of July.

New Admission 2002-2003

Advertisement for admission at the Kendra in the

session 2002-2003 was published in different Newspapers in Delhi and outside Delhi. The Admission Committee comprising guru/teachers of the Kendra selected application for Pre-admission test/interview of the candidates. Pre-admission tests for different courses at the Kendra were held from 6th July to 9th July, 2002.

In the Academic session beginning from 16th July, 2002, 72 new trainees in various courses were admitted as indicated below:-

Courses	Students Admitted
3-Year Foundation Course	24
3-Year Diploma (Pass) Course	14
3-Year Diploma (Hons.) Course	20
2-Year Post Diploma Course	05
3-Year Diploma Course (only for foreigners)	07
1-Year Pakhawaj Playing Course	01
1-Year Tabla Playing Course	01
	<hr/> 72

Students on Roll (2002-2003)

At the beginning of the academic Session 2002-2003 the total number of students (old and new) enrolled in the Kendra were 181. The break-up of students in various courses of training is as under:-

Name of the Course	Number of Students
3-Year Foundation Course	51
2-Year Diploma(Pass) Course	47
3-Year Diploma(Hons.) Course	47
2-Year Post Diploma Course	12
Preparatory Course	09
3-Year Diploma Course(Only for foreigners)	13
1-Year Pakhawaj Playing Course	01
1-Year Tabla Playing Course	01
	<hr/> 181

During the year 25 students dropped out and 07 students did not appear in the Annual Examination. 149 students appeared in the Annual Examination 2002-2003.

Foreign Students

The Kendra has been receiving students from outside India either through Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi and others. The Foreign students enrolled in the session 2002-2003 (old and new) are as under:-

	New
South Korea	02
Uzbekistan	03
Kazakistan	03
France	01
Indonesia	01
Russia	01
	<hr/> 11 <hr/>

Scholarships

The Kendra awarded 20 scholarships to meritorious students. During the academic session 2002-2003 the scholarships were awarded to the students of Diploma (Hons.) and Post Diploma as under:-

15 Scholarships of Rs.1000/- per month each to the meritorious students of Diploma (Hons.) Course.

Course	No. of Scholarships
Diploma (Hons.) Course 1st Year	06
Diploma (Hons.) Course 2nd Year	04
Diploma (Hons.) Course 3rd Year	05
Four Scholarships of Rs.1500/- per month each to meritorious students of Post Diploma Course.	
Post Diploma Course 1st Year	03
Post Diploma Course 2nd Year	01

Freeship

Freeship was granted to 4 students of Foundation Course, 4 students of Diploma (Pass) and 3 students of Diploma(Hons.) Course.

House Rent Subsidy

In the Academic Session 2002-2003 House Rent Subsidy to nine eligible male students was

provided @ Rs.1500/- per month from 16th July, 2002 to 15th May, 2003 as per the recommendation of the Advisory Committee Meeting held on 23rd August, 2002.

Lecture Series/Special Classes

For the benefit of our students, the Kendra invites Scholars in the field of dance/literature to deliver lectures on different topics of theory as per Kendra's syllabus. This lecture series start from November, 2002 onwards.

Under the series Theory Lectures were delivered to the students by the following gurus/experts:-

1. Shri Munna Shukla (Kathak Kendra), New Delhi
2. Shri Tirath Ram Azad, New Delhi
3. Shri Brij Vallabh Misra, Bombay (Special class)
4. Shri B.S. Badrinath Rao, Bangalore(Human Movement Consultant)-Special Class
5. Shri Puru Dhadhich, Khairagarh (one week series)
6. Ms. Kavita Thakur, New Delhi
7. Smt. Uma Sharma, New Delhi (special class)

Best Students Tour 2002-2003

Kendra organised a tour of best pass-out students of the Kendra to Ustad Allaudin Khan Sangeet Academi, Bhopal, Laya Shala Lalit Kala Samiti, Indore, Koshish, Itarasi and Survani Sangeet Art & Performing Art, Hoshangabad from 9th December to 13th December, 2002. This tour presented various stage performances under the supervision of Smt. Malti Shyam, Kathak Prashikshak. The students participated in these programmes are Shailja Bisht, Shafali Pawar, Archana Singh, Mansi Dabral, Pooja Thakur and Namrata Pamnani.

Half Yearly Examination 2002-2003

The Half-yearly Examination for the Academic Session 2002-2003 for the Academic Session 2002-2003 were held from 23rd December to 27th December, 2002 for the final year of the following courses:-

2-Year Post Diploma Course	05
3-Year Diploma(Hons.) Course(with allied subjects)	04
2-Year Diploma(Pass) Course	30
3-Year Foundation Course	12
students appeared	<u>58</u>

Annual Examination 2002-2003 (1st to 14th May, 2003)

The Annual Examination for the Academic Session 2002-2003 were held from 1st to 14th May, 2003. The following external examiners were called for conducting examinations of various dance courses and allied subjects.

Foundation and Diploma (Pass) Courses

1. Smt. Bharati Gupta, Agra
2. Ms. Perna Shrimali, Delhi
3. Shri Tirath Ram Azad, Delhi

Diploma (Hons.) and Post Diploma Courses/ Diploma Course

1. Smt. Maya Rao Natarajan, Bangalore
2. Ms. Manjushree Chatterjee, Delhi
3. Shri Puru Dhadhich, Khairagarh (M.P)

Tabla/Pakhawaj (Allied subjects)

1. Shri Bhagwat Upreti, Delhi
2. Shri Sheetal Pd. Misra, Lucknow

Vocal (Allied subject)

1. Smt. Hema Aziz
2. Pt. Jagdish Mohan, Delhi

Yoga

1. Ms. Nisha Mahajan
2. Sh. Mahinder Srivastava, Delhi

Preparatory Phase (Kendra's Guru)

1. Shri Munna Shukla
2. Smt. Urmila Nagar
3. Shri Rajendra Kumar Gangani
4. Smt. Geetanjali Lali
5. Shri Krishan Mohan Misra
6. Shri Jai Kishan Maharaj

Theory Question papers were set and examined by Shri Puru Dhadhich, Khairagarh for Post Diploma and Diploma(Hons.) Courses final year.

Result 2003

Total 149 students appeared in the Annual Exams 2002-2003. Number of students declared successful under various courses of training were:-

Courses	No. of Students		
	Appeared	Passed	Failed
3-Year Foundation Course	40	37	03
2-Year Diploma (Pass) Course	38	33	05
3-Year Diploma (Hons.) Course	48	48	-
2-Year Post Diploma Course	10	10	-
3-Year Diploma Course (for foreigners)	07	06	01
Preparatory Phase	06	05	01
	<u>149</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>10</u>

Stage Performance Test (2002-2003)

As part of the annual examination for the academic session 2002-2003 'Stage Performance Test' was held at the auditorium of Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi from 6th to 9th May, 2003 in which 16 students of the final year of advance courses appeared. The programme presented at this festival is a method of evaluating the competence of Kendra's students of Final Year of Diploma (Pass) Diploma (Hons.) and Post Diploma Courses before the panel of external examiners.

Study Tour

Kendra planned study tour for advance course students to JNMDA Imphal in the month of February, 2003 which could not be materialized as JNMDA were busy in their festival activities during that period.

Summer Vacation 2003

The teaching faculty of the Kendra closed for summer vacations w.e.f. 16th May to 30th June, 2003.

Dikshant Samaroh 2003

Since last two years the students who have completed their training and passed the Foundation, Diploma(Pass), Diploma (Hons.) and Post Diploma Courses. From Kathak Kendra are being given Certificates/Diplomas at the Dikshant Samaroh.

This year a well-known Educationist and Scholar Dr. Arun Nigavekar, Chairman, UGC awarded the Diplomas to Final year (pass-out) (5 students of Post Diploma and 11 student of Diploma(hons.) of the Kendra in the year 2002-2003 in a formal ceremony held on 31st August, 2003 at Kamani Auditorium. Sh. Shyamanand Jalan, Chairman, Kathak Kendra was also present on this occasion. The Dikshant Ceremony, was followed by the solo Dance performances by some of the pass out senior students of the Kendra.

Programme Section

The objective of the Kendra is to promote the style through innovative and promotional activities. It has repertory company, which is consistently doing innovative and experimental work in Kathak dance. The wing of repertory performs in and outside the country for exposing the classical Kathak style to large audience.

Kendra organises each year some of the festivals as regular programmes. Following were held during the year 2002-2003.

Kathak Kendra Utsav : (5&6 September 2002)

A festival of Kathak 'Kathak Kendra Utsav' was held on 5th and 6th September 2002 presenting the choreographic works of the Gurus of Kendra and their disciples. Kendra's ex-students also participated in this Utsav.

The Programmes follows:

Thursday, 5th September 2002

Duet : Proteeti Bhattacharjee & Sangita Chatterjee

Duet : Moumala Nayak & Hemanta Kalita

Solo : Gauri Diwakar

'Tarana' : Choreographer : Guru Urmila Nagar

Dancers : Pooja Agarwal, Archana Singh, Shailja Nalwade, Pallavi Sharma, Namrata, Arpita

'Panchmukhi' : Choreographer : Guru Rajendra Gangani

Dancers : Hemant Pawar, Rohit Lal, Mahendra Parihar, Sadanand Biswas, Mullah Afsar, Rahul Gangani

Friday, 6th September 2002

'Angmukhti' : Choreographer : Guru Munna Shukla

Dancers : Kavita Thakur, Diksha Upreti, Divya Upreti, Nehi Kaul, Deepti Gupta

'Saheli' : Choreographer : Guru Geetanjali Lal

Dancers : Rashmi Uppal, Swati Sinha

'Bayeria' : Choreographer : Guru Urmila Nagar

Dancers : Pooja Agarwal, Pallavi Sharma, Archana Singh, Shailja, Arpita

'Gati' : Choreographer : Guru Krishan Mohan Misra

Dancers : Hemanta Kalita, Shalini Anand, Mansi Dabral, Meenakshi Arya, Jaya Priyadarshini, Biltu Sarkar

Solo : Abhay Shankar Misra

'Kramashah' : Choreographer : Guru Jai Kishan Maharaj

Dancers : Deepak Maharaj, Raghav Sah, Sujata Lahiri, Gauri Diwakar, Pooja Agarwal

Kathak Ekal Utsav (25-27 October 2002)

The Kathak Ekal Utsav which is organised every year during the month of October-November features emerging talents in Kathak Dance with a view to bring the work and contribution of practitioner of Kathak Teachers, Senior Artistes including young dancers.

This year Kathak Kendra presented this festival in memory of late Acharya Sukhdev Maharaj, a doyen of Kathak of Banaras Gharana from 25th to 27th October 2002 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi.

Gurus and invited experts participated in the Seminar in the morning session which was held at Kathak Hall, Kathak Kendra, Bahawalpur House, Bhagwandas Road, New Delhi from 26th to 28th October 2002. Dr Kapila Vatsyayan, Dr Vidya Niwas Mishra, Shri Kamlesh Dutt Tripathi, Shri Ashok Vajpeyi and Shri Prayag Shukla scholars spoke on different subjects like Nritya, Sahitya avam Vartman Samaj'.

Workshop on subjects like Nritya & Costume, Make-up, light & sound was also organised for the

students of the Kendra. Smt Shobha Deepak Singh (Costume), Shri Naresh Khare (Make-up), Shri Gautam Bhattacharya (light) and Shri Kajal Ghosh (sound) were invited to conduct these workshops.

On 28th October 2002 Smt Sitara Devi had intimate dialogue with the participants, gurus, invited guests and students of the Kendra.

Ms Prerana Shrimali was Co-ordinator of the festival.

Programme

Friday, 25th October

Alpana Vajpeyi (Bhopal)

Souvik Chakraborty (Kolkata)

Yogini Gandhi (Pune)

Saturday, 26th October

Mukta Joshi (Mumbai)

Madhukar Anand (Dehradun)

Manisha Abhay (Pune)

Salomi Shah (Ahmedabad)

Sunday, 27th October

Shila Mehta (Mumbai)

Sandeep K Mahavir (Mumbai)

Sitara Devi & Disciples (Mumbai)

Performance and Other Activities During The Year 2002-2003.

17-24 August 2002 : Workshop conducted by Smt. Geetanjali Lal alongwith Kendra's student Km. Pooja Thakur at Sikar, Rajasthan organised by Modi Institute of Education and Research, Lakshmangarh.

26 September 2002 : On the occasion of International Tourism Day, Kathak Kendra presented a group item choreographed by Guru Geetanjali Lal at Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi.

28th September 2002 : Jaipur Kathak Kendra and Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur organised a programme on 28 September 2002. Troupe consisting of Kendra's students performed there under the supervision of Shri Rajendra Gangani.

13 October 2002 : The item 'Taal-Tatkar' , choreographed by Shri Jai Kishan Maharaj was presented at Kamani Auditorium featuring Kathak students sponsored by ICCR.

Mexico Tour From 8-18 October, 2002.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations sponsored a 10 member Kathak Group from Kathak Kendra to Cervantino International Festival at Mexico from 8-18 October, 2002. Shri Jai Kishan Maharaj presented choreographic items at Mexico. Deepak Maharaj, Raghav Sah, Praveen Gangani, Sujata Lahiri, Gauri Kumari and Pooja Srivastava Kathak Kendra's ex-students participated in this festival

Kathak Mahotsava, 2003

Five day long annual festival of the Kendra 'Kathak Mahotsav this year named as Lachhu Maharaj Kathak Mahotsav was held from 10-14 January 2003 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi. In this choreographic festival 14 upcoming choreographer groups from all over the country and abroad were invited to present their work. The programme on each day ended with solo performances of a well known senior Kathak dancer. Two items by the Gurus of the Kendra were also presented. Seminar series in the mornings from 11-14 January was also held at Hall of Sahitya Akademi in which eminent dancers/ scholars participated. The topics of Seminar were 'Understanding the art of Lachhu Maharaj', 'Choreography in Cinema with a Focus on Lachhu Maharaj's Contribution' ' The founts of Choreography in the Ancient Treatises', and 'The Symbiotic Relation between Dance and Music in Choreography'. On experimental basis four guest choreographers from other dance forms namely Smt. Madhavi Mudgal, Pt. Narendra Sharma, Ms. Leela Samson and Dr. Ileana Citaristi were invited to produce a choreographic work with the Kathak students in the afternoons of 11-14 January 2003 and that item was presented on stage in the same evening.

JAWHARLAL NEHRU MANIPUR DANCE ACADEMY, IMPHAL

The Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, a constituent Unit of Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, is the premier institution for teaching of Manipuri dance and music, and allied subjects like Thang-Ta, etc. Established in 1954, it offers comprehensive courses on the above subjects. The institution has on its staff teachers of eminence and a Production Unit with a large repertoire of dance-dramas. The management of the Academy is vested in the Executive Board of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, which is assisted by a local Advisory Committee (chaired by the Governor of Manipur) which is responsible for maintenance of standards of the Academy and formulation of its programmes and schemes. A Brief report of the programmes held during 2002-03 follows:

Foundation Day

The 48th Foundation day of the JNMDA was observed on 1 April 2002. The Governor of Manipur, Shri Ved Marwah, was the Chief Guest, and the Vice Chairman of JNMDA, Shri Ratan Thiyam was the president at the function held at the Academy's auditorium. Four Gold medalists for the year 2001 presented solo items in Manipuri dance and Nata Sankirtana. The students of the Academy also presented various programmes of traditional Manipuri Dance and Music on the occasion

Festival of Dance and Music

The Academy organized its annual festival of dance and music, from 17 to 20 April 2002, in the open air auditorium of the Academy. The Governor of Manipur, Shri Ved Marwah, inaugurated the festival. The noted Manipuri scholar, Padmashri R.K.Singhajit Singh, presided over the function. Kiran Segal (Odissi), Geetanjali and Abhimanyu Lal (Kathak), Priyadarshini Govind (Bharatanatyam) and artistes of Uttar Kamalabari

Satra (Sattriya), performed in the festival. Other performers were Mayurbhanj Chhau dancers from Baripada (Orissa), Rashid Khan (Hindustani vocal), Ronu Majumdar (Hindustani flute) and Manganiyar and Langa musicians from Rajasthan. Local Manipuri exponents like Shrimati R.K.Jayantisana Devi and Shrimati A. Binakumari Devi, presented solo Manipuri items, Ariba-pala, led by Shri Gourmani Singh, and a group performance by female artistes led by the well-known Ch. Chandrajini Devi were also featured. Chakesang folk singers of Nagaland too performed at the festival.

Festival of Young Artistes

A three-day festival of young artistes was held from 18 to 20 April 2002, at the Academy's auditorium. Shri Ratan Thiyam, the Vice Chairman of JNMDA, inaugurated the event. Shri Jayantikumar Sharma, well-known Manipuri Lyricist, and Dr. Sunil Kothari, dance critic, were the president, and guest of honour, respectively, on the occasion.

The students of JNMDA presented a composition from the Geeta Govinda, choreographed by Pradhan Guru, Shri S.Thanil Singh, on the inaugural day. Shri Bigyaneshwor Singh, an artiste from Manipuri Jagoi Marup, performed Mangala Charan, Dasa Avatar and Gouranga Nartan during the festival. Shri G. Loken Sharma presented solo items on Meitei Pung. On the second day, Rajkumari Muktasana Devi, a dancer from Performing Artistes Centre. Presented Gouranga Bhabhi; Kumari O. Sunita Devi of the Performing Artistes Laboratory performed Krishna Roop, and Shri I. Brajakumar Singh presented a recital on Hindustani flute. Kumari I. Priyolata Devi of Shree Shree Govindaji Nartanalaya, Government Dance College, performed Noneechor, Krishna Nartan and Ukantha, Kumari A Radhamanbi, a former student of the JNMDA, presented Krishna Roop. Kumari N. Sunita Devi performed a Hindustani

vocal item, on the last day of the festival.

Lai-haraoba Festival 2002

A seven day Lai-Haraoba Festival of Lord Ibudhou Chakhad, was held in the Academy from 13 to 19 May 2002. Eminent gurus, artistes, office staff and students participated in the festival. The Festival is a regular feature in the activities of the Academy.

Sponsored Programmes

The students of the Academy presented martial arts and Vasantha Ras in honour of Shrimati V.S. Rama Devi, Governor of Karnataka, on 17 May 2002, in the Academy's auditorium. Shri Ved Marwah, Governor of Manipur, the chief minister of Manipur and the Art & Culture Minister of Manipur were present on the occasion.

Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Scotland 24 July to 24 August 2002

A 20-member troupe led by Director, JNMDA, participated in the Edinburgh Tatoo and Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Scotland from 24 July to 24 August 2002. The group presented Dhol, Pung Cholom and martial arts. The group also performed at Dundee and Aberdeen before Indian audiences. The tour was sponsored by ICCR and the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

Training for Senior Students

Smt. K. Bino Devi, Shri P. Dhanajit Singh and Shri K. Thoiba visited Kalakshetra between 11 and 26 August 2002 to teach senior students the folk dances of Manipur.

Meghdoot

A latest production 'Meghdoot' was presented by the artistes of the Academy on 2 July 2002 in honour of Review Committee members of the North East Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur.

Patriot Day

Students of the Academy observed Patriots Day –

13 August 2002 at Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy Auditorium,. Guru Puja was observed on 5 September 2002 followed by a colourful programme.

Festival of Traditional Manipuri Dance and Music

1. A programme of traditional Manipuri dance and music was presented by the students of the Academy on 5 October 2002 at Raj Bhavan in honour of His Excellency. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India on his maiden visit to Manipur.
2. A 28-member troupe led by Shri S. Thanil Singh, Pradhan Guru and Shri Th. Chaotombi Singh, Production Unit in-charge, took part in the Konark Festival organized by the Odissi Research Centre, Bhubaneswar from 1 to 5 December 2002. The group presented a programme of Traditional Manipuri dance and music on 4 December and Meghdoot(dance-drama) on 5 December 2002.

Festival of Manipur

A 4-member troupe of the academy performed Nata Sankirtana and Maharas at the Festival of Manipur at Swabhum, Kolkata on 17 January 2003. Organized by the Government of Manipur in collaboration with the East Zone Cultural Centre, Kolkata, the festival was inaugurated by Shri Ved Marwah, governor of Manipur and Shri Shyamal Dutta, governor of Nagaland, on 15 January 2003. The festival continued at different venues in Kolkata till 19 January 2003.

Another group of 20 artists performed a dance-drama, Wainu Pareng, on 17 January at Swabhum and on 19 January at Gorky Sadan, Kolkata

Homage to Rajarshi Bhagyachandra, Murshidabad, West Bengal

The shrine of Lord Govindajee in Murhidabad, West Bengal, is associated with Rajarshi Bhagyachandra, the great composer of Manipur