



SUGUNA VARADACHARI
Akademi Award: Carnatic Vocal Music

Born on 20 December 1945 in Darapuram, Tamil Nadu, Shrimati Suguna Varadachari received her training in Carnatic music from P.K. Rajagopala Iyer, Musuri Subramaniya Iyer, and K.S. Krishnamurti. Together with vocal music, Shrimati Suguna Varadachari acquired proficiency in playing the Veena.

Over the years, Shrimati Suguna Varadachari has won recognition as a distinguished Carnatic vocalist. She has been on the faculty of the University of Madras from 1984 to 2004, and has been associated with many prestigious institutions as a member such as Board Member of the Central University of Performing Arts, Chennai; and the Expert Committee Member of the Music Academy, Chennai. She has attended many national and international seminars, and has presented many lecture-demonstrations on music. A top-grade artist of All India Radio, Chennai, she has performed widely in many prestigious festivals in India and abroad, and has many recordings to her credit, such as *Melodies of Musiri, Adarsha, Sri Venkatesha, Compositions of Shri MM Dandapani Desikar*. The Disciples Forum has documented her in an Audio-Visual documentary.

Shrimati Suguna Varadachari is the recipient of several honours for her work, including the Sangita Kalajyoti by Suswaraa (2007); the Acharya Ratnakara at the Cleveland Tyagaraja Festival (2011); the Sangita Kalacharya by Music Academy, Chennai (2011); and the Sangeet Pracharya by Shanmukhananda Fine Arts, Mumbai (2014).

Shrimati Suguna Varadachari receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Carnatic vocal music.