



**2001-2020**  
20 Years of Services  
in Panchayati Raj  
Rural Development  
Women Empowerment  
Youth Development and  
Good Governance

# Rajiv Gandhi Gram Swaraj National Award-2020

Instituted & Conferred by:

**Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India, Tirupati, AP**

Regd. Office: # Plot No.11, Sri Venkata Sai Nilayam, Thummalagunta

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1944-1991

## NOMINATION FORM

**Form to be filled up by the Nominee**

[Attach additional Sheets for your Answers]

### Part-A

*[Socio-Economic Background]*

1. Name :
2. Postal Address :
- Phone and Mobile :
- E-mail :
3. Present Position :
4. Socio-economic Background :
- a) Date of Birth and Age :
- b) Occupation :
- c) Educational Qualifications :
5. Awards/Honours Received :

Affix Passport  
Size  
Photograph

### Part-B

*Indices of Successful Policy Makers/Panchayati Raj Leaders*

[Specific instances of achievement in each of the decentralised areas are to be mentioned]

Give details and examples wherever possible, with Photos, CD's and Reports.

### **6. Development Issues**

- a) How are the developments projects planned and implemented in your panchayats?
- b) Whether development schemes / planning are effective and sustainable?
- c) Leadership role-played by you to remove malpractices.
- d) Steps taken in developing a sense of self-reliance in the villages.
- e) Action taken for poverty alleviation / employment generation in the village.
  - i) By the use of government schemes
  - ii) By the initiatives of Panchayat.

### **7. Strengthening the Institution of Panchayats**

- a) Do you call Gram Sabhas at regular intervals? Yes/No, If 'No' why not? If 'Yes', how often?
- b) How often do you call panchayat meetings? Do you conduct the meetings independent of others? What are the procedures you follow in conducting the meetings?
- c) Do you go alone to block and other government offices and get things done for your Panchayat? Yes/No. If No, who accompanies you?
- d) What is your role in conflict resolution? (Village conflicts, caste conflicts, etc.)

## 8. Women's Issues

- Have you improved the school attendance of the girl child? Yes/No. If Yes, How?
- Do you supervise the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and other health-related programmes? How?
- Have you conducted special assistance programmes for women/girls? Describe.
- Have you encouraged Self-Help Groups & other income generating activities?
- Which are the following issues on which you take decisions?

## 9. Community Participation

- Do you organise community for development work? How?
- Describe your achievements through community participation?

## 10. Networking with other Panchayats

- Have you done any developmental work in collaboration with other panchayats? Yes / No. If Yes, please describe.
- Have you undertaken any activities relating to awareness creation and economic development in collaboration with other villages? If Yes, please describe.

## 11. Innovative Work / Have you done any innovative work in the following sectors?

- Panchayati Raj
- Micro Planning
- Resource Mobilisation
- Education and Health
- Rural Industries and Sustainable Development
- Environmental Issues
- Gram Swaraj
- Grassroots Democracy
- Good Governance

## 12. Miscellaneous

- Are you a first timer in politics?
- Who asked you to contest the election?
- Do you think reservation is good for women? Why?
- Did you get any support from any political party or from the family members? Elaborate.
- What difficulties do you face while working in the Panchayat?

## 13. What is your Vision Plan for Gram Swaraj in 21<sup>st</sup> Century India, as Gram Swaraj Leader?

(Please do attach a Brief Note)

(Signature of the Nominee with Office Seal)

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- Chairman, Awards Jury: **Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap**, Former Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, New Delhi.
  - Convener, Awards Jury: **Dr. D. Sundar Ram**, Founder Director, AGRASRI, Tirupati.

### Note:

- The last date for submitting the Nomination Form is **31<sup>st</sup> May, 2021**. The applications for Nomination will be screened and investigated by the Awards Jury, constituted by the Academy.
- The National Awards would be conferred by the **Chief Guest** (*Hon'ble Governor/Speaker/Union Minister/Judge/Vice-Chancellor*) on the selected nominees on **20 August** every year at a **Special Function in Tirupati/New Delhi**.

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**Note:** For the List of the Recipients of the Rajiv Gandhi Gram Swaraj National Award, please visit us at: [www.agrasri.org.in](http://www.agrasri.org.in)

## A Brief Note on the Host Organisation - AGRASRI

The Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India (AGRASRI), Tirupati, was founded by social activist couple **Dr. D. Sundar Ram** and **Mrs. D. Bharathi Sundar**. It came into existence on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2001, which was registered under the Societies Registration Act, xxi of 1860, as autonomous, independent, non-political, non-profit and Professional NGO, being headquartered at Tirupati, in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh. The Academy was Inaugurated by **Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar**, Champion of decentralisation movement in contemporary India and Former Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India, on 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2002 at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

This is a unique Academy in the field of Grassroots Studies and Governance in the country. It provides a bridge between the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj and Nagar Palika Institutions, academicians, researchers, administrators, civil society organisations, grassroots level policy makers and others working in the respective fields.

**Dr. C. Rangarajan**, Former Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister of India, New Delhi, is the *Hon. Visitor* and **Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar**, Former Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India, is the *Hon. Chief Patron* of the Academy. **Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap**, Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, is the *Chairman* of the Academy Board of Governors, while **Prof. V. R. Panchamukhi**, Former Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Govt. of India, New Delhi, is the *Chairman* of the Hon. Board of Advisors of the Academy.

Many distinguished group of policy makers, scholars, administrators and researchers have been associated with the Academy, as Members of its Board of Governors, Executive Council, Distinguished Fellows, Visiting Senior Fellows, Visiting Fellows and Guest Faculty. In considering academic and research contributions to the Panchayati Raj and related issues over a period of 2 decades, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India and AMR- AP Academy of Rural Development, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, recognised the AGRASRI, as **Nodal Agency** for the Capacity Building and Training Programmes for the elected representatives of PRI's. The AGRASRI has recognised as Research Organisation under the Grant-in-aid for Maintenance and Development Scheme by the **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)**, Govt. of India, New Delhi, since 2016-2017 onwards.

The following eminent policy makers and scholars were delivered the **Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture** since 2002 onwards, with the conferment of the **Rajiv Gandhi Outstanding Leadership National Award**:

1. **Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar**, the then Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), 20 August, 2002.
2. **Shri Shivraj V. Patil**, Speaker of Tenth Lok Sabha, 25 August, 2003.
3. **Dr. T. Kutumba Rao**, Eminent Journalist and Author, 20 August, 2004.
4. **Prof. U.R. Rao**, Former Chairman, ISRO, 23 September, 2005.
5. **Prof. M.S. Swaminathan**, the then Chairman, National Commission on Farmers, 20 August, 2006.
6. **Dr. R.A. Mashelkar**, Former Director-General of CSIR, 20 August, 2007.
7. **Dr.C.Rangarajan**, the then Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister, 20 August, 2008.
8. **Dr. G. Madhavan Nair**, the then Chairman, ISRO, 20 August, 2009.
9. **(Mrs) V. Mohini Giri**, Chairperson, Guild of Service, 8 March, 2011.
10. **Dr. R. Chidambaram**, the then Principal Scientific Adviser to Govt. of India, 29 February, 2012.
11. **Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar**, Former Speaker of Lok Sabha and Former Governor, 20 August, 2012.
12. **Prof.Sukhadeo K. Thorat**, the then Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research, 20 August, 2014.
13. **Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak**, Founder, Sulabh International Social Service Organisation, 20 August, 2015.
14. **Dr. V.K. Saraswat**, Member, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India, 20 August, 2016.
15. **Prof. V. R. Panchamukhi**, Former Chairman, ICSSR, Govt. of India, 20 August, 2017.
16. **Prof. N. Radhakrishnan**, Chairman, Indian Council for Gandhian Studies, 20 August, 2019.



## RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL AWARDS

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### ABOUT THE RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL AWARDS

The **Rajiv Gandhi National Award** is an effort to acknowledge and honour extraordinary men and women who are impacting and transforming for the better our great nation through their tireless endeavors and services.

The true mark of a visionary leader lies in creating new paths for others to follow and the ability to see possibilities where none seem to exist. Aptly, these awards carry the name of the youngest Prime Minister of India **Rajiv Gandhi** - a great visionary of modern India who was a pivot of Indian politics and unforgettable reformer in the history of our times.

The **Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India, Tirupati** has instituted 7 national awards to honour the infinite genius of the leaders of contemporary India who have contributed and enriched their services to modern India, as visionaries.

The Academy presents the following National Awards on the birth day of Shri Rajiv Gandhi on 20 August annually:

- ❖ **Rajiv Gandhi Outstanding Leadership National Award.**
- ❖ **Rajiv Gandhi Best District Panchayat National Award.**
- ❖ **Rajiv Gandhi Bes Taluk Panchayat National Award.**
- ❖ **Rajiv Gandhi Best Gram Panchayat National Award.**
- ❖ **Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Shakti National Award.**
- ❖ **Rajiv Gandhi Yuva Shakti/ Paarishramika Shakti National Award.**
- ❖ **Rajiv Gandhi Gram Swaraj National Award.**

#### Eligibility

- Nominee should be a resident of India.
- **Enroll as Member of Academy is Mandatory (Patron/Donor/Life/Sponsor).**
- Have high personal values and ethics.
- Self-nominations will not be entertained.
- Have differentiating factor deemed appropriate by the Academy/ Jury.
- Have shown exemplary performance, despite challenges and contributed in his/her field for the larger goal of Society and National Building.
- The nominee for the Yuva Shakti category should be a person around 45 years of age, who has shown exemplary performance, recognised in the country, with the potential to reach the pinnacle in the years to come.
- The Award does not carry any Cash Prize. On conferment of the award, the recipient receives a Trophy and Citation.
- The Academy may defer or withhold conferring of one or more Award/Awards in any year if, in the opinion of the Jury of the Awards, no nominee/s is/are found suitable for receiving such Award/Awards.

#### The Process and Selection

The Awards honour role model policy makers, administrators, exemplary leaders in respective fields, who have exhibited exceptional leadership through pursuit of excellence.

The award process is initiated with the call for Nominations through print and electronic media, besides social networks and media. Nominations are also called from various Govt., Semi-Govt., Private Institutions and NGO's through mailers, along with Nomination Forms.

Once the Nominations are received, primary scrutiny is done by a team at the Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India and a List of qualified nominees is drawn out in each category, with support and assistance of Convener of Awards Jury.

A list of qualifiers in each category is submitted to the Awards Jury, along with complete details and credentials of each nominee. The Awards Jury, comprising Peers and Luminaries drawn from different segments of society, headed by **Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap**, eminent Constitutional expert and Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, after deliberations finally picks one Leader in each category for the Award. The Nominations will be received every year in the month of April/May by the Academy.

The Criterion for Selection of the Awardees is well thought out and detailed. It has been designed with the view that only deserving and noble candidates are short-listed for the screening process. The Nominee should be a resident of India. He/She should have fundamental leadership values, must have shown exemplary performance and contributed towards development of his/her chosen field for the larger goal of society and Nation building.

The nominees must have shown excellence despite challenges, have high personal values and human ethics, be innovative and supportive in his/her field, should have contributed towards positive evolution of public policies and have the ability to establish balance of forces operating in his/her connected field in the country.

The Jury decision will be final, and nobody questions its decision and authority.

### **Key Policy Makers of AGRASRI**

**Hon. Visitor:**

**DR. C. RANGARAJAN**

Former Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India, New Delhi.

**Hon. Chief Patron:**

**SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR**

Former Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

**Founder Chairman:**

**DR. SUBHASH C. KASHYAP**

Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, New Delhi.

**Chairman, Board of Governors:**

**PROF. V. R. PANCHAMUKHI**

Former Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

**Chairman, Hon. Board of Advisers:**

**DR. T. HANUMAN CHOWDARY**

Chairman, Pragna Bharati and Former IT Adviser to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

**President, Executive Council:**

**SMT. D. BHARATHI SUNDAR**

Co-founder, AGRASRI and Social Activist, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

**Founder and Director, AGRASRI:**

**DR. D. SUNDAR RAM**

Formerly ICSSR Senior Fellow, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

### **Jury of Rajiv Gandhi National Awards**

**Chairman, Awards Jury:**

**DR. SUBHASH C. KASHYAP**

Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, New Delhi.

**Members, Awards Jury:**

**PROF. V. R. PANCHAMUKHI**, Former Chairman, ICSSR, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

**SHRI JUSTICE D. SUBRAHMANYAM**, Former Judge, Andhra Pradesh High Court, Hyderabad.

**SHRI JUSTICE P.S. NARAYANA**, Former Judge, Andhra Pradesh High Court, Hyderabad

**Convener, Awards Jury:**

**DR.D. SUNDAR RAM**, Formerly ICSSR Senior Fellow, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.