



inspiration in action



UNV Karamveer Chakra Awardees

Brief Introduction



Gaurav Gaur

From a humble beginning in a small village in **Punjab** to making it to the Buckingham Palace, London to meet Her MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II, Gaurav has come a long way. He began his volunteerism with Nehru Yuva Kendra (MYKS), Chandigarh and at present is working as an Assistant Professor, Centre for social work, Punjab University, Chandigarh.

Gaurav has undertaken various assignments in his capacity as a volunteer with NKYS, National Social Service, and as the Commonwealth Youth ambassador for HIV/ AIDs. He promotes campaign for safe sex and has distributed 34,000 condoms so far along with other his engagement in other social issues. To convey his messages, Gaurav has adopted very unique and innovative methods such as inscribing appropriate messages on his shaved off head and on his car. His work and his innovative ideas have been recognised by various national and international agencies. Truly, he is an asset for the institution where he is currently serving, for his state and above for all INDIANS. Through his committed and consistent efforts, he has proved that with a strong will power one can take up any initiative for the vulnerable sections of the society.

As Gaurv says **“In simple words, my journey started from Punjab and I have been able to make an impact nationally and internationally.”**



Hari Pado Biswas

Born in Munshipara village of Jalpaiguri District, **West Bengal** in a very poor family, Hari started his education in Bengali medium. His parents moved to Arunachal Pradesh as PWD casual workers to support the family of seven. Hari often used to help his father work during over time for more earning. His father passed away when Hari was in 2nd Year of college and he had to work along with his education to add support to the family. Despite all odds, he completed his post-graduation with merit and was also very active in extracurricular activities with many awards to his credit.

A chance meeting with renowned Gandhian Dr. S. N. Subba Rao

in a National Integration Camp changed his life. He got very influenced by Mr. Rao's work for community development and subsequently opened an NGO called National Youth (NAP) Project of Arunachal Pradesh in 2006. NYP is now working in 205 villages of all the 16 districts in Arunachal Pradesh with 47 centers and has successfully promoted more than 6500 women in 500 SHGs, more than 7000 farmers in 205 remote villages and set up many training-cum-production centers for the unemployed youths in the region.

Every year more than 5000 unemployed youths are learning various vocational training for self-employment in these centers. For all these activities various agencies are helping Hari such as NABARD, KVIC, NCRI, IIE, etc. Altogether 13500 poor people are given platform for their overall development. In this process more than 12000 youth volunteers are associated with Hari for the community changes.

His native village is still very backward with no electricity and poor health facilities etc. This year onwards, Hari would also work for uplifting the marginalized in his native village and has started already started the construction of an English medium school in the village.



Hemant Kumar Yadav

Born and brought up in a small town in Uttar Pradesh, Hemant Kumar Yadav has about 10 years of experience in Volunteerism, which includes four years in National Service Scheme and five years in a Non-Government Organization. He values volunteerism as a part and parcel of his life and wants to see the change in the society through volunteerism.

Hemant has also been passionate about photography and he feels that both Volunteerism and photography have helped him connect with people. He has been able to bring out people's issues to public attention through photography. His work has been highly appreciated and has received a lot of media attention in the leading newspapers from time to time. He has won many prestigious awards for his work including, Indira Gandhi NSS Award. His work has connected people from different backgrounds. Recently he undertook the Rajiv Gandhi Cycle Harmony Rally from Sriperumbudur to Kanyakumari in 2010.

He is a team worker, involves others in the change process and has proved himself extensively working voluntarily for the downtrodden sections of the society. He invests whole profit of his photography profession for conducting awareness activities in promoting peace and non-violence, communal harmony, national integration, and environmental protection.



Rahul Pawa

Born in Srinagar, **J&K**, Rahul is the founder and President of the United Youth of India foundation (uyoi foundation), Youth Ambassador – Mission Eye International Service –Non Profit Television News Network; Official Representative, Curator, Host for American Think Tank TED talks and independently organized events TEDxSrinagar & TEDxYouth@Srinagar.

An Indian Human rights activist, writer, researcher, documentary producer and Social entrepreneur, best known for his “Change Movement,” The Uyoi foundation ® -YouthMovements.in, one of the fastest growing youth nexus of Change makers in India. The Uyoi foundation – is a key player in initiating action on youth affairs, concluding research and juggling innovation, on issues that the young generation is most passionate about.

With the foundations inception in early 2008, spearheading the organization, he travelled throughout the country, interacting with professionals, local administrations, recognizing faults, loop holes and talent that could usher the nation towards progress and moreover peaceful coexistence amongst all faiths, races and communities.

He has extensively worked & initiated community outreach programmes in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh ,New Delhi, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Mumbai on issues as diverse as counter terrorism, conflict studies, gender inequality, women empowerment and capacity building measures for youth, Involved in youth activism, catching eyes with famous campaigns and community outreach programmes like “the All India Candle light Vigil Post 26/11”, “Vote for a Change Campaign”, and the “Kashmir Peace Initiative” and numerous other ventures and events that have stood for unity , democracy and development. As an activist writer he writes on issue of social relevance and investigative journalism.



Santosh Kumar

Santosh is from a Bonded Labour family in a small village of Rohtas district in **Bihar**, which is naxal affected area and still feudal in nature. He belongs to the Dalit community. Since childhood, Santosh faced discrimination and untouchability several time in school and his village. In the environment he grown up, has motivated him to fight against humiliation and inequity so that he can live a dignified life. Santosh struggled hard to get education and at the age of thirteen, he finally raised his voice against injustice by the school management. This also encouraged him to work for the development of his community.

After completing his education, Santosh started an organization called “Jan Adhikar Kendra”, to tend the real liberation to their community by supporting, motivating, building capacities and develop youth and women leadership. In eighteen months of work with community, their team is actively engaged with a population of fifteen thousand. Santosh is a dedicated and determined person. He is well-qualified and can easily find a job in the city, but he has decided to stay in his village to work for development work of his community. This shows his commitment towards his cause.