

**Sangeet Natak Akademi  
National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama  
New Delhi**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**15 December 2011**

**DECLARATION OF SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI FELLOWSHIPS (AKADEMI RATNA) AND  
AKADEMI AWARDS (AKADEMI PURASKAR)  
FOR THE YEAR 2011**

The General Council of Sangeet Natak Akademi, the National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama, New Delhi at its meeting held on 13-14 December 2011 elected eleven (11) eminent personalities in the field of performing arts, namely Mukund Lath, Hariprasad Chaurasia, Shivkumar Sharma, Amjad Ali Khan, Umayalapuram Sivaraman, M Chandrasekharan, R K Singhajit Singh, Kalamandalam Gopi, Padma Subrahmanyam, Chandrasekhar Kambarand Heisnam Kanhailal as Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellows (Akademi Ratna). The Fellowship of the Akademi is the most prestigious and rare honour, which is restricted to a very limited number at a given time. Presently there are only 40 Fellows of the Sangeet Natak Akademi.

The General Council of the Akademi also selected thirty six (36) persons from the fields of Music, Dance, Theatre and Puppetry for the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puraskar) for the year 2011.

In the field of Music, nine eminent artists, namely Shruti Sadolikar Katkar and M Venkatesh Kumar for Hindustani Vocal Music, Totaram Sharma (Pakhawaj) and Pushparaj Koshti (Surbahar) for Hindustani Instrumental Music, J Venkataraman for Carnatic Vocal Music, E M Subramaniam (Ghatam), Ayyagari Syamasundaram (Veena) and Seshampatti T Sivalingam (Nagaswaram) for Carnatic Instrumental Music, and Gopal Chandra Panda (Odissi Music) for Other Major Traditions of Music have been selected for the Akademi Award 2011.

In the field of Dance, nine eminent practitioners, namely Narthaki Natraj (Bharatanatyam), Manjushree Chatterjee (Kathak), Thonnakkal Peethambaram (Kathakali), Priti Patel (Manipuri), Alekhya Punjala (Kuchipudi), Ramli Ibrahim (Odissi), V K Mymavathy (Mohiniattam), Tanusree Shankar (Creative & Experimental Dance) and Karaikudi Krishnamurthi (Music for Dance) have been selected for the Akademi Award 2011.

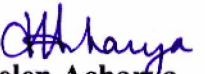
**In the field of Theatre, eight eminent persons have been selected for Akademi Awards 2011. They include Alakhnandan and Kirti Jain for Direction, Amitabh Shrivastav, Vikram Gokhale, Neena Tiwana and A R Srinivasan for Acting, R Nageswara Rao (Babji) for Major Traditions of Theatre – Company Theatre, Andhra Pradesh and Kamal Jain for Allied Theatre Arts (Lighting).**

**For their contribution to Other Traditional/Folk/ Tribal Music/ Dance/ Theatre and Puppetry, eight artists have been selected for the Akademi Award. They are Trippekulam Achuta Marar for Traditional Music (Kerala), Hemant Chauhan for Folk Music (Gujarat), Gurmeet Bawa for Folk Music (Punjab), Kashiram Sahu for Folk Theatre (Chhatisgarh), Mipham Otsal for Traditional Theatre (Jammu & Kashmir), Bellagallu Veeranna for Togalu Gombeyatta, Puppetry (Karnataka), Gopal Chandra Das for Putul Nach (Tripura) and Kasmi Khan Niyazi for Making of musical Instrument (Delhi).**

**Sundari Sridharani and Shrivats Goswami will receive the Akademi Award 2011 for Overall Contribution/Scholarship to Performing Arts .**

**The honour of Akademi Fellow has been conferred since 1954 and Akademi Award since 1952. They not only symbolize the highest standard of excellence and achievements on a national basis, but also recognize sustained individual work and contribution to the practice and appreciation of the arts through performance, teaching and scholarship. The honour of Akademi Fellow carries a purse money of Rs 3,00,000/- (Rupees three lacs) and Akademi Awards carry Rs 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lac), besides Tamrapatra and Angavastram.**

**The list of Akademi Fellows and Akademi Awardees for the year 2011 is enclosed.**

  
**Helen Acharya**  
**Acting Secretary**  
**Sangeet Natak Akademi**

**SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI  
NEW DELHI**

**SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI FELLOWSHIPS AND AKADEMI AWARDS 2011**

**AKADEMI FELLOW (RATNA)**

SHRI MUKUND LATH  
SHRI HARIPRASAD CHAURASIA  
SHRI SHIVKUMAR SHARMA  
SHRI AMJAD ALI KHAN  
SHRI UMAYALPURAM SIVARAMAN  
SHRI M CHANDRASEKHARAN  
SHRI R K SINGHAJIT SINGH  
SHRI KALAMANDALAM GOPI  
SMT PADMA SUBRAHMANYAM  
SHRI CHANDRASEKHAR KAMBAR  
SHRI HEISNAM KANHAILAL

**AKADEMI AWARDS (PURASKAR) FOR THE YEAR 2011**

**FIELD OF ACTIVITY – MUSIC**

- |    |                               |                                                   |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | SMT SHRUTI SADOLIKAR KATKAR   | HINDUSTANI VOCAL                                  |
| 2. | SHRI M VENKATESH KUMAR        | HINDUSTANI VOCAL                                  |
| 3. | SHRI TOTARAM SHARMA           | HINDUSTANI INSTRUMENTAL (PAKHAWAJ)                |
| 4. | SHRI PUSHPARAJ KOSHTI         | HINDUSTANI INSTRUMENTAL (SURBAHAR)                |
| 5. | SHRI J VENKATARAMAN           | CARNATIC VOCAL                                    |
| 6. | SHRI E M SUBRAMANIAM          | CARNATIC INSTRUMENTAL (GHATAM)                    |
| 7. | SHRI AYYAGARI SYAMASUNDARAM   | CARNATIC INSTRUMENTAL(VIENA)                      |
| 8. | SHRI SESHAMPATTI T SIVALINGAM | CARNATIC INSTRUMENTAL (NAGASWARAM)                |
| 9. | SHRI GOPAL CHANDRA PANDA      | OTHER MAJOR TRADITIONS OF MUSIC -<br>ODISSI MUSIC |

**FIELD OF ACTIVITY - DANCE**

- |    |                              |                               |
|----|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | SMT NARTHAKI NATRAJ          | BHARATANATYAM                 |
| 2. | SMT MANJUSHREE CHATTERJEE    | KATHAK                        |
| 3. | SHRI THONNAKKAL PEETHAMBARAM | KATHAKALI                     |
| 4. | SMT PRITI PATEL              | MANIPURI                      |
| 5. | SMT ALEKHYA PUNJALA          | KUCHIPUDI                     |
| 6. | SHRI RAMLI IBRAHIM           | ODISSI                        |
| 7. | SMT V K HYMAVATHY            | MOHINIATTAM                   |
| 8. | SMT TANUSREE SHANKAR         | CREATIVE & EXPERIMENTAL DANCE |
| 9. | SHRI KARAIKUDI KRISHNAMURTHI | MUSIC FOR DANCE- KATHAKALI    |

**FIELD OF ACTIVITY - THEATRE**

- |    |                              |                                                                  |
|----|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | SHRI ALAKHNANDAN             | DIRECTION                                                        |
| 2. | SMT KIRTI JAIN               | DIRECTION                                                        |
| 3. | SHRI AMITABH SHRIVASTAV      | ACTING                                                           |
| 4. | SHRI VIKRAM GOKHALE          | ACTING                                                           |
| 5. | SMT NEENA TIWANA             | ACTING                                                           |
| 6. | SHRI A R SRINIVASAN          | ACTING                                                           |
| 7. | SHRI R NAGESWARA RAO (BABJI) | MAJOR TRADITIONS OF THEATRE –<br>COMPANY THEATRE, ANDHRA PRADESH |
| 8. | SHRI KAMAL JAIN              | ALLIED THEATRE ARTS (LIGHTING)                                   |

**FIELD OF ACTIVITY – TRADITIONAL/FOLK/TRIBAL DANCE/MUSIC/THEATRE AND PUPPETRY**

- |                                  |                                         |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. SHRI TRIPPEKULAM ACHUTA MARAR | TRADITIONAL MUSIC (KERALA)              |
| 2. SHRI HEMANT CHAUHAN           | FOLK MUSIC (GUJARAT)                    |
| 3. SMT GURMEET BAWA              | FOLK MUSIC (PUNJAB)                     |
| 4. SHRI KASHIRAM SAHU            | FOLK THEATRE (CHHATTISGARH)             |
| 5. SHRI MIPHAM OTSAL             | TRADITIONAL THEATRE (JAMMU & KASHMIR)   |
| 6. SHRI BELLAGALLU VEERANNA      | TOGALU GOMBAYATTA, PUPPETRY (KARNATAKA) |
| 7. SHRI GOPAL CHANDRA DAS        | PUTUL NACH (TRIPURA)                    |
| 8. SHRI KASMI KHAN NIYAZI        | MAKING OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENT (DELHI)    |

**FIELD OF ACTIVITY – OVERALL CONTRIBUTION/SCHOLARSHIP IN PERFORMING ARTS**

1. SMT SUNDARI SRIDHARANI
2. SHRI SHRIVATS GOSWAMI