

Yogi Aeron

Himalaya's Helping Hand

- Started **Helping Hand**, Dehradun - dedicated to providing medical help to hill people
- Treats over 500 patients free of cost every year, suffering from **burns** or are **mauled** by **animals** - Patients are mostly poor, hill women from remote villages in the Himalayas
- Govt hospitals redirect complicated cases of burn & bite, to him due his expertise
- Organized 14 days **camp**s in remote villages, consecutively for the last **13 years**
- Still lives in rented house, with very limited earnings – had converted the hall into a dispensary & place to perform surgeries when he returned from the US in 1983
- Believes “designations are responsibilities more than pride”

“treating burn & bite victims for free in the Himalayas for over 35 years”



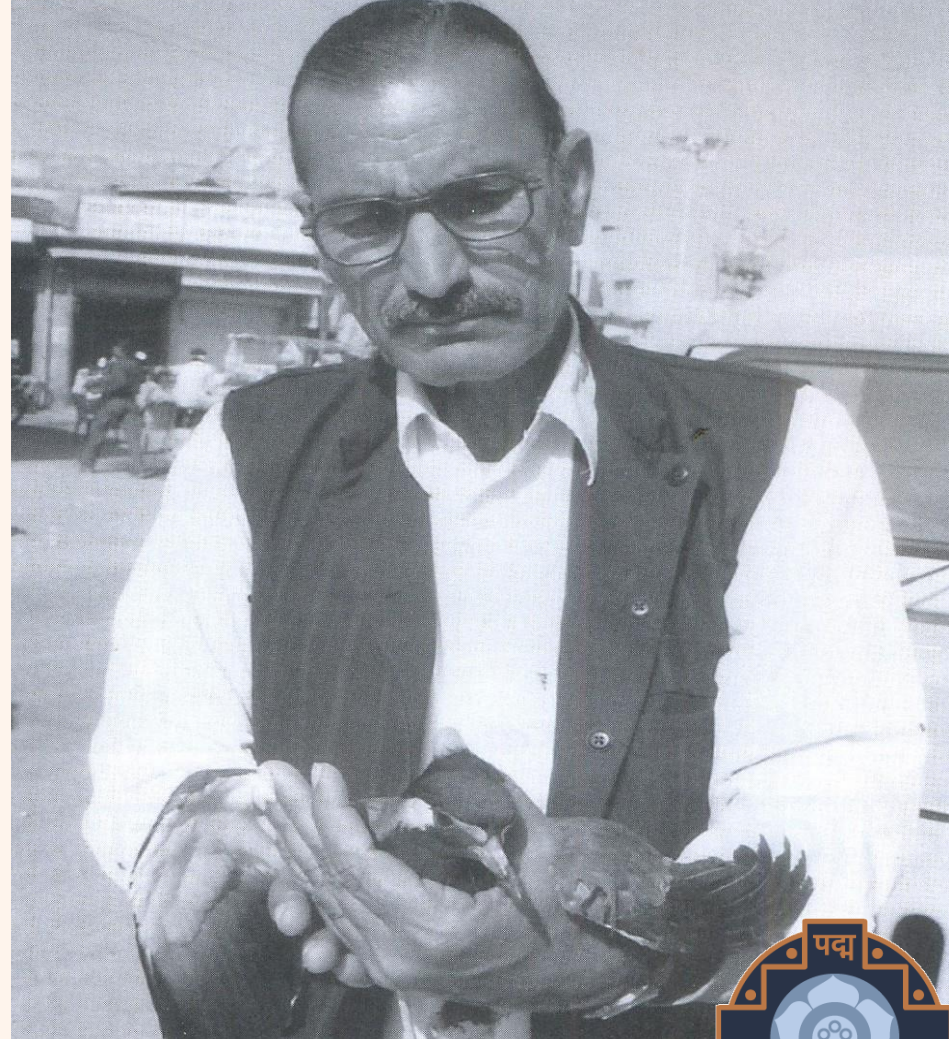
Padma Shri | Medicine (*Affordable Healthcare*) | Uttarakhand | 81 Yrs

Himmata Ram Bhambhu

Registan ke Ratna Ram

- Farmer & Environmentalist, working selflessly for the protection of nature
- Promotes **afforestation** in **desert** areas
- Developed a unique integrated agro-forestry plantation & biodiversity conservation centre
- Motivated people towards conservation in forest deficit districts like Nagaur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Sikar & Ajmer
- Took care of **1,000+ birds** & animals by feeding them with 20 kg grains every day
- Takes care of birds & animals, especially peacocks, chinkaras & other rare creatures
- Also fought against social evils like poaching & drug addiction

“farmer who has planted lakhs of plants in desert areas of Rajasthan”



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Environment*) | Rajasthan | 63 Yrs



Harekala Hajabba

Akshara Santa

- Educated poor children in his **village, Newpadupu**, in Dakshin Kannada for over 20 yrs, through meagre earnings from selling oranges in Mangalore
- Set up **Hajabba School** initially in a community mosque, later turned into Dakshina Kannada Zilla Panchayat Higher Primary School with the help of local people & the government
- He now plans to upgrade the school to **pre University College** for children in the village
- Having faced hardships because of being uneducated, didn't want future generations to go through the same
- Hajabba **selflessly worked for others**, neglecting his own needs – didn't even have a proper house to live in

“fruit vendor who has devoted his life and life's earnings towards educating others”



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Affordable Education*) | Karnataka | 64 Yrs



Madhu Mansuri Hasmukh

Lok Geet ke Mansur

- Folk Singer, Poet & Lyricist - **Raag Ragni, Kuduk & Mundari folk**
- His songs are on the **natural beauty** of Jharkhand - become the voice of various movements including **Jharkhand movement**
- Brought **Nagpuri & tribal folk tradition** to international platforms - performed on **1,000+ stages**, wrote 100+ songs
- Founder of **Shisht Manch**, providing a platforms to other lok gayak & sahitya

“father of modern Nagpuri lok geet, entertaining audiences for over 6 decades with his songs based on the natural beauty of Jharkhand”



Padma Shri | Art (Music - Folk) | Jharkhand | 71 Yrs



K V Sampath Kumar & K S Jayalakshmi

Sanskrit ke Sudharma

- **Editors** of **Sudharma** - world's only daily newspaper published in **Sanskrit** for the last **50 years**
- Having a circulation of 3,500 and a free e-paper, it's **readership** is spread across India, Germany, Japan & Sri Lanka,
- Beyond news, the paper aims to educate the young about **Sanskrit** and its greatness
- Started by K V Sampath Kumar's father Pt Kalale Nadadur Varadaraja Iyengar in 1970
- Published 100+ books in Sanskrit, including stories for children

“husband-wife journalist duo - running the world's only daily newspaper published in Sanskrit”



Padma Shri | Literature and Education (*Journalism*) | Karnataka



Ravi Kannan

Silchar's Saviour

- Surgical **Oncologist** from Chennai, who has treated over **70,000 cancer patients free of cost** in Barak valley – in the back of beyond
- Treatment includes accommodation, food, employment & spreading awareness
- Transformed the rural cancer centre into a full-fledged hospital & research centre
- Launched innovative measures for **healthcare at doorstep** including 'home visits' and 'satellite clinics'
- Quit job in Chennai and shifted to Assam with family in 2007 to make healthcare **accessible** in the Barak valley – before this the nearest hospital was over **300 kms away**

“medical messiah for cancer patients in remote Barak Valley”



Padma Shri | Medicine (*Oncology*) | Assam | 55 Yrs



Arunoday Mondal

Sunderban ke Sujan

- Doctor who **travels 6 hrs** every weekend to treat patients in **remote** Sundarban villages
- More than 250 people, 80% of whom are BPL, are treated every weekend – across a range of treatments from cardiac to eye, thyroid, gynaecology & Paediatrics
- Arranges **medicines**, conducts medical camps, blood donation drives
- Set up **Sujan Sundarban** – a free medical service centre at his own residence in Chandanpur after Bengal floods of 2000
- Before starting Sujan, worked as a visiting doctor in remote flood prone parts of Bengal, having limited government services
- Has treated more than 4,000 people
- From a poor Dalit family, had worked as tutor to raise money for his studies, rent & meals

“tirelessly providing medical aid to the needy in remote Sunderbans for 2 decades”



Padma Shri | Medicine (*Affordable Healthcare*) | West Bengal | 66 Yrs



Sathyanarayan Mundayoor

Uncle Moosa of Arunachal

- Promoting **education & reading culture** in **remote** areas of **remote Arunachal Pradesh for 4 decades**
- Established **13 Bamboosa libraries** in remote areas like Wakro, Chongkham, Lathaw, Anjaw
- Libraries have **10,000 books** from Amar Chitra Katha to Roald Dahl, Ruskin Bond
- Started a **Home library movement** entrusting books to volunteers who in turn distribute the books to children
- Written a children's book in **Malayalam** on **folk heritage** of Arunachal Pradesh
- Born in **Kerala**, left his government job as a Revenue Officer in Mumbai – moving to **Lohit** in Arunachal Pradesh in **1979**

“Keralite who has devoted his life to spreading the joy of reading in Arunachal”



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Affordable Education*) | Arunachal Pradesh | 69 Yrs



Pu Lalbiakthanga Pachuau

Patrakar Pachuau

- Editor of local Mizo daily **Zoram Tlangau**, which he started in **1970s**
- Former President of Mizoram Journalist Association
- Amongst Mizoram's earliest **peace & social activists** - campaigned to end **drug & alcohol** menace, popularize **blood donation**
- Awarded several **medals**, during his 17-year-long military career – fought the Japanese in WW2 as a member of **Assam Regiment**

“one of India's oldest working Journalists - veteran peace and social activist from Mizoram”



Padma Shri | Literature and Education (*Journalism*) | Mizoram | 93 Yrs



Moozhikkal Pankajakshi

Pavakalli ke Pankajakshi

- **Preserving** the traditional art form of Nokkuvidhya Pavakalli, currently under the threat of **extinction**
- Since the age of 8, she has performed across Kerala, India and the World
- **Nokkuvidhya Pavakalli** is an **indigenous puppet theatre form** practiced from **5 centuries** by Pankajakshi's ancestors in Kerala
- It narrates entire **Ramayana & Mahabharata**
- The art form requires extreme **concentration** and **practice**, balancing and animating the puppets perched atop a pole standing vertically on one's **upper lip**
- **Passed on** the knowledge of the art to her granddaughter K S Ranjini

“only practitioner of Nokkuvidhya Pavakalli, a traditional puppetry art, very difficult to perform”



Padma Shri | Art (Puppetry) | Kerala | 70 Yrs



Radha Mohan & Sabarmatee

Sambhav se Sanchay

- Started **Sambhav**, a resource center for farmers across the country - where they visit to **exchange seeds & learn organic farming**
- Sambhav has successfully grown many vanishing food crops such as clove bean, jack bean, black rice, sword bean amongst others
- Transformed 36 hectares of **degraded land** in Nayagarh district, into a food forest by soil & water conservation techniques
- The forest has over 1,000 species of plants & 500 varieties of rice, and supports a **Seed Bank** with 700 indigenous varieties of seeds
- Run '**Adopt a Seed**' initiative – which gives region specific seed varieties to farmers for **free** on the condition that they popularize it
- Radha Mohan is a retired Economics Prof, while Sabarmatee is a Conservationist

“gandhian father-daughter duo of farmers who have converted a piece of degraded land into a vast 'food forest' using only organic techniques”



Padma Shri | Others (*Agriculture - Organic*) | Odisha | 76, 47 Yrs

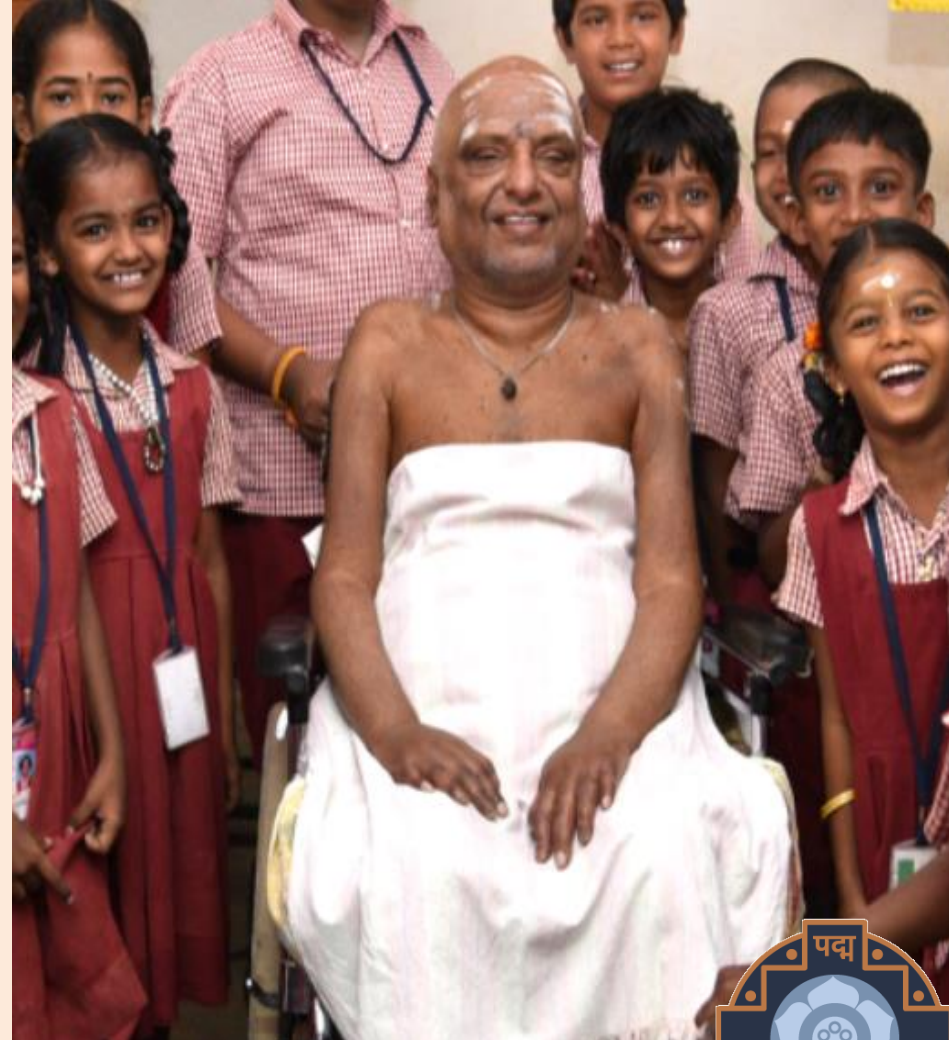


S Ramakrishnan

Amar Sevani

- **Divyang** social worker who has rehabilitated more than 14,000 **specially-abled** people over **4 decades** across **800+ villages**
- Established **Amar Seva Sangam** – one of **India's largest** establishments serving the specially-abled
- Rehabilitation programmes include shelter, medical help, education, vocational training & employment
- Also runs a Daycare center for children with cerebral palsy & intellectual difficulties
- Was completely **paralysed below the neck** at the age of 20, due to an accident during a **Naval Recruitment Exercise**

“neck-down fully paralysed social worker, among India's biggest names in rehabilitation of divyang”



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Divyang Welfare*) | Tamil Nadu | 65 Yrs



Shahbuddin Rathod

Haasya ke Shah

- Gujarati **Scholar & Humorist** - household name in Gujarat
- Known for fostering **communal harmony** through his work – concepts of religions including Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism
- Written **10 humor books** in Gujarati
- His work has also been adapted into **films & TV series (Papad Pol - Shahbuddin Rathod ki Rangeen Duniya)**
- From a Gujarati **Muslim** family, he was formerly a School Teacher & Headmaster

“Gujarati scholar & humorist who has been entertaining audiences and readers with his witty and sharp humor for half a century”



Padma Shri | Literature and Education (*Literature – Gujarati*) | Gujarat | 80 Yrs



Trinity Saioo

Turmeric Trinity

- School teacher & tribal farmer, who led **800 women** in the **Jaintia Hills** regions to cultivate & boost the popularity of the indigenous, high curcumin content **Lakadong** variety of **Turmeric**
- Helped the illiterate women with **organic certification, marketing, documentation** to avail subsidies
- What started with 800 farmers, now has **100 turmeric SHGs** in her Federation
- Under her leadership, foundation **exports** lakadong turmeric across the North-Eastern states and as further off Kerala & Karnataka
- Helped the State further **Mission Lakadong**, mobilising growers & expanding the area of Lakadong turmeric farming

“spearheaded the women-led turmeric farming movement in Meghalaya, enabling the women farmers to triple their incomes”



Padma Shri | Others (Agriculture - Organic) | Meghalaya | 52 Yrs

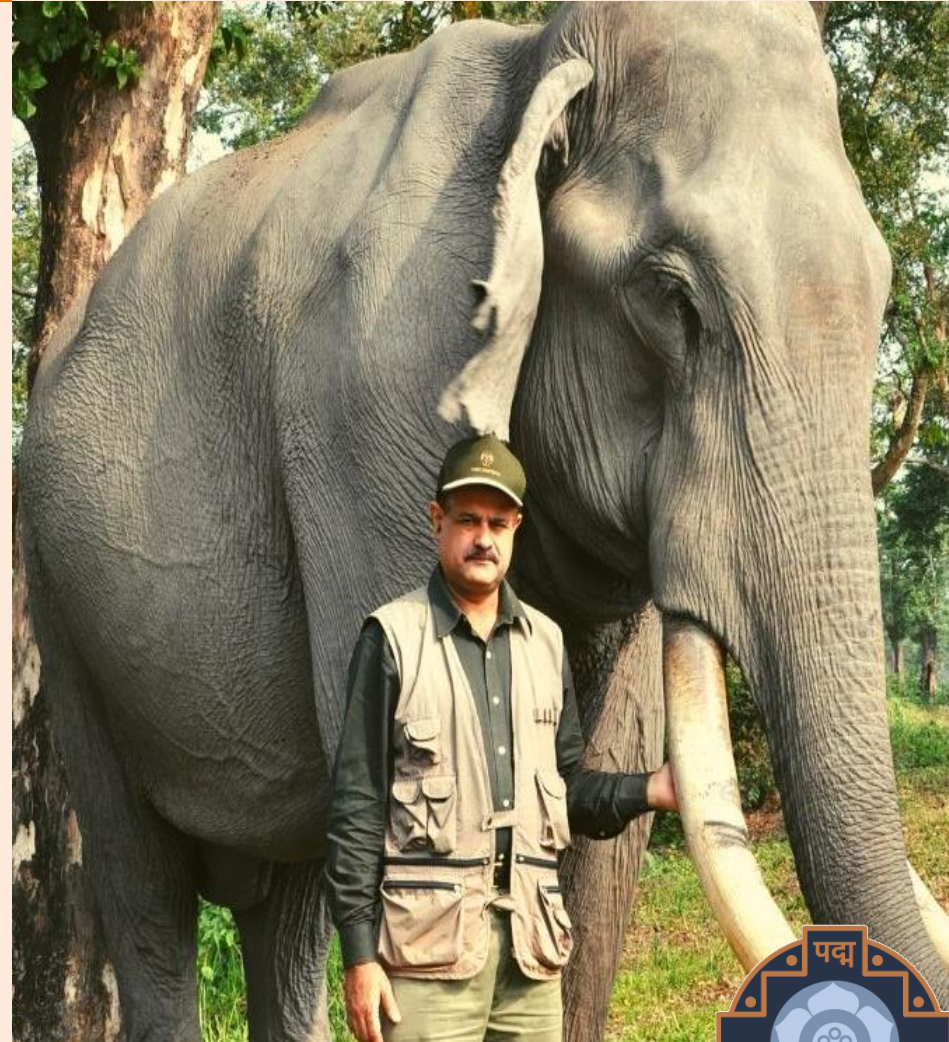


Kushal Konwar Sarma

Haathi ka Saathi

- Veterinarian in Guwahati, who has devoted his life to the **conservation of Asian Elephants** – hasn't taken a single weekend off in the last 3 decades
- Treats more than **700 elephants** every year
- **Pioneer** research in **elephant anesthetics** - especially use of remote tranquilizing injection technique in the North East
- Stands unwavering despite **20 near death** experiences
- Works with other animals including rhino – and called for major surgeries across India
- HoD (Surgery & Radiology) - College of Veterinary Sciences, Guwahati, Assam
- Inspired by the death of an elephant, who succumbed to wounds due to not getting timely treatment

“extraordinary elephant doctor devoted to Asia’s gentle beasts”



Padma Shri | Medicine (Veterinary) | Assam | 60 Yrs



Sayed Mehboob Shah Qadri

Satya ke Shodhak

- Co-Founder of **Muslim Satyashodhak Mandal** in 1970 - inspired by **Jyotiba Phule**
- Founded with **Hamid Dalwai**, the mandal aimed at creating a spirit of **nationalism** & establishing **social equality** among the Muslim community
- Fighting against the practice of **Triple Talaq** for the past **6 decades**, after his elder sister Khatija suffered the same – he has dedicated his life to protecting the rights of Triple Talaq piddit women
- Faced verbal & physical **attacks** for his activism
- Authored book '**Jihad-e-Teen Talaq**' (2014), a revised version of **Dagadawarchi Perani** (Marathi) (2001)

“pioneer activist working for education and justice, for the past 6 decades - at the forefront of the fight against the social evil of Triple Talaq”



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Women & Child*) | Maharashtra | 85 Yrs

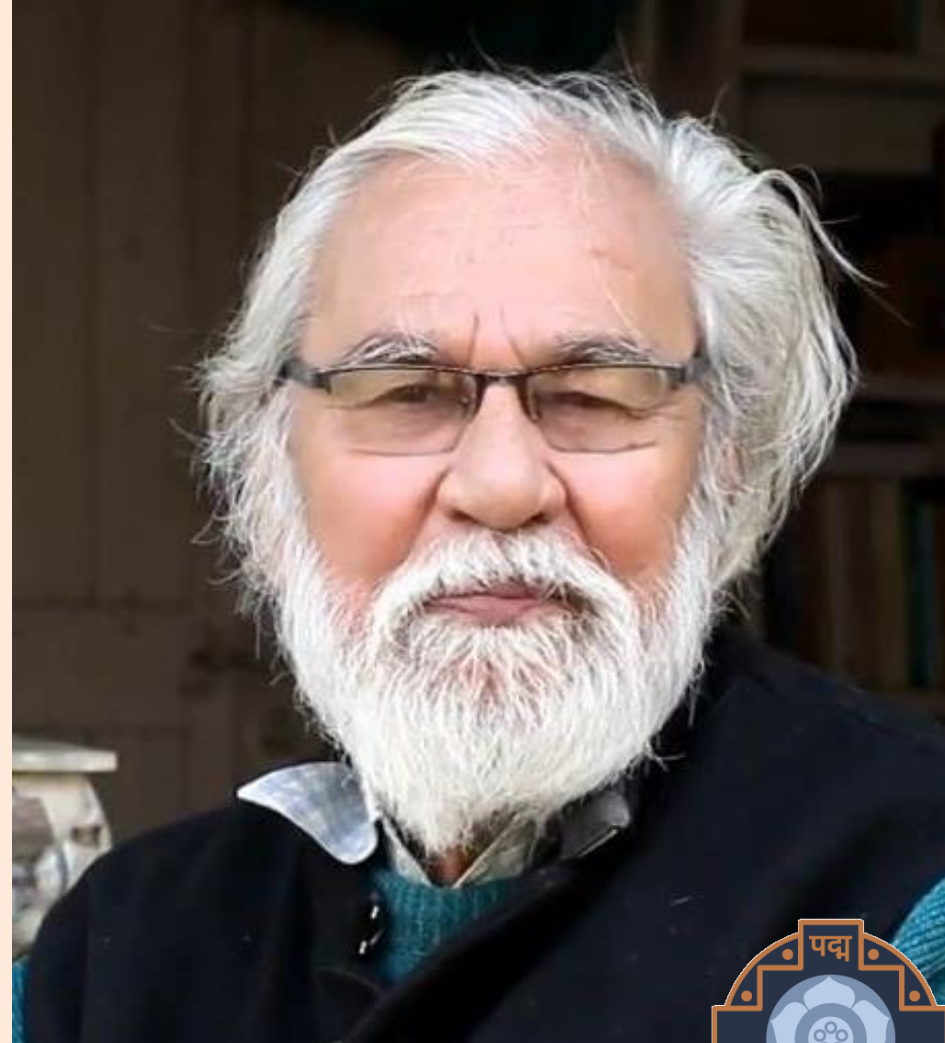


Shyam Sunder Sharma

Mudran me Mathura ke Rang

- Developed machine-free process of **printmaking** from **earthen blocks**
- Exhibited in India and abroad
- Was Principal in College of Art & Craft, Patna
- Established Print Making Department in Arts College, Patna (1966)
- Imbided vibrancy of Indian tradition from the **colourful devotion** of Govardhan, Mathura
- Received first-hand experience in the art from printing press of his father, carrying on the legacy of innovation

“renowned printmaker cum painter, imbibing colourful devotion of Mathura in his art through a machine-free process”



Padma Shri | Art (Craft) | Bihar | 78 Yrs



Sundaram Verma

Sanvahniyata ke Sikar

- Farmer who grew 50,000 trees with a water-saving technique '**dryland agroforestry**' that requires only 1 litre of water per tree, in the arid Shekawati region of Rajasthan
- His technique involved leveling the land to prevent rainwater from draining away, ploughing the fields multiple times to remove the weeds & capillaries, planting the saplings in deeper and wider pits, pouring 1 litre of water in it and allowing the plant to grow
- Set-up **6 nurseries**, distributing 1,50,000 saplings among **farmers**
- Collected & preserved **local** varieties of seeds, crops and plants
- Recognised for his outstanding work in the **afforestation of dry lands** and conservation of Bio-diversity

“planted 50,000+ trees in arid areas of Rajasthan with 100% survival rate, using just 1 litre of water per tree”



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Environment - Afforestation*) | Rajasthan | 68 Yrs