

Appeal for the Donations

Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund (RGMLNAF)



Shri Rajiv Gandhi 1944 -1991

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 national 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 the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and Rajiv Gandhi National Awards (in 7 categories) in the Year 2002 to honour the infinite genius of the leaders of contemporary India who have contributed and enriched their services to modern India, as visionaries.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi was one of the dearest sons of mother India. As youngest Prime Minister of the largest democratic nation in the World, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had succeeded in bringing India into the company of a galaxy of selected advanced nations. His vision was of a progressive, modern India, untainted by the scourge of age-old poverty and illiteracy, retaining her cultural traditions and value and holding her head high in the comity of nations. Shri Rajiv Gandhi always talked of taking the country into the 21st Century. He emerged as a legendary with landmark achievements in his public life in pursuit of technological advancement for improving the living standards of the people of India, especially the farmers, youth, women, weaker sections and minorities. He was a man full of ideas, with a vision and a mission to see India as a great nation in the 21st Century. Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated at Sriperambudur on 21st May, 1991, while campaigning for the Congress candidate for the 10th Lok Sabha poll.

Objectives

To carry forward his legacy, the Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India (AGRASRI) has created the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund (RGMLNAF). The fund will be housed and administered by AGRASRI with the following objectives:

- i. To build the capacity of the leaders of the grassroots democratic institutions for effective management of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI's) to achieve economic development and social justice in contemporary India;
- ii. To create conducive and suitable climate for synergised activities by integrating organisations and institutions working for good governance at the grassroots level;
- iii. To propagate the ideals and vision of Shri Rajiv Gandhi towards modern India for achieving self-sufficient growth and development in every field, as developed nation;
- iv. To build a platform between the top policy makers and elected representatives of Local self-government Institutions for sharing their experiences and experiments towards policy formulation and policy advocacy;
- v. To publish the Speeches and Lectures of Shri Rajiv Gandhi on Panchayati Raj, Rural Development, Women Empowerment, Youth Development, Agriculture, Environment, Science and Technology and allied subjects, in regional language (Telugu) in the form of small booklets, folders and pamphlets and widely distribute the same to the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj, Nagar Palikas, Self-Help Group Leaders, Grassroots Women Activists, educational and research institutions/ organisations;
- vi. To Organise the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture programme every year on 20th August, i.e., Birthday of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Seventh Prime Minister of India;
- vii. To Confer the Rajiv Gandhi National Awards (in 7 categories) every year on 20th August, on eminent policy makers/men of eminence/elected representatives of PRI's, Women and Youth leaders, duly selected by the Awards Jury at all India level;
- viii. To establish the *Youth Resource Centre* for dissemination of knowledge and expertise to the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj, Nagar Palikas, Self-Help-Group Leaders, Farmers, Grassroots Women Activists through experts, in delivery of services to the people at the grassroots;
- ix. To publish the Bi-annual Research Journal, namely, *The Grassroots Governance Journal*, for understanding the Self-sufficient Village Republics in India.

List of Speakers of Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture

The Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture programme is being organised regularly in a befitting manner every year on 20th August, the Birth Anniversary Day of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Seventh Prime Minister of India, by the Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India. Since 2002, the Academy has organised 14 Memorial Lectures so far and these Memorial Lectures were delivered by eminent policy makers, scientists and men of eminence at Tirupati and New Delhi.

The following distinguished policy makers, scientists, economists and scholars of repute were delivered the *Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture* and received the *Rajiv Gandhi Outstanding Leadership National Award* (The Dates and Venues of the programmes are given in parenthesis).

1. **Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar**, Hon'ble the then Member of Parliament- Lok Sabha, New Delhi (20 August, 2002, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
2. **Shri Shivraj V. Patil**, Speaker of Tenth Lok Sabha and Hon'ble the then Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, New Delhi. (25 August, 2003, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
3. **Dr. Turlapaty Kutumba Rao**, Eminent Journalist, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh (20 August, 2004, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
4. **Prof. U.R. Rao**, Chairman, PRL Council and Former Chairman, ISRO, Govt. of India, Bengaluru (23 September, 2005, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
5. **Prof. M.S. Swaminathan**, the then Chairman, National Commission on Farmers, Govt. of India, Chennai (20 August, 2006, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
6. **Dr. R. A. Mashelkar**, Former Director-General of the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and the then President, Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi (20 August, 2007, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
7. **Dr. C. Rangarajan**, the then Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India, New Delhi (20 August, 2008, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
8. **Dr. G. Madhavan Nair**, the then Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation, Govt. of India, Bengaluru (20 August, 2009, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
9. **Dr (Mrs) V. Mohini Giri**, Former Chairperson, National Commission for Women, Govt. of India, New Delhi (8 March, 2011, Indian International Centre, New Delhi).
10. **Dr. R. Chidambaram**, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Govt. of India and the then Chancellor, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad (29 February, 2012, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh).
11. **Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar**, Former Speaker of Lok Sabha, Former Governor of Madhya Pradesh and Former Union Minister for Agriculture, Govt. of India, New Delhi (20 August, 2012, Indian Institute of Public Administration Conference Hall, New Delhi).
12. **Prof. Sukhdeo K. Thorat**, Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Govt. of India and Former Chairman, University Grants Commission of India, New Delhi (20 August, 2014, Indian Institute of Public Administration Conference Hall, New Delhi).
13. **Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak**, Founder, Sulabh International Social Service Organisation, New Delhi (20 August, 2015, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati).
14. **Dr. V.K. Saraswat**, Member, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India, New Delhi (20 August, 2016, Hotel Bliss (Darbar Hall), Tirupati).

Photo Album of Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture & National Awards 2002-2015



Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar-2002



Shri Shivraj V. Patil-2003



Prof. U.R. Rao-2005



Prof. M. S. Swaminathan-2006



Dr. R. A. Mashelkar-2007



Dr. C. Rangarajan-2008



Dr. G. Madhavan Nair-2009



Dr (Mrs) V.Mohini Giri-2010



Dr. R. Chidambaram-2011



Dr. Bal Ram Jaxhar-2012



Prof. Sukhadeo K. Thorat-2013



Dr. V.K. Saraswat-2015

Apart from the Rajiv Gandhi Outstanding Leadership National Award, the Academy has also instituted the Rajiv Gandhi Best District Panchayat, Best Taluk Panchayat, Best Gram Panchayat, Mahila Shakti, Yuva Shakti and Gram Swaraj National Awards and conferred the same on the selected nominees every year on 20 August by the distinguished Chief Guests since 2002 onwards at Tirupati and New Delhi, after duly selected and recommended by the Awards Jury headed by *Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap*, Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha and Chairman of the AGRASRI Board of Governors.

Funds received by the AGRASRI for the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund will be maintained in a separate A/c in Andhra Bank, Tirupati, to be administered by the Trust constituted for the purpose by the Board of Trustees of the AGRASRI, under the Chairmanship of *Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap*, Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, New Delhi. The specific activities/programmes will be decided upon depending on the quantum of funds generated. The amount raised will be invested in risk free securities/fixed deposits in a Nationalised Bank and the earned revenue shall be used for the above mentioned objectives. It will not be used for meeting incidental expenses of any kind. These kinds of administrative expenses for monitoring the fund would be the responsibility of AGRASRI.

We are approaching you as individuals, national/international institutions and agencies for donation/grants to generate funds for this purpose. We seek your help and support to build the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund that will be used to commemorate Shri Rajiv Gandhi's life and his contributions in a befitting way to develop panchayati raj studies and initiatives for the empowerment of women and youth in contemporary India.

A nine member Trust/Foundation shall oversee the collection, spending and monitoring of the funds generated and activities undertaken, under the Chairmanship of *Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap*, Chairman, AGRASRI Board of Governors and Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, New Delhi.

The following is the Jury of the Rajiv Gandhi National Awards:

• ***Chairman, Awards Jury:***

Prof. Subhash C. Kashyap, Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, New Delhi.

• ***Convener, Awards Jury:***

Prof. D. Sundar Ram, ICSSR Senior Fellow, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.

• ***Members, Awards Jury:***

Prof. V.R. Panchamukhi, Former Chairman, ICSSR, MoHRD, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Prof. B.K. Chandrasekhar, Former Chairman, Karnataka Legislative Council, Bengaluru.

Prof. A.N. Tiwari, IAS (Retd.), Former Chief Information Commissioner, GoI, New Delhi.

Prof. S.S. Meenakshi Sundaram, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary to Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Prof (Mrs) Manju Sharma, Former Secretary to Government of India, New Delhi.

Prof. Sushma Yadav, Member, University Grants Commission of India, New Delhi.

Shri Justice D. Subrahmanyam, Former Judge, AP High Court, Chennai.

The following is the categories of the Membership of Donations/Contributions to the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund:

King Patron Member	: Rs. 5,00,000 and above
Queen Patron Member	: Rs. 4,00,000 and above
Corporate Patron Member	: Rs. 3,00,000 and above
Life Patron Member	: Rs. 2,00,000 and above
Patron Member	: Rs. 1,00,000 and above

The membership donations/contributions shall be sent by Cheque/DD drawn in favour of **Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India (AGRASRI), Tirupati**, payable at Tirupati. Donations can be transferred through NEFT/RTGS also.

The bank details of the AGRASRI are given below:

Account Name : **Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India**
Current Account No. : **Current Account- 003311011001100**
Name of the Bank : **Andhra Bank**
Name of the Branch : **Balaji Nagar, Tirupati-517502, Andhra Pradesh**
IFSC Code : **ANDB0000033**

Please send your donations along with the Form attached duly filled in and signed, to the following address. For details, please contact **Dr. D. Sundar Ram**, Director, AGRASRI, # Plot No.11, Sri Venkata Sai Nilayam, Thummalagunta, S.V. University P.O., Tirupati-517502, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Telefax: 0877-2244777 **Mobile:** 9441245085

E.mail: drsundarram1960@gmail.com **Website:** www.agrasri.org.in

DONATION FORM

Dear Sir,

Date:

Sub:- Donation for the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund -Reg.

I/we enclose here with a Cheque/Demand Draft No.....for Rs...../- (Rupees.....) drawn on dated...../through NEFT (Bank Transfer)vide UTR No dated..... towards the **Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund**, with the **Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India, Tirupati**. This amount is paid as donation with specific direction that it shall form part of the **Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Lecture and National Awards Fund** of Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India, Tirupati. Therefore, it may be accumulated indefinitely and the income generated from it be used for the objective of the Fund.

The Fund so created may be managed as per the rules framed by your organisation subject to relevant applicable laws and statutes of the country.

Please issue a stamped receipt and Exemption Certificate u/s 80G.

I am/we are/ assessed to Income Tax & my/our PAN No. is

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,