



VARADARAO KAMALAKAR RAO
Akademi Award: Carnatic Instrumental Music (Mridangam)

Born in 1937 in Rajamundry, Andhra Pradesh, Shri Varadarao Kamalakar Rao received his training in Mridangam from V. Y. Narayana Sastry, Yella Somanna and Palghat Mani Iyer.

V. Kamalakar Rao has distinguished himself for his chaste style and mastery over rhythm. He has performed widely over a long career. He has participated in numerous international music events in India and other countries, accompanying eminent musicians including Lalgudi Jayaraman, L. Subramanyam, and Chitti Babu. He has also played the Mridangam as a soloist. He has a large number of published recordings with renowned Carnatic vocalists and instrumentalists. For his service in the field, he has been honoured by various institutions.

Shri V. Kamalakar Rao receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Carnatic instrumental music.



Akademi Awards 1999 – 2000