

Music in memory

INSTRUMENTAL Suryadeepti impressed the audience with a rare jalatarangini concert.

A music programme, 'Smruti Sameeram' was organised recently to pay tribute to Krishna Kumari, a classical and light-classical musician. The programme was organised by her husband Parvateesam.

The 'Smruti Sameeram' featured Mangalampalli Surya-deepti in a skilful play of Jalatarangini. Suryadeepti is a renowned violinist and had on this occasion asked his colleague in AIR, Dwaram Satyanarayana Rao to support him on violin. Peravalli Jaya Bhaskar on mridangam and Ghanatasala Satyasai on morsing and flautist V. Nagaraju formed the rich ensemble.

He opened the concert with *Vatapi* in Hamsadhvani with extensive swarakalpana. *Sitapate* in Khamas with ragalpana was a neat execution. *Bantureeti Koluveeyavayya* in Hamsanadam was his main number that pre-



Mangalampalli Suryadeepti

ceded with raga expansion and then kriti play with neravu and swarakalpana. Neravu was done at the line *Rama Naamame Varkhadgamu*. The combined effect of flute and violin in the swarakalpana part was well received. The tani aavartanam between mridangam and kanjeera was a treat. Suryadeepti then played a couple of Annama-charya kirtanas - *Kondalalo Nelakonna* in Hindolam and *Adigo*

Alladivo in Madhyamavati.

Later, explaining why this instrument is slowly disappearing from the field, Suryadeepti says you cannot get gamakas like you get in veena and violin. It is more like harmonium. T.N. Seshagopalan had advised him to beat the cup producing a certain note and then stir the water in the cup. The result may not be as perfect as produced on violin and veena, yet it provides some satisfaction, says Suryadeepti. He feels proud that he could play ragas like Ananda Bhairavi to the satisfaction of scholars. Ragas like Ananda Bhairavi, Bhairavi, Thodi and Varali need more care for presentation on Jalatarangini. You can't get the effect with flat notes. Gamaka can only give their real identity, he says. However, Kalyani and Mohana can assume their shape in jalatarangam play.