

# DOON UNIVERSITY

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*Dr Rakesh Bhatt felicitated on receiving Sangeet Natak Akademi Award*

### Contribution of Dr Rakesh Bhatt to preservation of folk art is extraordinary: Prof Surekha Dangwal

**By OUR STAFF REPORTER DEHRADUN, Feb 28:** Doon University Vice-Chancellor Professor Surekha Dangwal today felicitated Dr Rakesh Bhatt of the Centre for Uttarakhand Languages, Folk Performing Arts and Culture on his selection for the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Award this year.

Congratulating Dr Bhatt at a ceremony organised by faculty members of the university, Professor Dangwal said that Dr Rakesh Bhatt has been working for the last several decades on preserving and advancing the



cultural heritage of Uttarakhand through theatre, folk music, folk art and folk songs.

"Dr Bhatt's contribution to promoting folk performing arts, languages and culture and disseminating the same among the public at large has been immense. Doon University's Centre for Uttarakhand Languages, Folk Performing Arts and Culture has benefitted tremendously from his untiring efforts and sheer dedication," Prof Dangwal added.

Stating that this prestigious recognition is also an honour and tribute to the university's fledgling Centre for Uttarakhand Languages, Folk Performing Arts and Culture, Dr Dangwal said

that, under the guidance of Dr Bhatt, the university is undertaking academic courses for the advancement of knowledge in Uttarakhand languages, literature, culture and society in their diverse perspectives as part of the global efforts to preserve, protect and advance vulnerable languages and cultures in all their hues.

On this occasion, Dr Bhatt said that the honour bestowed upon him is for every folk artist of Uttarakhand and every member of Doon University. "Following this award, our centre at the university reaffirms its commitment towards further advancing local culture, languages, and all art forms of

Uttarakhand."

On this occasion, Dean, Student Welfare, Professor HC Purohit, Professor Harsh Dobhal, Dr Ajeet Panwar, Dr Manvendra Bartwal, Deputy Registrar Narendra Lal, Assistant Engineer Shubham Nautiyal, administrative staff Abhinav Joshi and other faculty and staff members were also present.

The Sangeet Natak Akademi Award is a prestigious national award given by the Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's National Academy of Music, Dance & Drama. It is the highest Indian recognition given to people in the field of performing arts.