

# Sangeet Natak Akademi

February 9, 2021

## Origin

- The Sangeet Natak Akademi – India’s national academy for music, dance and drama – is the first National Academy of the arts set-up by the Republic of India.
- It was created by a resolution of the (then) Ministry of Education, Government of India, dated 31 May 1952 notified in the Gazette of India of June 1952.
- The first President of India, Dr Rajendra Prasad, inaugurated it on 28 January 1953 in a special function held in the Parliament House.
- The Akademi’s charter of functions was expanded along the original lines in 1961, when the Sangeet Natak Akademi was reconstituted by the Government as a society and registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 (as amended in 1957).
- These functions are set down in the Akademi’s Memorandum of Association, adopted at its registration as a society on 11 September 1961.
- The Sangeet Natak Akademi is presently an Autonomous Body of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and is fully funded by the Government for implementation of its schemes and programmes.

## Functions and Powers

The Sangeet Natak Akademi is an Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Culture. It acts at the national level for the:

- promotion and growth of Indian music, dance and drama;
- maintenance of standards of training in the performing arts;
- revival, preservation, documentation and dissemination of materials as well as instruments relating to various forms of music, dance and drama

- recognition of outstanding artists

## **Aims and Objectives**

- To co-ordinate the activities of regional or State Academies of music, dance and drama.
- To promote research in the fields of Indian music, dance and drama and for this purpose, to establish a library and museum, etc.
- To co-operate with such similar Academies as there may be and other institutions and associations for the furtherance of its objects and for the enrichment of Indian culture as a whole.
- To encourage the exchange of ideas and enrichment of techniques between the different regions in regard to the arts of music, dance and drama.
- To encourage the establishment of theatre centres, on the basis of regional languages, and co-operation among different theatre centers.
- To encourage the setting up of institutions providing training in the art of theatre, including instructions in actor's training, study of stage-craft and production of plays.
- To encourage and assist production of new plays by awarding prizes and distinctions.
- To publish literature on Indian music, dance and drama including reference works such as an illustrated dictionary or handbook of technical terms.
- To give recognition to and otherwise assist meritorious, theatrical organizations.
- To encourage the development of amateur dramatic activity, children's theatre, the open-air theatre and the rural theatre in its various forms.
- To revive and preserve folk music, folk dance and folk drama in different regions of the country and to encourage the development of community music, martial music and other types of music.

- To sponsor music, dance and drama festivals, seminars, conferences on an all-India basis and to encourage such regional festivals.
- To award prizes and distinctions and to give recognition to individual artistes for outstanding achievement in the fields of music, dance and drama.
- To take suitable steps for the maintenance of proper and adequate standards of education in music, dance and drama and with that object to organize research in the teaching of the said subjects.
- To foster cultural contacts between the different regions of the country and also with other countries in the fields of music, dance and drama.