

Dilip Mahalanabis

India's gift to the World

- **Pioneered** the wide use of **ORS** (Oral Rehydration Solution), estimated to have **saved** over **5 crore lives** globally
- ORS is a **simple, inexpensive** yet **effective** ingenious solution - thanks to which the world has witnessed **93% reduction in deaths** caused by **Diarrhea, Cholera & Dehydration**, especially in **infants** & children
- He demonstrated the effectiveness of ORS while serving in **Refugee** camps during the **1971 Bangladesh** Liberation War, having **returned from USA to serve**

“ORS pioneer, acknowledged as most important medical discovery of 20th century”

Padma Vibhushan | Medicine (Pediatrics) | West Bengal | 87 Yrs



Ratan Chandra Kar

Jarawa ke Jeevandata

- Retired **Government Doctor** from Andamans working with the **Jarawa tribe** who inhabit an island 48 km from North Sentinel
- Treated Jarawas during the **Measles Epidemic** of 1999 & brought them back from the **verge of extinction**, contributed to increase in population from 76 to 270
- Closely observed & documented their **culture** and **tradition** in his book called 'Andamaner Adim Janajati Jarawa'



"brought Jarawas back from the verge of extinction during the Measles Epidemic"

Padma Shri | Medicine (*Physician*) | Andaman & Nicobar | 66 Yrs



Hirabai Lobi

Siddi Ni Shakti

- Siddi **Tribal** social worker and leader, who has dedicated her life for the betterment of the **Siddi community** in Gujarat
- Providing **education** to **children** of the Siddi tribe through the many **Balwadis** she has founded
- Promoting **financial independence** among Siddi **women** through her foundation **Mahila Vikas Mandal**
- **Orphaned** at a young age, was raised by her grandmother

“women leader catalyzing the betterment of Gujarat’s Siddi community”

Padma Shri | Social Work (*Tribal*) | Gujarat | 62 Yrs



Munishwar Chander Dawar

Dawar ki Dawa

- **War Veteran & Doctor** from **Jabalpur** treating **underprivileged** people for the past **50 years**
- **Selflessly** treating the **poor** and weaker section of the society at an affordable cost of Rs 20, up from Rs 2 in 2010s
- Retired **Indian Army** Doctor who has served in **1971 War**

“1971 War Veteran doctor treating the poor for 5 decades”

Padma Shri | Medicine (*Affordable Healthcare*) | Madhya Pradesh | 76 Yrs



Ramkuiwangbe Newme

Hero of Heraka

- **Naga** Social Worker from **Dima Hasao** who dedicated his life for the conservation & **preservation** of **Heraka religion**
- Protected and promoted **Heraka indigenous culture** through awareness camps & programs
- Established **10 primary schools** & encouraged **education for women**
- Transcribed 'Tingwang Hingde' of Heraka religion

“naga social worker preserving the Heraka religion for decades”



V P Appukuttan Poduval

Kannur ke Gandhi

- **Gandhian** & Freedom Fighter from Payyanur
- Actively participated in the **Quit India Movement** in 1942
- Working tirelessly and selflessly to **uplift the lives** of the **weaker sections** of the society for the past **8 decades**
- Proponent of **Khadi** and a well known **Sanskrit** Scholar



“Gandhian working for upliftment of weaker sections of society for 8 decades”

Padma Shri | Social Work (*Gandhian*) | Kerala | 99 Yrs



Sankurathri Chandra Sekhar

Seva ke Shikhar



- **Kakinada** based **Social worker** who dedicated his life to providing **free medical** and **education services** to needy people
- After **loosing his wife & 2 children** in the Air India **Kanishka** bombing, channelized his grief into a **lifelong commitment towards betterment of society**
- Instrumental in the treatment of over **3 lakh eye patients**, with **90%** surgeries are **free**
- Provided **free education** to more than 3,500 children from economically weaker sections

“channelized personal tragedy into lifelong seva”

Padma Shri | Social Work (*Affordable Healthcare*) | Andhra Pradesh | 79 Yrs



Vadivel Gopal & Masi Sadaiyan

Global Snake Experts

- Expert **Snake Catchers** from **Irula Tribe**, specialised in catching **dangerous** & **venomous** snakes
- Despite lacking formal education, travelled **globally** to catch snakes and **train** snake catchers in other parts of the world
- Using old snake catching techniques **inherited** as **indigenous knowledge** from their **forefathers**
- Collectively, Irula tribe plays an important role in the healthcare ecosystem in India, through **antivenoms** collected

“expert snake catchers guiding & teaching people across the globe”

Padma Shri | Social Work (*Animal Welfare*) | Tamil Nadu | Duo



Tula Ram Upreti

Jaivik Kheti ke Prerak

- **98 year** old self-sustained small farmer, practicing **organic farming** using only **traditional** methods
- Doing so since childhood, 6 decades before Sikkim govt formed Sikkim Organic Mission
- **Training & inspiring** other farmers to adopt natural farming techniques
- Reduced **dependency** of farmers on **Agrochemical industry**
- Engaged in farming with his wife Benu Maya Upreti, now deceased

“pioneering nearly-100 yr old organic farmer from Sikkim”

Padma Shri | Others (*Agriculture*) | Sikkim | 98 Yrs



Nekram Sharma

Nau Anaj ke Nayak

- **Organic** farmer from Mandi, **reviving** the **traditional** Crop System of '**Nau-Anaj**'
- Nau Anaj is a natural **intercropping** method in which **9 food grains** are grown on the same piece of land, without any **chemical** usage, cutting down **water usage by 50%** and raising land fertility
- **Inspiring** other farmers to follow the same
- Also producing local **indigenous seeds**, distributing to more than **10,000 farmers** in **6 states** at no cost

"revived traditional 'nau-anaj' intercropping system cutting water usage"

Padma Shri | Others (Agriculture) | Himachal Pradesh | 59 Yrs



Janum Singh Soy

Hero of Ho

- Tribal Ho language **Scholar**, working for 4 decades for its **preservation & promotion**
- Authored **6 books** on culture & lifestyle of the small Ho tribe
- **Pioneered** Ho as **formal** course in language, with his work a part of PG **curriculum**
- Retired from Kolhan University

“tribal scholar preserving and promoting Ho language”

Padma Shri | Literature & Education (*Ho language*) | Jharkhand | 72 Yrs



Dhaniram Toto

Triumph of Dengka

- **Toto (Dengka)** language **preserver** from Totopara village of **Jalpaiguri** district
- Despite lacking any formal training as a Linguist, he is the architect of the **Toto** language **script**, preserving the **indigenous** language
- The language now has 37 alphabets
- First author to write a novel in Toto language
- Toto (Dengka), is a **dying language** - listed as highly endangered by UNESCO



“developed script of critically endangered
Toto (Dengka) language”

Padma Shri | Literature & Education (*Dengka language*) | West Bengal | 57 Yrs



B Ramakrishna Reddy

Bhasha Rakshak

- 80 year old **Linguistics Professor** from Telangana
- In his **decades** of perseverance, he has made immense contributions towards preservation of **Tribal & Southern** languages like **Kuvi, Manda** and **Kui**
- Building a **cultural bridge** connecting Tribal languages with other languages
- Drafted **Manda-English** Dictionary & **Kuvi-Oriya-English** Dictionary while also co-authoring **5** books towards this cause

“linguist preserving tribal & southern languages like Kuvi, Kui and Manda”

Padma Shri | Literature & Education (*Linguistics*) | Telangana | 80 Yrs



Ajay Kumar Mandavi

Carver of Kanker

- **Gond Tribal** Wood Carver from Kanker
- Actively **rehabilitating misguided people in LWE affected regions** by teaching them the art of wood calligraphy - more than **350** lives transformed
- Inspiring youth to **drop the gun and pick up the chisel** to learn wood calligraphy
- Helped around 400 **youth** get livelihood through his self help group '**Shanta Art Group**', making them **Atmanirbhar**

"wood carving artist actively rehabilitating misguided people in LWE affected areas"

Padma Shri | Art (Wood Carving) | Chhattisgarh | 54 Yrs



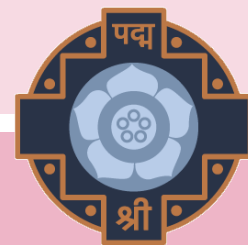
Rani Machaiah

Ummathat ki Rani

- **Ummathat Folk Dancer** from **Kodagu**, promoting & preserving **Kodava culture** through dance
- Former President of Karnataka Kodava Sahitya Academy
- Training women artist in Ummathat Folk dance

“popularizing Kodava culture of Coorg through traditional dance”

Padma Shri | Art (Folk Dance) | Karnataka | 79 Yrs



K C Runremsangi

Queen of Mizo Folk

- Mizo **Folk Singer** from Aizwal, safeguarding **Mizo cultural heritage** for over 3 decades
- Very **popular** singer, who performs all over the country
- Credited with recording many Mizo folk songs
- Received her initial training from elders & later through Institute of Music & Fine Arts
- Received Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2017

“preserving Mizo folk heritage through music”

Padma Shri | Art (*Vocals - Mizo*) | Mizoram | 59 Yrs



Risingbor Kurkalang

Master of Duitara

- **Tribal Duitara** Instrument Maker & Musician from **East Khasi Hills**
- Popularizing **Khasi folk music** & instruments (**Saitar** and **Duitara**) across the world
- Duitara is a 4-stringed Khasi-Jaintia musical instrument, crafted using **jackfruit** tree and Muga **silk** - making it a lucrative source of rural livelihood

“promoting Khasi folk music by crafting & playing Duitara”

Padma Shri | Art (Folk Music) | Meghalaya | 60 Yrs



Mangala Kanti Roy

Sarinda Ke Sartaj

- **102 year old** Sarinda Player from **Jalpaiguri**, popular as one of the oldest folk musicians of West Bengal
- Popular for producing **unique bird calls** through Sarinda
- Promoting & preserving the Sarinda instrument for **8 decades** through workshops & performances

“oldest living folk musician of West Bengal”

Padma Shri | Art (*Folk Music*) | West Bengal | 102 Yrs



Moa Subong

Tunes of Bamhum

- Eminent **Naga Musician** & Innovator who developed a new and easy to play instrument '**Bamhum**', a **wind musical** instrument made from **bamboo**
- Founded **Abiogenesis**, a musical band that fuses traditional **Naga music with modern rock** music, along with his vocalist wife
- Created a **new music genre** named **Howey** and another instrument called **Tikzik**

"naga musician who invented an easy to play wind instrument, Bamhum"

Padma Shri | Art (Folk Music) | Nagaland | 61 Yrs



Munivenkatappa

Thamaṭeya Tande (Father of Thamata)

- Veteran **Thamate** exponent from Chikkaballapur, working tirelessly towards the preservation and promotion of the **folk instrument** Thamate
- Thamate is a **percussion** instrument (hand drum) from **Old Mysore** region
- Leads artists showcasing the traditional instrument across the state & nation
- Started playing Thamate at age 16, and now **trains** young and **upcoming artists**, despite the **social stigma** attached to it

“veteran Thamate player, percussion folk instrument from Old Mysore region”

Padma Shri | Art (*Folk Music*) | Karnataka | 72 Yrs



Domar Singh Kunvar

Natya Nach ke Nayak

- Chhattisgarhi **Natya Nacha Artist**, dedicated his life to keeping the **tradition** alive since last **5 decades**
- Essays the role of **Sultana Daku** who **fought** against **British imperialists** – has performed plays in **13 dialects & languages** and given over **5,000 presentation** across India
- Through his plays, spreads awareness about eradicating **superstition and social evils like child marriage**

“natya nacha artist who has dedicated his life to keeping the tradition alive”

Padma Shri | Art (*Dance*) | Chhattisgarh | 75 Yrs



Parshuram Komaji Khune

Zadhipatti ke Parshuram

- **Zadipatti Rangbhumi** artist from **Gadchiroli**, having played 800 different roles in more than 5,000 drama shows
- Zadipatti is a **folk theatre** performed during the **harvest season** of **rice cultivation** in Maharashtra
- Worked for **rehabilitation** of misguided youth in **LWE** affected areas by engaging them in Folk culture
- Spread **awareness on social issues** like Alcohol de-addiction, Hygiene, eradicating superstitions

“folk artist using theatre for social causes, including LWE rehabilitation”

Padma Shri | Art (*Theatre*) | Maharashtra | 70 Yrs



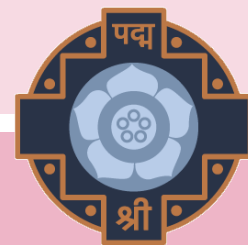
Ghulam Muhammad Zaz

Santoor ke Sartaaaj

- 8th Generation **Santoor Craftsman** from a family known for making the **finest Santoor**s in Kashmir for the last **200 years**
- Dedicated **7 decades** in crafting stringed instruments, keeping the **family legacy** alive
- These instruments are known for their **long lifespan**, with many of them lasting for over a century
- Also makes other stringed instruments like **Rabab, Kashmiri Sitar** and **Sarang**i

“one of the finest santoor craftsman from Srinagar, continuing 8 generation legacy”

Padma Shri | Art (Craft) | Jammu & Kashmir | 81 Yrs



Bhanubhai Chitara

Kalamkari Chitara

- 7th generation **Kalamkari artist** from the **Chunara** community, carrying forward the legacy of the **400 year** old traditional craft of **Mata ni Pachedi** (behind Mother Goddess)
- Each painting has a **story** inspired by **mythological epics** such as Mahabharata & Ramayana
- Played critical role in **promoting** the art form through 200 workshops & exhibitions across India and the world

“torch bearer of the 400 years old Mata ni Pachedi craft in Kalamkari”

Padma Shri | Art (*Painting*) | Gujarat | 66 Yrs



Paresh Rathwa

Pithora na Paresh

- **Pithora** Artist from **Chhota Udepur**, **promoting** the **ancient** cultural heritage
- Pithora is a **12,000-year-old tribal folk art**, created as divine offerings to **Lord Pithora** (God of food grains)
- Immense contribution showcasing this art **globally**, including in **30** exhibitions
- Creating awareness about the age old tradition by providing **online & offline training** to students

“keeping the 12,000 yr tribal art of divine Pithora painting alive”

Padma Shri | Art (Painting) | Gujarat | 54 Yrs



Kapil Dev Prasad

Bawan Buti ke Bunkar

- **Bawan Buti Handloom Weaver** from **Nalanda**
- Depicts **Ancient Buddhist Symbols** in his craft – through 52 butis in each woven item
- Contributed in **reviving** & **promoting** the Bawan Buti Weave over **5 decades**
- Weaves various products including Sarees



“bawan buti handloom weaver practicing the ancient art for over 5 decades”

