

Sir,

I have the honour to present to you Shri Uday Shankar, who is the recipient of the Akademi Award ~~for~~ ^{as} creative artist of Indian dancing for the year 1959-~~60~~.

Shri Uday Shankar was born in Udaipur. From his very childhood he got opportunities to witness the performances of ~~the~~ well-known dancers in the Court of Jhalawar, and naturally he was drawn towards dancing. His father sent him to England to take training in plastic art. He, however, left the painting class under the ^epersuasion of Anna Pavlova and adopted dancing as his career. His talents as a dancer and a choreographer blossomed forth in Pavlova's troupe. Coming back to India he formed his own troupe and toured various parts of the world several times as Cultural Ambassador of our country.

In 1939 he started the renowned Culture Centre at Almora, the first of its kind in India, where a whole generation of modern dancers was trained up.

His pioneering efforts in presentation of ballets, both ~~in~~ ^{live} ~~and~~ shadow, have earned him great fame in the art world.

For his pre-eminence in creative dance-art, and devotion and service to the cause, I pray, Sir, that you may be pleased to grant him recognition as Creative Dancer of the Year, and to award to him a brocade *Angavastram*, a gold *Mala* and a *Sanad* in token of that recognition.