

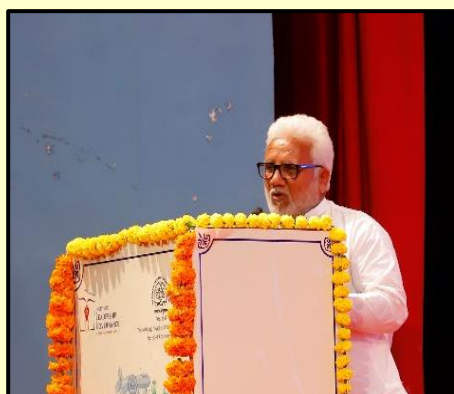
## **YUGAANTAR Awardees 2020**

**Shri Prabodh Munvar**  
**MAAVJYOT SANSTHAN**



Shri Prabodh Munvar believes, 'If I have been selected by destiny to do good for others, I will make sure I do BEST for them.' Shri Prabodh Munvar, through his Sansthan Manavjot in Bhuj carries out multiple activities that help the mankind. The sansthan carries out 40 such activities that include carrying out the final funeral rites of people who don't have children, finding the mentally unstable people, old aged people who have got who have got lost and reuniting them with their families, saving girls and women and making sure that they reach their home safely, providing the elderly with food three times a day, etc. Till now the sansthan has carried out final rites of 485 people, reunited 835 mentally unstable people with families, they have saved 185 girls and women.

**Shri Dev Das Goswami**  
**DAVO NGO**



Dev Das Goswami, a truck driver from Haryana believes, 'When you want to do something good for others, even god will make way for you!' Shri Dev Das Goswami is taking care of the homeless people since last 35 years. Man with a gigantic heart, Goswami takes care of the homeless or abandoned whenever and wherever he sees someone, he brings them to home and takes care of them like family member. The condition of these people drastically change after being bought to Goswamiji's home, thanks to his wife and team who bath them, feed them and take good care until they are sound and healthy once again. Today the count has crossed over 130 but Dev Das Goswami they will always remain "family members".

**Dr. Kriti Bharti**



Dr. Kriti Bharti, hails from Rajasthan. She is determined that she would not let any girl child go through the pains she has suffered at a tender age. Being a victim of child marriage, she very well understands what it feels when childhood is snatched away and alien responsibilities of marriage are burdened on young shoulders. Her fight is against the narrow-minded society who still believe in such traditions and customs. She advocates the educational and social rights of young girls making sure no family falls into trap of child marriage.

**Shri Saju Talukdar  
CLOTH BANK**



Mr. Saju Talukdar, our hero from West Bengal believes, to never think twice before doing anything good for others, who knows, they may just be waiting for you!. It all started when he was forced to drop his schooling because he couldn't afford the uniform. As a child Talukdar saw his people working in the tea gardens with bare bodies, he would later work for this when he became a taxi driver. He initiated a process of collecting clothes from villages near his hometown, "Didima" and distributed them among people who were in need of those. People who see him undertaking this job consider him as 'Mad' but he proudly says "If making someone happy is considered to be mad, then I proudly say that YES! I am Mad.' He distributes 4000 clothes a week and continues spreading happiness.

**Shri Madankumar Yadav**



Mr. Madan Yadav, was between us from Bihar. A true example of where there is a will there is a way. He staunchly believes that no reason can be as strong as to stop your education. He belongs to a remote village where basic amenities like electricity and roads are still a luxury. Many of the villagers have not seen a train in their life till date. In a place like this, away from the modern connectivity of the world, Mr. Yadav started a school on a hilltop of 'Badwanka'. He makes sure that at least the upcoming generation of his village gets proper literacy and secure good job outside village.

**Ms. Mohini Kumar**



Ms. Mohini Kumar was an acid attack victim in year 2005, today she grooms more than 1500 women per month including rape survivors, domestic violence survivors, acid attack survivors, etc. at Delhi Commission for Women. She says "Decide not give up on your tough times, there will be a day when tough times will decide to give up on you". It was her first day at work, when the guy she rejected earlier threw a jug full of acid on her. She courageously filed a police complaint but that did not stop her from attempting suicide several times. Despite going through depression, she decided not to give up and fight against this injustice. Today she is a happily married woman with naughty five-year-old.

**Shri Vinayak Deokar**  
**JEEVAN MITRA PRATISHTHAN**  
**CHARITABLE TRUST**



Mr. Vinayak Deokar, a hero from Pune believes "As far as my social responsibility is concerned, I consider myself a responsible citizen. So I can't cheat myself and think of running away from my responsibilities, even if circumstances permit me or not". In spite of being a Cardiac patient, he has never given hope and has dedicated his life to help Cardiac, Cancer and Renal patients through his trust "**Jeevan Mitra Pratishthan Charitable Trust.**" He along with his group of friends has also established "**Jeevan Mitra Educational Society**" (An NGO). The NGO started FREE ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL named "MAHATMA GANDHI SCHOOL" for the underprivileged and poor children, belonging to all kind of economically weaker sections.

**Shri Manish Kumar**



Shri Manish Kumar believes in the fact, 'When you take a step towards your destiny, your destiny takes a step towards you!'. Born and brought up in Bihar, completed primary education in Bihar only. Got admission in IIT Kharagpur in 2005, completed 5 years integrated Bachelors and Masters course in Statistics & Informatics. He started his venture, Back to Village (B2V), with one of batch mates IIT Kharagpur - Puja Bharti, who left her job in GAIL India Ltd., a Maharatna Company of Govt. of India, to pursue her career in farming. B2V started its journey from a small village of Odisha in January 2016 and currently providing end-to-end services (right from crop selection to seeds arrangement, training and market linkage) to 5000+ farmers through 10 small extension centres called Unnat Krushi Kendra (UKK). B2V works only in organic farming. Very recently it has started its operations in Jharkhand and is going to launch its West Bengal chapter in another 2-3 months.



**Shri Harjinder Singh**



Mr. Harjinder Singh, is a hero from Delhi who has proved that, 'Problems are unexpected and the Solutions too!' Perhaps God could not be present around you all the time, but when you fall in trouble, he will make sure to send someone to save you. Here is such a person whom one can meet accidentally and especially when someone have met with an accident! Mr. Harjinder is a 76 years old gift of God who is always ready to help people met with an accident, **Free of Cost**. He has his First Aid ready to help the accident victims and makes sure that they reach the hospital soon by his rickshaw.

**Shri Yogendra Bangar**



Mr. Yogendra Bangar, a hero from Thane who believes and has proved that 'There is no limit to Learning'. When everyone was busy in their life to fulfill their dreams and achieve goals, anyone hardly thought that some gems around us never got a chance to go to school. But it was Mr. Bangar who thought of starting the first-ever school for Grannies in Thane. The unique characteristic of this school is that the current age group of Granny students here is from 60 to 90 years and all the grannies have to wear pink sarees as uniform.

**Shri Ayan Khan**



Mr. Ayan Khan works believes in the fact, 'If you are to do something good for others, make sure you do it without giving it a second thought.' Mr. Ayan Khan is a sheer example of what a youth can do if they determine to something. He had a choice of a life that could have been more lavish and comfy, but instead he chose to help the ones who cannot help themselves. Mr. Ayan Khan helps the underprivileged on the streets who need medical attention. He carries with him first aid and helps people in all medical emergencies. Other than this Mr. Ayan Khan also actively works for animals to provide them with proper medical care, food and other requirements.

**Smt. Seema Chauhan**  
**MATRA SHAKTI SANGATHAN**



Matra Shakti Sangathan, believes in the fact, 'Never forget our soldiers, who sacrificed their life to make sure that you slept peacefully at night!' Matra Shakti Sangathan established by Smt. Seema Chauhan is a non-profit social organization working the betterment and upliftment of the society. The main activities of the organization include upliftment of the families of martyrs with adequate opportunities and organize valour for gallantry of the martyrs. So far, the organization has organized gallantry for the families of martyrs of 26/11 attacks, Uri Attack, Pathankot attack, etc. It also undertakes other activities such as blood donation, Campaigns for Beti Bachao, traffic security, environment protection and much more.

**Smt. Jabna Chauhan**  
**YOUNGEST SARPANCH**



Smt. Jabna Chauhan, a hero from Himachal Pradesh, believes in the fact, 'Life can be tough, but I am tougher.' Challenges stood against her like a wall, when being a girl she decided to pursue her education in her village. She used to walk 19 Kms. a day to her college, but as it is said hard work always pays, she secured job as a reporter and inspired other girls in her village to pursue education. Looking at her determination and hard work, she was appointed as the sarpanch of her village (Mandi). She became youngest sarpanch of India and has worked for education, alcohol, drug addiction in her village and other such social issues.

**BALAKNAMA**



Balaknama works on 'Making Voice Heard!' Balaknama is a group of street kids who have a touching story behind them. The injustice and neglect done to the street kids, was the main reason behind the birth of Balaknama. When the kids did not get an ear to express themselves among the adults, Balaknama came into play, where the kids pen down their thoughts and stories. Team Balaknama includes kids who are rag pickers, working at construction site, fruit and vegetable sellers, etc. They collect stories from streets, tea stalls. They have stood for the empowerment of kids and have covered mesmerizing stories that one would love to read.

### **Shri Hirji Bhai Bhingradiya**



Shri Hirjibhai works on his belief that, 'Mother earth gives us so much, so it becomes our responsibility to not harm it.' He is working on the concept of organic farming. When he started working in the agricultural sector, the usage of fertilizers in the fields was very common to increase production. Gradually, he realized that such chemical fertilizers are harmful to the land and thus started incorporating organic farming techniques. Now they use organic fertilizers such as cow dung, Agri waste, Vermicompost and use it extensively for farming. They have incorporated mix crop technique of farming so that the efficiency of land doesn't decrease, started crop rotation, made castor oil cakes, incorporated rain water harvesting technique, etc. In addition to this they have also made provision for attracting birds and insects by making a separate area near their farm, as they believe, 'They are also a part of our family, so they should stay with us!' There are many species of birds and insects that one can find at his farm.

### **Shri Dharmik Bhatt and Shri Yashesh Shah** **SECURE NATURE SOCIETY**



Secure Nature Society, a hero from Mandvi, Kutch believes, 'If you secure the Nature, Nature will secure you.' In everyday life, we come across many instances wherein we feel that change is required, but only a few of us can take the initiative of doing so. Like Secure Nature Society, which is a group of teachers who came forward to take steps towards saving Mother Earth. Started by the duo, Mr. Dhamik Bhatt and Mr. Yashesh Shah, now Secure Nature Society is a family of 50 people. They organize various campaigns to raise cognizance about securing nature. They also carry out the activity of cleaning Mandvi Beach, Kutch every weekend to remove plastic waste from it.



**Smt. Noori Saleem**

Smt. Noori Saleem- popularly known as “the Transgender mother of India” is a living example that when ‘god couldn’t be everywhere he created moms’. She lives in Chennai, Tamil Nadu and runs her home for HIV positive children. She is a HIV positive herself and constantly through her childhood and adulthood she has been harassed by her family and society for being a transgender. She till date has 46 children in her home, and she has raised over 113 children from her home. ‘Noori Amma’ as she likes herself to be called, continues to nurture her children and live life to her fullest as a dignified respectful woman.

**Shri Sanjay Sharma  
PRERNA BOOK BANK**

Shri Sanjay Sharma, said, ‘The biggest treasure you can give someone is knowledge.’ Inspired by the struggle she faced for buying books during her days of schooling, she started a book. His wife, Smt. Amita Sharma started this initiative with her husband to fulfill the dreams of all those underprivileged kids she can. ‘Prerna Book’ bank was started with the mission that no child should leave education just because they cannot afford books. Children are future of the country and knowledge is the treasure that will keep them going for long. Prerna Book has lakhs of books and over 55 branches in 4 states of India.

**Dr. Alaka Sarma**  
**AKSHAR FOUNDATION**



Akshar Foundation works with a moto that 'Innovativeness is the doorstep to success!' Akshar Foundation in Guwahati is an epitome of the school model one should have for the development of the children. Children due to poverty are left with no option other than begging, as a result of which they end up ruining their future. Akshar foundation, hence, has developed such a model where the dropouts are motivated to restart their school, the older students teach the younger ones which helps them earn their bread and butter, the kids who collect plastic bring the plastic to school as school fees, as a result of which plastic is also recycled at the school with innovative ideas and techniques. The kids are paid money for their skills and knowledge and are fined for bad behaviour. The kids remain employed at the school till they don't get a suitable profession to work in.

**Smt. Pooja Doshi**  
**MIMAANSA**



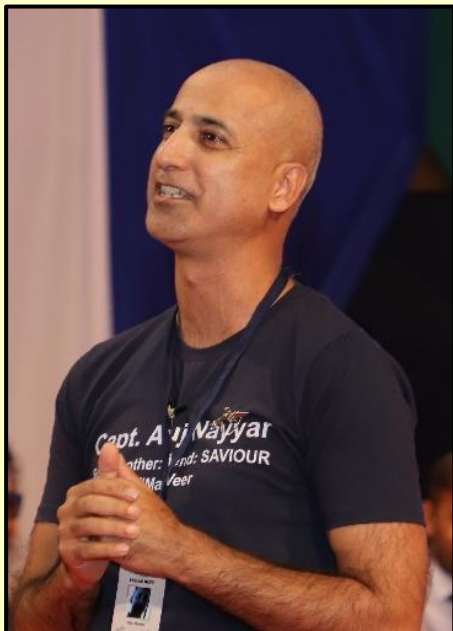
Mimaansa is a Non-Governmental Organization working with students with **Learning Disabilities** studying in the under resourced Municipal Schools since March 2012. Specific learning disabilities (SLDs) are an important cause of academic underachievement in children and are also associated with comorbidities like attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) which further have an impact on the child's education. Studies show that over 10% of India's school going children are Learning Disabled. Mimaansa aims to identify children with Learning Disabilities and positively impact their lives through our Remediation and Counselling Programme. Mimaansa believes that parents and teachers are the most important stakeholders in the Education process of every child and hence they also conduct counselling and training programmes for them.

**Lt Cdr (Retd) Pravin Tulpule**



Mr. Pravin Tulpule, our happiness ambassador, took voluntary retirement from the Indian Navy and became a Clown to spread happiness and joy amongst those who are deprived of the same. As a result, **Happy'** - the Clown was born to meet, entertain and spread good cheer at every place he visits. He visits Hospitals, Old Age homes, Hospices and other shelters to bring a smile on the faces of the weary souls. He is aware of the fact that he is not a medical doctor, but attempts to give a few minutes respite and relief to the patients.

**Shri Vikas Manhas**



Mr. Vikas Manhas, a hero from Jammu Kashmir, holds the fact, 'The Army stands for us when we are not around, so its my responsibility to stand for them when they are not around.' Kargil war changed many things in the country along with moving hearts. Mr Vikas Manhas a young patriot was moved so much by the funerals at his home town Bhaderwah that he made it his life mission to do his bit for the soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the nation. It's been exactly 20 years he is visiting the home of immortals in India. For, Mr. Vikas Manhas these houses are pilgrimage and for those families he is son, brother, friend well wisher and more.

**Shri Kunal Gupta**



Kunal Gupta, Digiabled Associate, Chhattisgarh has proved the saying, 'There some special creations of god, who need to be taken special care of, by not sympathizing with them rather making them more independent than us.' Mr. Kunal through Digiabled Associates has perhaps given the best gist to the physically challenged people by making them employable. Working in the naxal areas of Chhattisgarh, the people through Self Help groups have started earning their livelihood through making bulbs and other items as such. The main motto behind starting the Digiabled associates was to provide a platform to People- with- Disability a platform to conquer the world through their own efforts.

**Smt. Anchal Sharma**



Ms. Anchal Sharma, a hero from Delhi is a paradigm of the highest fighting spirit one could become. Coming from a humble background, Ms. Sharma has survived cancer and returned with better and wider vision. Her initiative includes feeding the poor, distributing blankets, working for the needy. Her initiative of spreading happiness is the perfect thing that someone can gift to this world.



**Smt. Jaya Jairam**  
**MOHAN FOUNDATION**



Mohan Foundation is a non-profitable organization promoting organ donation and transplantation in India. The foundation was started with a group of doctors and philanthropists lead by Dr. Sunil Shroff. The mission of MOHAN Foundation is to ensure that every Indian suffering from end stage organ failure should be provided with a 'Gift of life' through a lifesaving organ. The branches of MOHAN Foundation are spread all over India such as Nagpur, Mumbai, Indore and many more. Their activities include, spreading awareness about organ donation, training health care professionals for the cause, associating with other health care organizations, counselling families and much more.

**Dr. Shashi Rao**  
**ANANYA TRUST**



**Ananya Trust**, works on the concept, 'Do good for others and the good will come back to you!' The trust has been developed in 1998 to provide education to poor and underprivileged children, who are unable to pursue education in main stream schools. The USP of their trust is that the kids have freedom and security in school. The education imparted here is focused on concept learning, where the students ask and the teachers act. The students can express their views here without any hesitation. The school believes that students learn more from concept and sharing basis and adopts, 'No Textbook Learning' Method.

**Shri Kotresh Bavihalli**  
**PENCIL**




Kotresh Bavihalli, a hero from Raichur, believes, 'Give Kids what they like and they will give you what you like.' Mr. Kotresh has worked on the school dropout ratio of the students. He realized that the main reason behind school dropouts is not the infrastructure, but the mundane routine that the students have to go through every single day. So, he started the initiative, 'Pencil' to indulge the students into activities of their interest. Students are more prone to creative activities such as art and craft and so he started indulging them in such activities through 'Pencil.' The students here cover various topics such as stories of their school, village, culture and tradition, etc. The school drop out ratio has gone down drastically and now each month they publish a minimum of 500 copies.

**Shri Shafiqur Rahman Khan**  
**EMPOWER PEOPLE**



Empower people, works to 'Empower Trafficking Survivors.' The organization works on locating trafficked girls and conducts rescue operations. Dealing with some of the most critical cases, Empower People till now has enabled more than 12k vulnerable children attend school, has intervened in more than 80 honour killing cases, has rescued and relocated more than 4200 girls/women, taken up more than 2700 Domestic violence cases. They work on building Communes that are led by the trafficked victims and has made women leaders in various fields. One of their major activities include, '**March Against Bride Trafficking**, 'organized in 2006, 2012 and 2018. The organization supports, protects and organizes Bride Traffickers. They also work for Domestic violence, establishing solidarity between trafficked brides so that they can come forward and lead a better life than before.

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| <p><b>Shri Bhupendra Tripathi</b></p>  | <p>Mr. Bhupendra Tripathi believes, ‘Never underestimate yourself, because your success is definitely going to prove you wrong one day.’ Mr. Tripathi is an epitome of the highest fighting personalities one could have. Having studied Information Technology from NIRMA University and being selected by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), he has climbed the ladder of success through sheer hard work. Life hit him hard when he was diagnosed with the last stage and paralysis, but when the doctor called him a ‘Patient,’ he said, ‘Who is Patient here? I am a fighter- a survivor, no one is patient here.’ Unfortunately, due to cancer he lost his eye sight completely but, he never gave up and cracked multiple exams, including Banking exams. Today, Mr. Tripathi is working as First 100% Blind Manager of RBI-Gujarat &amp; posted in Office of Banking Ombudsman. He is a motivational speaker and an inspiration to many.</p> |

**Shri Arkalgud Padmanabha and  
Shri S Venkata Subba Rao**



The 80-year-old duo is working on the fact 'Age is just a number!' stench of Government Public toilets in Bangalore.

**Shri S Venkata Subba Rao**, Founder President of Karnataka Sangha of RBI Bangalore & President of RBI ex Officers Association, apart from the job he has been engaged in several types of social work. He has waged a legal battle for 19 years (1992 and 2011) including a Caveat in the Supreme Court of India and saved the Byrasandra lake, Jayanagar, Bengaluru. The lake has now been revived and rejuvenated. His efforts are continuing to make the lake a beautiful landmark of South Bengaluru.

**Shri Arkalgud Padmanabha**, has worked with Central Institute of Public Cooperation New Delhi, and later with Harvard University (USA) Centre for Population Studies, India Project, as Behavioral Scientist. He is Founder President of Citizens Forum Yelahanka New Town. Bangalore, & a Trustee of Lake Rejuvenation & Bird Protection Trust. After 15 years of struggle the lake is now declared & recognized as the only Bird Sanctuary in Bangalore. The international migratory birds which had disappeared have begun to come back. Through community organization provided drinking water taps in every street of Sarapaka village Andhra Pradesh, of ten thousand population in 1992, which he considers his best contribution to his mother land till date.