

## **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam to present Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards**

*The Sangeet natak Akademi Awards for the year 2005 will be presented by the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at a special ceremony on 20th March, 2006 at vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.*

New Delhi, Delhi, March 18, 2006 /[India PRwire](#)/ -- The Sangeet natak Akademi Awards for the year 2005 will be presented by the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at a special ceremony on 20th March, 2006 at vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

The Akademi Awards is the most coveted honour conferred on the practicing artistes and scholars in the field of the performing arts. Past recipients of the Akademi Awards including eminent personalities such as Allauddin Khan, Hafiz Ali Khan, Ariyakudi Ramanuja Iyengar, Omkar Nath Thakur, t. Balasaraswati, Rukmini Devi Arundale, Kelucharan Mohapatra, Sachin Dev Burman, Satyajit Roy, Shombhu Mitra, P.L. Deshpande, C.C. Mehta, Mohan Rakesh, B.V. Karanth to name a few. The Awards are decided by Akademi's General Council, the apex body consisting of specialists in different fields of performing arts and representatives from different States and Union Territories of the country. The Akademi Awards carry Rs. 50,000/- in cash, a Tamrapatra and a Shawl.

The Government of India established the Sangeet Natak Akademi on 31st May, 1952 as the National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama. It was created as the apex body in the country for the task of promotion and preservation of the performing arts of the country. One of the important achievements of the Akademi is to give recognition and honours to artists for setting standard of excellence in performing arts and restoring the art and artists to their rightful place in the country.

The institution of the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards is now fifty-four years old and the large body of practitioners, gurus and scholars in the performing arts honoured by the Akademi represents the nation's highest achievement in music, dance and drama.

### **Notes to Editor**

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