

Sir,

I have the honour to present to you Shri Thekinkattil Ramunni Nair, who is the recipient of the Akademi Award for *Kathakali* Dance.

Shri Ramunni Nair was born in August 1888 at Tachanathekara, a village in Malabar. Since his very childhood he had the rare opportunity of learning the art of *Kathakali* dance from no less a veteran than the late Guru Pattikkamthody Ravunni Menon.

Shri Ramunni Nair has distinguished himself both in the female and male roles and some of his portrayals have been memorable. His widespread fame as a *Kathakali* actor and dancer is well deserved.

He has also trained up several talented artists some of whom have distinguished themselves. He has published a book on the art of Acting and *Kathakali*.

For his pre-eminence in *Kathakali* Dance and for his life-long devotion and service to its cause, I pray, Sir, that you may be pleased to grant him recognition as *Kathakali* Dancer of the Year, and award to him a brocade *Angavastram*, a gold *Mala* and a *Sanad* in token of that recognition.