

# The Phenomenal SHE



Acknowledging 100 Women



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# **The Phenomenal SHE**



**Acknowledging 100 Women**  
**2nd Edition 2019**





# Message Secretary General, INBA



Indian National Bar Association is benevolently working for the down trodden and societal upliftment of women and I, as Secretary General of INBA pleasantly welcome you all at the launch of the book, 'The Phenomenal She' on this wonderful evening.

Womanhood has been defined differently at different levels. The women today have progressed shouldering equal roles and responsibilities, remaining at top of numerous achievements. I personally feel that women have fiercely conquered the gender equation today in all environs.

I feel immense proud that INBA has come forth in successfully bringing out a book which provides a recognition to women and escalate the fact that society is no more a male chauvinist. The society is slowly elevating towards gender parity and by celebrating umpteen accomplishments of women; INBA would move the process further.

I personally congratulate all the women who are featured and all those who await to be there in the next edition, for their remarkable achievements in their respective arenas and setting the benchmarks for the budding women leaders.

Kaviraj Singh



## From the Editor's Desk



As an Editor of INBA, I formally welcome you all at the launch of the book, 'The Phenomenal She', Volume II. We really feel privileged and delighted to have the opportunity to publish the accomplishments of pioneering women of all ages and fields and get associated with you all. All of you have become a part of INBA family by supporting us and coming forward and giving us an opportunity to put forth your proficiencies and achievements.

Through this book, 'The Phenomenal She', we have tried to capture the role women play today, whether as housewives, entrepreneurs, corporate staff, government servants, artists, writers, village Sarpanchs, social workers and activists, designers, sportspersons and all others who have made rigorous efforts to outshine and bring laurels for themselves and the society as a whole.

Moving your eyes through the book, 'The Phenomenal She', your eyes would glitter and your heart would try to cage in their glimpses for their worthiness and efforts they have put in to come to a level, for which all of us aspire to be. Let's then keep our eyes still and have a glimpse of their wonderful work.....and wait for the next edition to follow, compiling many more.....

Journey we started days back, is still going and going,  
For the road is unending, and path seems tough,  
But not unworkable, for we thrive to Survive!!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bshama'.

Babita Sharma



## Message Senior Advisor, INBA



Indian National Bar Association on International Women's Day is acknowledging the valuable contribution of women in a coffee table book, 'The Phenomenal She', Volume II and I as the INBA Advisor humbly welcome you all at the launch of this book. Being a woman the book has a special place in my heart and my aim is to recognize role of 100 women every year belonging to various fields who have carved a niche for themselves and the society in their respective arena.

The book is a collaboration of consistent hard work, conscientious and a thorough research which is required for 'The Phenomenal She', to become a huge success. In an endeavour to endorse women empowerment and for upliftment of women in the society, INBA provides Free Legal Aid and have worked to inhibit the burgeoning sexual harassment.

The vision of INBA is to bring an era of Gender Equality and to achieve this; I would strive hard with your support and under the guidance of our patrons to give my best to INBA, simultaneously abiding and sincerely fulfilling my other family responsibilities to the utmost.

Seeking your support, going forward with the next edition we aspire to include International profiles of Women in 'The Phenomenal She', who have attained heights in different fields and the task is hitherto in progress.

W for women and W for work, both start with same alphabet,  
Well, both are unique and when both team up they supercede every being!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Vinakshi'.

Vinakshi Kadan

**Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil**  
**Former President of India**



**“Raigad” Bungalow,**  
**Pashan Road,**  
**Pune - 411 008**

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2019



### **MESSAGE**

It is a pleasure to know that Indian National Bar Association, an NGO working for Women Empowerment, Free Legal Aid, Domestic Violence, Gender Equality etc. is organising an event titled 'The Phenomenal She' a book launch of 100 Phenomenal Women of the country to promote female leadership.

No country can achieve its full potential without adequately developing the capabilities of its women. Every year, International Women's Day is being observed on 8<sup>th</sup> March, to commit ourselves to endeavour for gender equality and justice. It is a movement to glorify the zeal of conventional women, who have shown exceptional capacities in constructing their own personality, their families, communities, society and the country as well.

Many women in India have reached high positions and many are doing well in different spheres of life and different professions, once unthinkable for women. I believe that participation of women in all spheres of activity is imperative, if the human race is to realise its full potential. Just as a bird flies with two wings and a chariot moves on two wheels, a society needs to have men and women who are equally strong and capable, for a balanced and sustained growth of the society and the nation. The efforts to empower women through education, awareness and opportunities must continue.

On this occasion, I convey my greetings and felicitations to all the members of Indian National Bar Association and hope they will continue their relentless efforts in shaping the destiny of women and our country through their various initiatives in the line of women empowerment.

Pratibha Devisingh Patil





# Message Hon'ble Justice Sangita Dhingra Sehgal



Women constitute the largest segment of the population, the world over. Gender discrimination is rampant in all walks of life cutting across caste, class, ethnicity, race, region and religion. Invariably, women engage in multiple roles in the society; however, the extent of contribution made by them is rarely acknowledged. In the words of Hon'ble Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, "Empowerment of women is essential as their value system leads to the development of a good family, society and ultimately a good nation." Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru has rightly said, "If you educate a man you educate an individual, however, if you educate a woman you educate a whole family. Women empowered means mother India empowered." Education is a powerful tool to improve the position of women in India and also

significant for her overall development. Education enables a woman to take decisions, put forth her ideologies and accept responsibilities at home and also at world, at large for their empowerment. In order to become a powerful country, proper education and social status must be accorded to women of the country. Women play a great role in the growth and development of the society. Women are making inroads in all walks of life, successfully breaking all the stereotypes which indeed is inspiring. Indian judiciary observed 2018 as a high point for women leadership as for the first time, the Supreme Court has three sitting female judges.

I am delighted to learn the efforts of Indian National Bar Association which is a non-profit, non-government association and is involved in various activities pertaining to women empowerment, not to forget its survey and initiatives for awareness related to sexual harassment at workplace. It is only because of the efforts of organizations like Indian National Bar Association, which aims to promote gender equality in each sphere, we can expect a better world with lesser biases and gender stereotypes. One of the well known steps taken forward by INBA in order to recognize women empowerment is to publish a book named "The Phenomenal She" on International Women's Day which not only recognizes 100 women for their various achievements in different fields but also celebrates their individuality. I believe that Women empowerment is a way to celebrate the long-term struggle of women and the recognition of their existence in a patriarchal society and encourages the readers to appreciate the same. Feminism is a concept which recognizes gender neutrality and promotes equal rights for men and women.

I convey my best wishes to all the members of the Indian National Bar Association and wish them all success for their upcoming endeavors.



# Message

## H.E. Ambassador of India to Sweden & Latvia



Women constitute one half of humanity. Women in contemporary India are striving towards empowerment in all walks of life, be it social, economic, political or cultural. Women's voices in India's civil society display courage, integrity and vision.

I warmly congratulate Indian National Bar Association for bringing out the book titled "The Phenomenal SHE" lauding women path breakers, their achievements and their successes. I am confident that while the book acknowledges significant accomplishments and triumphs of several extraordinary women, it would encourage many more to work towards breaking old barriers and breaching glass ceiling.

I wish you every success.

Monika Kapil Mohta  
Ambassador of India to Sweden & Latvia



**POOJA KAPUR** is an ambassador of India to the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia. She joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1996 and has previously served at Indian Embassies / High Commissions in Paris, London, Kuala Lumpur and Brussels. Pooja has held charges pertaining to India's relationship with Western Europe, South East Asia, the United Nations and the Commonwealth at the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi, most recently heading the ASEAN Multilateral Division. Pooja is a published author and a frequent speaker at international conferences and events. She was the Chief Coordinator of the Delhi Dialogue for three years and has been instrumental in the establishment of several India-focused organisations abroad.



**SMT. ANANDIBEN PATEL**, Governor of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh is also an Academician, Social Reformist and Politician. She took up teaching as a career in 1962. Smt. Patel retired as a Principal of renowned Mohinaba Girls High School, Ahmedabad. She received "President's Best Teacher Award" (1989) and Gallantry Award. Smt. Patel is pioneer in forming Mahila Morcha (Women Wing) of BJP. She served as a member Rajya Sabha and as a Cabinet Minister for Education, Road & Building and Capital Projects, Revenue & Disaster Management, Urban Development and Urban Housing, Women & Child Development Departments in the Government of Gujarat. Smt. Patel became first woman Chief Minister of Gujarat in 2014 and has been honoured with 4 Golden Book of World Records in the year 2018. Her contribution in the fields of Politics, Education and Social Issues can be found in the book titled "Karm Yatri".



**JUSTICE RUMA PAL** was a judge of Supreme Court of India until her retirement on 3 June, 2006. She read for her B.C.L degree at St Anne's College, Oxford and started practice in 1968 in Civil, Revenue, Labour and Constitutional matters in the Calcutta High Court. After a long and distinguished career as an advocate, she was appointed Judge in the Calcutta High Court on 6 August, 1990. She was further nominated to Supreme Court of India on 28 January, 2000, the day of the Golden Jubilee of the court. Justice Pal has delivered many critical judgments in famous cases. She has written on a number of human rights issues. She is also a member of the International Forum of Women Judges. Justice Pal edited many text-books for legal studies including famous book on Indian Constitutional Law by Prof. M P Jain. She became the Chancellor of Sikkim University and one of the trustees of legal diversity non-profit organization, Increasing Diversity by Increasing Access.



**JUSTICE REKHA MITTAL** did B.A. in the year 1977 from Punjabi University, Patiala and LL.B in the year 1980 Panjab University, Chandigarh. She joined Punjab Judicial Services in November, 1983. Her first posting was at Patiala. She was then promoted to Superior Judicial Services in the year 1999 and remained posted as Additional District Judge at Jalandhar and Amritsar. She became District and Sessions Judge in the year 2006 and was posted at Ropar. She remained posted as District Judge, Ferozepur from 2011 to June 2012. She was elevated as Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court with effect from 15th June, 2012 and thereafter as Permanent Judge on 19th December 2014.



**JUSTICE DAYA CHAUDHARY** was enrolled as an Advocate with Bar Council of Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh in 1987. She is specialized in Constitutional, Civil, Criminal and Tax and held the coveted post of Senior Central Government Standing Counsel, Assistant Solicitor General of India in Punjab & Haryana High Court. She was designated Senior Advocate by Punjab & Haryana High Court and had credit of being the only senior designate woman lawyer in the High Court at that time. She has also been Special Public Prosecutor (CBI) and Member, Counselling Centre, Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh. She was elevated as Judge of Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh in 2007. Presently, she is President of Board of Governors of Chandigarh Judicial Academy, Chairperson of Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee, Chairperson of Inter District Transfer Committee, Member of Recruitment and Promotion Committee (Superior Judicial Service), Member of Committee for Sensitization of Family Court, PCPNDT and POCSO matters and Member of Grievances Redressal Committee.



**JUSTICE NIRMALJIT KAUR** got enrolled as an Advocate in August 1987 and started practice in Punjab and Haryana High Court at Chandigarh. Besides a good private practice, she held the posts of "Legal Correspondent", "Additional Standing Counsel for the Government of India", "Additional Advocate General, Punjab" and "Assistant Solicitor General of India". She was Standing Counsel of D.A.V. Managing Committee, New Delhi and also remained on the panel of various Boards and Corporations. Justice Kaur mainly dealt with Service, Criminal, Labour and Constitutional Law. She was elevated as a Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court on July 10, 2008 and sworn-in as permanent Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court on 29th June, 2012. She was transferred to Rajasthan High Court and took oath as Judge, Rajasthan High Court, on July 9, 2012. Thereafter, repatriated to Punjab and Haryana High Court and took oath as Judge, Punjab and Haryana High Court on 20.11.2018.



**MADHAVI GORADIA DIVAN** currently serves as Additional Solicitor General of India in Supreme Court. Madhavi commenced practice in Bombay High Court initially focussing on commercial cases. Madhavi has practised before Supreme Court, appearing in several landmark constitution cases. She argued before the Constitution Bench in Sahara India vs. SEBI where the Court framed guidelines for the media in respect of coverage of court proceedings. Madhavi appeared for State of Gujarat in the Presidential Reference on allocation of natural resources. Last year she addressed the Constitution Bench on facets of privacy in the case concerning WhatsApp. Madhavi is known amongst students, professors and journalists through her authoritative work; Facets of Media Law. Madhavi was on the editorial board of the magnificent book – ‘Courts of India: Past to Present’, published by Supreme Court and was primary author of the chapter on landmark trials. She is Editor-in-Chief of The Indian Advocate, the journal of the Bar Association of India, once edited by Mr. C. K. Daphtary.



**KAVITA JAIN** is a BJP Member, Politician and present MLA for Sonipat and Cabinet Minister in the Government of Haryana state, India. Kavita is at present Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Haryana. Kavita has been twice elected as member of Haryana Legislative Assembly in 2009 and again in 2014 from Sonipat. As a Minister she has charge of Department of Urban Local Bodies and Department of Women & Child Development, Haryana.



**NEETA BHUSHAN**, Consul General of India – Chicago joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1994. As a career diplomat, her overseas assignments have included political and information work in Tokyo (Japan), Head of the Press, Culture and Information Wing in Dhaka (Bangladesh) and Head of the Economic and Commercial Wing in the Indian Embassy in Berlin (Germany). She also worked as Director in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and as Joint Secretary (Parliament & Coordination) in the Ministry of External Affairs. Before joining as Consul General of India in Chicago, she was Deputy Chief of Mission in Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi.



**PETAL GAHLOT** is an officer of the Indian Foreign Service. Born in New Delhi, she graduated in Political Science from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. She then did her M.A. in Political Science from Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi and was a gold medallist in the discipline. She wrote the Civil Services Exam and secured an All India Rank of 96, thus ensuring her selection to the IFS in 2015. Since then, she has served as Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Third and Second Secretary at the Embassy of India, Paris, and is currently posted as Consul at the Consulate General of India, San Francisco in the United States. Petal is also an artist and a singer, notably in French, and guitar player and has competed in various competitions. Her French singing gave her the chance to represent India in various French festivals.



**PURNIMA SHARMA** is the Deputy Mayor of Jammu & Kashmir, and also a practising lawyer in J&K for over two decades. A social worker and full time politician, Purnima belongs to the family which has devoted its life to BJP right from its inception. She officially joined BJP in 1989 and supervised the food requirement at Gita Bhawan during Kashmir Migration. In 1992 Purnima worked as State Secretary BJYM in Jammu & Kashmir. In 2002 she was elected Vice President of Yuva Morcha. As a social activist, Purnima had been camping, networking and monitoring the social tasks undertaken by BJP since 1989. In 2014 she was the booth coordination incharge during the elections.



**SRITA HEIDE**, a German of Indian origin is Founder & CEO of Srita Heide International (SHI), an Indo-European Business Advisory firm. Firm supports international companies in areas of strategic planning, organizational development and establishing of JVs and subsidiaries. SHI operates from Germany and India. She is the President of practice group EU and Emerging Markets – a think tank group working with various associations at the European Union in Brussels. Srita offers career counselling to young professionals up to senior managers in top management. She is also engaged as guest lecturer at renowned business schools in Germany and India. Srita is associated with various international Women’s organizations dealing with women empowerment, social challenges, female entrepreneurship etc. According to Srita Heide – “Internationalization of markets and Globalization can only be successful, if this also means chances and opportunities for those people, who are not able to participate actively in the process and influence the system”.





**SWARAN LATA** is presently, Senior Director and Head, TDIL Programme, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India. Lata has published many research papers on Punjabi Phonology and internationalization of Global standards in the context of Indian Languages. She is also the chairman of ICC, MeitY, Sexual Harassment Prevention Committee. Lata represents the country in international standards organizations, i.e. UNICODE, ISO, W3C, ELRA, to ensure representation of Indian languages in the international standards. She is instrumental in getting all 22 officially recognized languages, including Vedic Sanskrit incorporated in UNICODE. She was honoured as Mahila Prashashan Ratna Sammaan, March 2017, Panini Award 2015, MAIT 2013, Skoch Award 2011 for rollout of 22 Scheduled Indian Languages softwares and tools.



**USHA CHATURVEDI**, recipient of the prestigious Bravery Award by the then Chief Minister of Delhi, is currently serving as Deputy Director in the Education Department, Government of NCT Delhi. She has served the majority of her tenure in the Education department itself, with focus on how to improve the quality of education especially for the downtrodden. Her constant efforts have resulted in devising of various special programmes for the children who cannot afford the expensive education. She also served as the Sub-Divisional Magistrate in Delhi. She was responsible for recording the statement of the victim of the infamous Nirbhaya case, which subsequently became the dying declaration of the victim. Despite constant pressure from the police department to not record the statement of the victim, her rigorous approach towards the trial of the said case ultimately led to the conviction of all the persons accused for the brutal and inhuman act. She has received various laurels from Government for working fearlessly for betterment of women.



**MADHU DESHMUKH** CEO, CARE India brings over 26 years of experience with her in the social sector, focussing on issues related to HIV/AIDS, sexual & reproductive health and gender equality and women's empowerment, both in India as well as in several other countries. Madhu began her professional journey in the areas of maternal health and HIV/AIDS in the slums of Delhi, where she developed behaviour change communication related technical strategies, action plans and trainings. Madhu then went on to serve in executive leadership and senior management positions with several organisations, including national and international NGOs, DFID, UNDP, UNAIDS and National AIDS Control Organization (NACO/WHO). Madhu joined CARE, India in 2002 as the Director of HIV/AIDS programme. Subsequently, Madhu occupied multiple senior global level positions with CARE USA. Madhu was appointed the Chief Operating Officer – Asia Region with the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), India in 2015. Madhu is recognised for having successfully led strategic initiatives, building high performing diverse global teams and effective change management.



**PURNIMA VORIA** is the Founder and CEO of the National US India Chamber of Commerce (NUICC). Voria is an international business advocate, speaker and an US-India expert. She was appointed by US Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke as a National Advisor to the Minority Business Development Agency to drive growth and policy-making for 5.8 million minority businesses in the US. In 2017, Voria was invited by the US State Department to join Ivanka Trump at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Hyderabad, India. She was awarded a Congressional Medal of Distinction for her outstanding leadership in business and her contributions to the United States economy. In 2005, The Wall Street Journal honored Ms. Voria as a Business Woman of the Year. Voria served as Opening Speaker for the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, Australia on Trade and Investments. She has been featured on BBC World News London and has travelled worldwide as keynote speaker for Global CEO business conferences.



**IRA SINGHAL** is the First Person with Disability to top Civil Services Examination, 2014. She currently serves as SDM, Alipur sub-division in North Delhi. Apart from this she is Brand Ambassador for Department of Disability, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. She is also a brand ambassador for Niti Aayog and is on National Panel for Accessible Elections, Election Commission of India. Her innumerable awards include India Today's Woman of the Year 2015, President's Gold Medal for Topping IAS Training, First Ladies of India Award by Ministry of Women & Child Development, GOI. She is also recorded in the Limca Book of Records. She has worked towards various social causes including empowerment of persons with disabilities, empowerment and promotion of Transgender community, Women Empowerment, prevention of Child labour & child marriages, promoting green energy, skill development, promotion of Mental Health and promotion of Khadi and indigenous fabrics.



**REMA RAJESHWARI** is the first female IPS from Munnar, Kerala and the topper of the IPS 2009 batch. She started her career as an Assault Commander with the 'Greyhounds', an elite special force, which undertakes high risk operations through jungle warfare against left-wing extremists. She successfully implemented a much-needed initiative, "Community Outreach Program," which creates awareness against social vices and runs campaigns such as "Saving Child Brides," "Child Labourers' Rescue," "SHE Teams," "Legal Literacy for Underprivileged Rural Women," and "Rehabilitation of Joginis - girls dedicated as servant of God/forced into prostitution". Ms. Rema's recent initiative, "Balyaniki Raksha," is a community outreach program on child safety that works to educate the children of rural India to break the silence around child sexual abuse. Sensitivity training is part of the 'Gender Peace program' she runs in Mahbubnagar district. The police officers are trained to be sensitive while dealing with various kinds of gender-based violence.



**IPS ANJU MANGLA**, at present, is working as Assistant Commissioner, Department of Trade and Taxes, Govt of Delhi. She has served as Prison Department from October 2013 as Superintendent Prison, women jail, and took charge of the male jail for young offenders from July 2016. She initiated a Gurukul system of education, which includes daily sessions of PT and Yoga, literacy classes, skill development programs, sports and recreational activities, a program to tackle the menace of drug abuse and so on. She received the DG Disc for her outstanding contribution to the reformative and rehabilitative activities in the prison. She is recipient of 'First Ladies Award' from Ministry of Women And Child Development, Govt of India and felicitated by President of India on 20th January 2018. She also received 'Devi Award' organized by The Sunday Standard, The New Indian Express on 13th November 2018.



**DR. TESSY THOMAS** is a Scientist and Director General of Aeronautical Systems and former Project Director for Agni\_IV missile in Defence Research & Development Organisation. Tessa is first woman scientist to head a missile project in India and known as the 'Missile Woman' of India. Tessa has an M.Tech in Guided Missile from Institute of Armament Technology, Pune and also pursued MBA in Operations Management and Ph.D. in missile guidance from JNTG, Hyderabad. Tessa received Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for her contribution for making India self-reliant in field of missile technology. Tessa joined DRDO in 1986 at IAT Pune as faculty member. Tessa was associate project director of the Agni-III missile project. She was Project Director for mission Agni IV and was appointed as Director-General, Aeronautical Systems of DRDO in 2018. Tessa is a fellow in various universities such as Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE), Institution of Engineers-India (IEI) and Telangana Academy of Sciences (TAS).



**LANGPOKLAKPAM SUBADANI DEVI** is a Traditional Weaver and Entrepreneur from Manipur specialized in Traditional Manipuri Handloom & Handicrafts. She has been awarded the Padma Shri in 2018 for her contribution to the art of weaving. She started weaving at very tender age of 10 and even after her marriage she continued to work, making mostly Khudei, Phanek and Wangkhei phi. Subadani formed a co-operative society in 1980's and started on a venture wherein the women weavers could weave and also fulfill their familial responsibilities simultaneously. She herself conducted many training programs for weavers. Subadani got the national award in 1993 for her excellence in Textile designing. She was also the winner of the first prizes in the state and central Handloom and Handicrafts exhibitions at Imphal in the year 1992, 1993 and 1998. She received the Sant Kabir Award for her contribution to the development of traditional Handloom Artistic Textile, Ningkham Samjin design sheet in 2011.



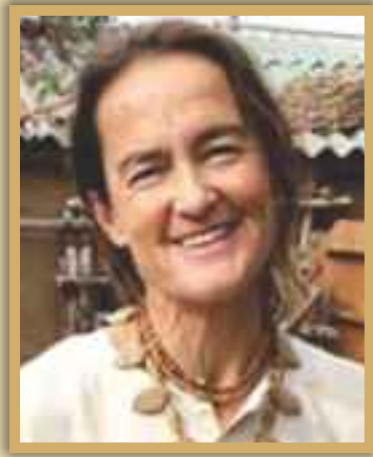
**ANJU BOBBY GEORGE** won the bronze medal in Long Jump at the 2003 World Championships in Athletics in Paris, becoming first Indian athlete to win a medal in a World Championships in Athletics jumping 6.70m. She also won the gold medal at the IAAF World Athletics Final in 2005. She was awarded the Arjuna Award in 2002-2003. She had got 5th position at the 2004 Athens Olympics. Anju won the gold medal at the Asian Games in Busan, South Korea. She won silver medal in women's long jump in 15th Asian Games, 2006 held at Doha. She was awarded the country's highest sporting honour, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award in 2003-2004, besides being awarded the Padma Shri in 2004. The ace athlete was ex-president of the Kerala State Sports Council (KSSC). She has completed her tenure as Chairperson of TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) and is also the Executive member of Khelo India project instituted by the Government of India.



**DR. KAMINI RAO** is India's foremost obstetricians & gynecologists and a recipient of the Padma Shri 2014. Dr. Rao founded one of India's leading fertility chains "Milann", formerly known as BACC Healthcare. Dr. Rao has authored nearly 50 medical textbooks and a large number of journal and chapter publications. Dr. Rao served as President of All India Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies (FOGSI), 2000 and of Indian Society for Assisted Reproduction between 2006 and 2008. Dr. Rao served as a Member of the Central Supervisory Board, GOI for implementation of the Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques (PNDT) Act, Member, National Apex Committee for Stem Cell Research and Therapy and Member of drafting committee for formulating National Guidelines for "Accreditation, Supervision and Regulation of ART Clinics in India". Dr. Rao was awarded Lifetime Achievement Award by Indian Society for Assisted Reproduction and Federation of Obstetric & Gynecological Societies of India.



**DR. SMITA KOLHE** along with her husband Dr. Ravindra Kolhe was awarded Padma Shri in 2019 for her 34 years of dedicated, untiring and incomparable work for tribals of Melghat. Dr. Smita and her husband have successfully worked on improving the health conditions in Bairagarh and charged just Re 1 for consultation; the fee itself is utilized for buying the medicines. Dr. Smita convinced the people of Melghat against animal sacrifices in Ram Navmi. She also helped in making Melghat a suicide-free zone for farmers and organized various camps for youth to raise awareness about new farming techniques, saving the environment, and beneficial government schemes. Even Dr. Smita's elder son is also a farmer by profession. In 1997, Dr. Smita contested Gram Panchayat Election and became Deputy Sarpanch. It was first time in Bairagarh, women panel won. In her tenure Roads, Electricity and Toilets were constructed in Bairagarh and now Melghat has good roads, electricity and 12 primary health centres.



**FRIEDERIKE IRINA BRUNING** a Padma Shri awardee is a 61-year-old German woman who is popularly known as 'gau mata ki aashraydaatri'. She visited India from Berlin in 1978 as a tourist to seek guidance from a guru. She went to Radha Kund in Mathura. There, a neighbour requested her to buy a cow and her life changed after that. Bruning is fondly called as Sudevi Mataji in India. She has been taking care of cows for almost 25 years now. She started her cowshed known as 'Surbhai Gauseva Niketan'. Bruning has divided her place in such a manner that cows needing special care are kept at one place. Blind and badly injured needing attention are kept in a separate enclosure. She was conferred with the fourth highest civilian honour Padma Shri in 2019 for her unceasing efforts towards animal welfare.



**SUBHASINI MISTRY** is an Indian social worker. She was the daughter of a poor farmer family of West Bengal and got married at the tender age of 12 due to her family condition. Her husband was a poor laborer and died of illness while she was only 23. She had no necessary education, so she took the job of a housemaid to feed her own two children and was forced to send two of them to an orphanage, as she couldn't feed the four children with her own earnings. Her desperation had made her to dream of creating a hospital for the poor, so that no one else has to suffer the fate similar to her husband. She has worked more than 45 years and went on to build a charitable hospital called "Humanity Hospital" for the poor who can't afford medical care. For her dedication to serve the society, Subhasini has been conferred the Padma Shri Award in 2018.



**PROF. ROHINI GODBOLE** is an Indian physicist and academic. She is a professor at the Centre for High Energy Physics, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and has worked extensively on different aspects of particle phenomenology over the past four decades. Prof. Godbole was part of the International Detector Advisory Group (IDAG) for the International Linear Collider in the European research lab, CERN. She was the founding Chair of the Panel for Women in Science initiative of the Indian Academy of Sciences. Satyendranath Bose Medal of Indian National Science Academy in 2009, Honoris Causa by the S.N.D.T University (Mumbai) in 2013 and Devi Award of the New Indian Express Group, in August 2015 are some of the honours she has received. She is a recipient of the distinguished alumnus award of the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai. Recently in 2019 she has been awarded the fourth highest civilian award, Padma Shri for her contribution in the field of Science and Technology.



**URVASHI BUTALIA** was conferred the Padma Shri, for her contribution in the field of literature and education in 2011. Urvashi is an Indian feminist and publisher and co-founded Kali for Women, India's first feminist publishing house, in 1984. In 2003, she founded Zubaan Books. Urvashi started her career working with Oxford University Press in Delhi. Urvashi's main areas of interest are partition and oral histories from a feminist perspective. Among her best known publications is the award-winning history of Partition: The Other Side of Silence: Voices from the Partition of India (winner of the Oral History Book Association Award 2001 and the Nikkei Asia Prize for Culture, 2003). Urvashi has written on gender, communalism, fundamentalism and media. Her writings have appeared in several newspapers and magazines publications including, The Guardian, the New Internationalist, The Statesman, The Times of India, Outlook and India Today. Urvashi has won several awards including the French Chevalier des Arteset des Lettres and the German Goethe Medaille.





**MUKTABEN PANKAJKUMAR DAGLI** is a Padma Shri awardee in 2019 for social work for the welfare of India's Divyang people group. She joined the Andh Kanya Prakash Gruh in 1978 in Standard- VI. Muktaben started a blind School at Surendra Nagar known as 'Pragna Chakshu Mahila Seva Kunj', first of its kind in Gujarat, where she has 200 girls studying from Standard-I to XII. Muktaben runs a residential school and trains girls in Computer/Beauty-care/Handicraft etc., exactly on the I.T.I pattern. Muktaben also started first old age home for blind women. Self employment project for blind persons is a unique project at Morbi and Umergam. A hostel for college going village students is a new step for blind boys in Ahmedabad. Muktaben is regarded as Helen Keller and Mother Teresa for blind persons. She was awarded with Stree Shakti Puraskar in 2001. She has also received National Award from Ministry of Social Justice in 2009.



**MAHALAKSHMI PAVANI** enrolled as an Advocate on Record in Supreme Court in 2005. She was designated as a Senior Advocate by SC in April 2015. Pavani was elected as President of Supreme Court Women Lawyers Association in April 2014 and has been a Senior Executive Member of Supreme Court Bar Association during 2015-16. Pavani was appointed as Vice Chairman of Supreme Court Legal Cell of INC and also served as a Senior Representative before the SC on issues regarding women's dignity at workplace, child pornography, seeking harsher punishment for the child rapist and gender parity in appointment of Judges. Pavani through her petition before Supreme Court sought an apology for the derogatory comments that were made against women by M.L. Sharma and A.P. Singh in the BBC's in famous documentary about the Nirbhaya Gang rape named India's Daughter. Of lately she has been the only woman to contest for the post of Vice President of SCBA in 2018.



**SMT. LEELABEN ANKOLIYA** has been working as a chairperson of Gujarat State Commission for women, Gandhinagar since last 10 years. Under the Active chairmanship of her, Gujarat is the first state that has started 270 Nari Adalat in all over Gujarat, which works for issues related women rights and their welfare. By her active efforts, Gujarat State commission has started Free help line No. 1800 233 1111 for women related issues. Commission has also done a great work at college, university level, Commission arranges legal seminar on subject of legal awareness of women under the chairmanship of Smt. Leelaben Ankoliya.



**HARSHITA PANDEY** is the Chairman, Chhattisgarh Women Commission. Harshita consciously trained herself in maternal and child health by getting associated with grass root, national and international development organizations. Bringing all stakeholders together, Harshita barged into the most difficult and challenging world of women empowerment thus ushering with many innovative initiatives viz. Janata Samata Prahari-including youths as the change makers in the drive against atrocities to women; mahila chaupal; betiyon se mann ki baat etc. schemes were flagged off for positive changes in the conditions of women of Chhattisgarh especially the discriminated and vulnerable sections in the women fraternity. Development of training modules on Women Rights in local dialect viz. halbi, gondi for the tribal women in Naxalite affected regions conceptualized by Harshita made a historical mark in the state. Lakshika and Virangana schemes for the adolescent girls were taken up by the commission in her leadership.



**SUMATIBALA NINGTHOUJAM** is the Chairperson of Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Rights (MCPCR). In 2017 the Commission has developed "The Manipur State Policy for Children" and submitted to the govt of Manipur. Under her initiative a Child Hearing Room has been opened at the Commission Premise and Child Friendly Police Stations in Manipur. The Commission has initiated for laying down the Guidelines for Pre-Nursery schools in collaboration with the Dept of Social Welfare and school education. Implementation of the Regulatory Hostel Guidelines formulated by NCPCR for Educational Institutions in Manipur is going to be adopted soon. She has been the President of Mahila Morcha for BJP Manipur. Her political career also boasts of being an Executive Member and State Councillor for BJP Manipur. She dreams of a Resurgent as well as a Child Friendly Manipur and is working really hard for converting her cherished dreams into a reality.



**SWATI MALIWAL** is the Chairperson of Delhi Commission for Women and is a brave crusader for women's rights in India. She is best known for taking action against traffickers, busting the liquor and drug mafia and taking vested interests in the system to secure the rights of women and girls. In April 2018, Swati sat on an indefinite hunger strike demanding the Centre to ensure death penalty for rapists of children within 6 months. On the 10th day of the hunger strike, the Government finally accepted her demands and passed an ordinance which accords death penalty to rapists of children. Earlier she started a movement named 'RapeRoko' with the demands to ensure death penalty for rapists of children within 6 months and increase of police forces in Delhi. During this movement 5.5 Lakh letters were sent to Prime Minister of India with these demands. Ms Maliwal took charge of the DCW on July 29, 2015. She has also worked as advisor to CM, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.



**G. HYMAVATHI** is the Chairperson of Andhra Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights. Hymavathi has been active in various statutory committees at district and State Level including CWC, PCPNDT, WCD-supplies Procurement Committees, and Management Committees for end of violence against women, child labour prohibition and received best Awards and felicitations every year by the Administrations. Hymavathi's work and leadership of civil society have been recognized by the Government and NGOs with NATURE being awarded the Best Tribal Development Organization by Andhra University, Visakhapatnam; and My Frame 2010 Award by UNICEF-UoH (University of Hyderabad) for promoting Children as Media Producers camp. Her efforts have promoted and nurtured 1200 Volunteers and 25000 women leaders as a Social Capital – Strong Rights activists to lead the Women & Child Rights Protection and Tribal Empowerment in North Coastal Districts of A.P. covering 25000 vulnerable children.



**PREETI BHARDWAJ** is a leading socio-legal activist and at present she is the Vice Chairperson, Haryana State Commission for Women with the Government of Haryana. She started her career with V.V.Giri National Labour Institute, Noida and also worked with Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, Center for Women Development Studies (CWDS) with Legal luminaries like Prof. Lotika Sarkar, Prof. Babu Mathew, Dr. Veena Majumdar and Prof. Rajan Varghese that served to set her nurturing from a student of Law, to a Researcher. In her present tenure at Haryana State Commission for Women, she has made remarkable recommendations and stance/steps to address various issues pertaining to the social, economic and political condition of women especially in State of Haryana in alignment with the mandate, vision and as per the object and reasons of the Haryana State Commission for Women Act, 2012.



**DR. VRUSHALI (VASANTI) DESHPANDE** is presently the Hon'ble Member of Maharashtra State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Government of India. With an experience of more than three decades in tackling and rehabilitating orphaned and abandoned children, victims of child abuse and children in difficult circumstances, Dr. Vrushali is an Executive Director of NGO, "Varadaan", through which she gives special emphasis to promote girl child adoption, counseling prospective adoptive parents. She is associated with Nagpur CHILD LINE 1098 an Emergency helpline for children in difficult situations since 1998. Dr. Vrushali is a member of review committee of Balsangopan Yojna, Government of Maharashtra and has addressed rallies, seminars and conferences for the cause of child rights. Dr. Vrushali is a member, of Advisory committee for One Stop Centre under District collector, member, National Executive Council of Bhartiya Stree Shakti., member, Advisory committee, PCPNDT Act 1994. Dr. Vrushali is a recipient of Ahilyadevi Holkar award of Maharashtra State Government in a year 2011.



**TRISHNA MOHAN KRIPALANI** manages the rule of law activities of the Thomson Reuters Foundation in South Asia, promoting the culture of pro bono through TrustLaw, the world's largest legal pro bono platform working with the best law firms to provide free legal assistance and ground-breaking research to social enterprises and NGOs in 175 countries. She has a deep understanding of the complexities of business and human rights and is working to contribute to this change agenda globally. Her career has been driven to bring purpose to her work; taking on pro bono cases for women and children, espousing the right to fair trial, water and sanitation and right against forced displacement, conducting trainings for police and paramilitary forces on use of force and firearms, undertaking legislative drafting for Ministry of Women and Child Development, India and teaching the law.



**DR SWATI KASHYAP** is a Psychiatrist, Addictionologist and Family Physician currently working as a Consultant Psychiatrist at Vidyasagar Institute of Mental Health and Neuro sciences (VIMHANS) and running her own practice at the Mind Clinic in New Delhi. She pursued further specialization in Behavioural Medicine through Practitioner Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Hypnotherapy from LCCH, London followed by Diploma in Addictionology and in Psychotherapy. After practicing in the UK for some time she returned to India and worked as H.O.D, Behavioural Medicine at Fortis, La Femme and Kailash Hospitals and Senior Consultant, Behavioural Medicine at Escorts Heart Institute. Dr Swati has conducted seminars, workshops and lectures on public platforms. She holds a Master's degree in Hindustani Classical Music and is an avid artist and painter. Her art exhibitions have received wide media coverage and appreciation from art critics, art lovers and renowned artists. She has received the prestigious Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini National award for outstanding contribution in the field of Art in 2001.



**NITI PAUL** is a Co-Founder of Atlas Law Partners. She is also a Partner and Practice Head of both the General Corporate Practice and Banking & Finance practice of the firm. Prior to starting her own firm, Niti had worked in some of the top corporate law firms of the country, specializing in her field. Over the years, Niti has advised clients in diverse sectors, including financial services, retail, hospitality, healthcare, real estate, IT, entertainment, publications, telecom etc. on all aspects pertaining to joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions, foreign investments – inbound and outbound, corporate restructuring, regulatory issues and employment laws etc. She provides comprehensive and on-going assistance to various international private equity funds investing in India on all aspects related to such investments. Niti has also been an advocate for women's rights, and has been part of various POSH committees in corporations. Niti also strongly believes in advancing the cause of education opportunities for under-privileged children.



**PROF. VED KUMARI** is Head & Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi since September 2016. She has been into teaching since 1983 and has expertise in Criminal Law, Juvenile Justice, Comparative Jurisprudence, Family Law, Torts, Property Law, Criminology, Rehabilitative Techniques and Correctional Administration, Research Methods, Judicial Ethics, Doctrine of Precedents, Gender Justice, Women in Law, Judicial training, Clinical Legal Education and Practical Training, ADR, Moot Court Mock Trial and Internship. Prof. Kumari received Haikerwal Award for the Best Social Scientist of the Year 2011 by the Indian Society of Criminology. Prof. Kumari has also been Fellow, Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute, Canada (2010), Fellow, Indian Society of Criminology (2000), Fulbright Visiting Fellow, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA (1997) and Commonwealth Visiting Fellow, Warwick University, UK (1998).



**DURGA JASRAJ** is content producer and founder of Art and Artistes (India) Pvt. Ltd. Durga wanted to work as an Independent Content Developer and Producer, so in 1999 she stood up to set up her own company. She focuses on creating indigenous content in formats for multiple media, viz. Live, Television, Online, Mobile VAS, Radio, CD/DVDs. She subsequently co-founded the Indian Music Academy (IMA) in 2006. Jasraj started her career as a classical vocalist at age seven. Her acting debut came in Ketan Anand's 'Aaja Meri Jaan' (1993). She acted in TV series including Chandrakanta (1994) and Mahabharat (1988). She became popular on Zee TV's show, Antakshari as a co-host with Annu Kapoor during the 1990s. She conceived, produced and hosted the largest platform for all genres of Indian Music - IDEA JALSA. Durga conceived the first Musical and Poetic depiction of a National Flag in the World, viz. "Tiranga" a production that traveled across the world. She served one term as a Board member of the Censor Board of India.



**TEMSUTULA IMSONG** is a Social Activist, and a Pioneer of Mission Prabhughat, Varanasi. Imsong grew up in Ungma village Mokochung District Nagaland where the much-hyped eco-friendly practices like sanitation, water harvesting etc. have been a way of life. She joined Sakaar ([www.sakaar.co.in](http://www.sakaar.co.in)) in 2013 and shifted to Varanasi. Some of the initiatives which Sakaar has undertaken so far are; work on promoting involvement of masses in keeping public areas clean besides cleaning Ghats, promoting hygienic practices like hand wash and sanitation in rural areas. Sakaar also promotes relief work during floods and calamities, promotes simple businesses to empower rural women, help youngsters to choose career paths by organizing camps. Through Sakaar Imsong Promotes organic farming and ethical farming practices and emphasis is given on using technology to promote scientific temper & interest in pure sciences and awareness about Solid Waste Management by conducting workshops on home composting.



**DIVYA KUMAR** is the Executive VP, CEO & Company Secretary, Datamatics Global Services Limited. Her articles on Indian Litigations, October 2017 and on Restrictive Covenants in Employment Laws, January 2019 were published in International Legal Magazine by Cambridge University Press. Recently, she was featured in “Diversity & the Bar” in Summer 2018 edition. She has received many awards viz., Leading Woman Owned Innovative Project Award 2013; Best Use of Technology & Innovation in Legal 2013; General Counsel of the Year 2014 (Female); Best IT Legal Business Leader 2017 - India by AI 2017 [UK] and Star Echelon – In-house Category during The Leadership Summit & Excellence Awards, 2017. She was also recently listed as top 100 General Counsels of India in 2017 by Legal500. She was also featured as India’s Finest In-House Counsels in the 2017 Edition of “Trailblazers” published by the Ministry of Law & Justice and the Department of Commerce, GOI in collaboration with In house Counsel Worldwide and the Asia Pacific Corporate Counsel Alliance.





**MINU SINGH** is an experienced leader with broad technical and business background having expertise in strategic planning and partnership, International business development and developing new business lines. Minu is an electronics engineer with Executive Management from SP JAIN Institute of Management & Research Mumbai. Minu spearheads Nuvia India, a nuclear specialist group providing consultancy, engineering, technical and operational support across the complete nuclear life cycle, encompassing pre-construction through construction of new build plant and facilities, operational and maintenance support, waste management, radiological protection services through plant life extension and eventual decommissioning.



**MRIDULA BEHARI** is an award winning author, novelist and playwright. She has authored 15 books including several short story collections, novels and plays. The most recent among many awards are Rajasthan Sahitya Akademi Meera Purskar and Radha Krishna Samman. Mridula's articles have appeared in a number of leading national and regional newspapers and magazines. Mridula has written over 50 plays for theatre, radio, television and feature film for NFDC. Her works have been translated into other Indian languages and English. She lectures extensively in literary forums on women's issues and her creative journey. She represented India in Beijing International Book Fair, China in 2010. Her association with artists and authors in Chicago led to their works being translated into Hindi. Her historical novel "Purnahuti" and its English version, "Padmini: The Spirited Queen Of Chittor" won her widespread acclaim.



**PARAMJIT KHURANA** is an Indian scientist in Plant Biotechnology, Molecular Biology, and Genomics and presently Prof. in the Dept. of Plant Molecular Biology in the University of Delhi. Paramjit has received many awards and published more than 170 papers. Paramjit has been Fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Sciences, India, Fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Fellow of World Academy of Sciences. Paramjit has attained Prof. J.C. Bose Fellowship by the Dept. of Science & Technology, GOI. Paramjit is a recipient of the 'Certificate of Honour' awarded by the Gantavaya Sansthan on International Women's Day (2011), Professor Archana Sharma Memorial Award, Street Memorial Lecture Award, Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Shakti National Award, Shri Ranjan Memorial Lecture Award, Birbal Sahni Award Medal of the Indian Botanical Society, Prof. S.K. Sinha Memorial Lecture award. Paramjit was the Foreign Secretary, The National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, India, and is the current General Secretary (Outstation) of The National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, India (2018-19).



**DR. SUNITA MAHESHWARI**, a versatile entrepreneur, doctor, teacher, founder, dreamer and social activist with close to 25 years of work experience; awarded 2014's 'Amazing Indian Award' by Times Now, is a US Board certified Paediatric Cardiologist. The winner of the 'Young Clinician Award' from the American Heart Association and the 'Best Teacher Award' at Yale University pursued her MBBS from Osmania medical college, Hyderabad followed by post-graduation at AIIMS, Delhi and Yale University in the US. She was nominated as one of the Top 20 women achievers in medicine in India. Dr. Sunita is a Co-Founder of Teleradiology Solutions (India's first and largest Teleradiology Company that has provided over 5 million diagnostic reports to patients and hospitals globally). Dr. Sunita is a social activist and is associated with trusts like 'People4people' and 'Telrad Foundation'. Dr. Sunita is an inspirational speaker with over 200 lectures, including several TEDx talks. Dr. Sunita was chosen as one of the few innovative entrepreneurs invited to meet President Obama on his trip to India.



**MATHANGI SRI** is rated among top 10 data scientists in India. Mathangi is currently the Data Sciences leader at PhonePe. She has 15+ years of proven track record in building world-class data sciences solutions and products. She has more than 20+ published international patents in the area of intuitive customer experience, indoor positioning, recommendation engines and user profiles. She is adept in machine learning, text mining, Natural Language Processing technologies & tools. Prior to PhonePe, Mathangi has lead data sciences charters across organizations like Citi, 247.ai and Emirates NBD. She has contributed to several Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning conferences - a few to mention - Machine Learning Developers Summit, Grace Hopper Conference, Complexis International conference, Data Hack Summit. Mathangi is committed to the idea of motivating more women to get into STEM.



**DR. SUBARNA ROY** is one of the thought-leaders in the field of data-science and artificial intelligence (AI) in a career spanning over a decade and a half. Currently holding the position of chief data scientist in IBM, she specializes in design, delivery and deployment of cutting-edge analytics solutions for various business verticals. A PhD in application of econometrics and game theory, she has deep interest in mathematics and logical thinking right from her childhood days. She has published papers in international journals and co-authored many white-papers. She has been included by analytics magazine in the list of top 10 data-scientists in India-2018. She has consistently exhibited technical leadership and skills in executing projects in advanced analytics space. She is a passionate evangelist and promoter of data-science in business and society and envisages India as a country with AI and data-science at core in fields like health-care and education for the betterment of the society.



**SWATI BHARGAVA** is the Co-founder of CashKaro.com- India's largest Cashback & Coupons site. She is honoured amongst top 10 women entrepreneurs in India and is also an acclaimed Social Media influencer. Swati was nominated amongst the Top Young Business Women 2016 by CNBC-TV 18. She was awarded at India's first Digital Women Award for the Best Service Offering Company in the Ecommerce Industry. Swati was also shortlisted for the Asian Women of Achievement Awards in the UK in 2011 and honoured amongst 4 women trailblazers in Indian ecommerce industry by Economic Times. Swati is an alumna of the London School of Economics and has worked at Goldman Sachs in London for 5 years before starting UK Cashback business Pouring Pounds along with her husband & Co-Founder, Rohan. She has also represented India at the coveted Blackbox Connect – Female Founders Edition - powered by Google in Silicon Valley, California and is an active keynote speaker in India and internationally.



**DR. USHA TANDON** is a renowned scholar for her work on human development focusing on environmental protection and women empowerment. With 29 years of teaching experience, currently, she is the Professor-in-Charge of Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi. She has authored/edited six books; has numerous research publications to her credit and has presented her research work at various national and international forums in various countries including USA, U.K. Netherlands, France, Germany, China, Singapore, South Korea, Malaysia, Sri-Lanka, Bhutan and Nepal. Some of her Research Projects, recently completed include Country report on International Research Project on “Climate Change Commitments: An Ethical Analysis” conducted by University of Auckland, NZ and Widner University, USA with support from IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law and its specialist Ethical Group ; World Bank's Report, 2017, “Enabling the Business of Agriculture- Access to Water”



**REVATHI ROY** a pioneer of Asia's 1st Women's taxi service, was a rally driver, who converted her passion of driving into business, in which she has trained thousands of girls by skilling them as 4 wheeler drivers and ensuring their financial independence. She has now started her 3rd venture called HEY DEEDEE, which is the 1st ever platform for last mile delivery service done by women anywhere in the world. In 2018 she launched HEY DEEDEE cabs as well, for the safety of women starting with Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur and Bangalore. She aims to empower women and girls from under privileged families namely the BPL families, and have the unskilled sector employable. Infact, women above the age of 40 find it very exciting to join this segment. She is the winner of multiple awards including The Niti Aayog – Women Transforming India Award -2016 wherein 12 women from across India were bestowed with this. She was featured on the Forbes India- Women Trail blazers issue March 2017. She was also the Femina Woman Icon - 2017 In The Social Impact Category.



**DR. ALKA CHAWLA** is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. She is figured in the “Top hundred powerful women in Law” list released by the world IP Forum in 2017. She is nominated as a National expert on Intellectual Property by the European Trade and Business Council, Mentor to the Intellectual Property Protection Organisation, and Member Education Committee, FICCI. She has authored two books on Copyright Law and written a number of articles and research papers in reputed journals. She authored a report on Counterfeiting and Piracy in India for Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Dr. Alka has delivered lectures at various prestigious institutions and universities in, US, UK, France, Switzerland. She has presented papers in seminars, workshops and is a resource person in courses conducted by the WIPO, USPTO, UGC, FICCI, DU, etc.



**TANVI MALIK** is the co-founder at FabAlley.com & Indya is an Economics graduate from Delhi's Lady Shriram College, followed up with an MBA in Brand Management from MICA Ahmedabad. Her interest in branding and marketing led her to Titan, where she was a Brand & Product Manager for high-end watches before quitting to start her dream project, an inclusive, accessible and fashion-forward brand for Indian women – FabAlley, and later Indya. She spearheads design, marketing, product and communication for the company.



**DR. NUZHAT PARVEEN KHAN** is a Professor of Law and Dean, Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. She joined Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia in 1992. She has worked on the project for Ministry of Women and Child Welfare, titled, 'A Study of Discriminative and Derogatory Practices against Women by Khap Panchayats, Kangaroo Courts and Shalishi Adalats in India: An Empirical Study in the States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Western U.P. and West Bengal'. The project report was also presented before the Parliament of India in 2014 and was highly appreciated. She has undertaken various Research Projects sponsored by National Commission for Women. She has authored dozens of books on conflicting and contemporary legal issues viz., Women and the Law, Child and the Law (Lexis Nexis India) etc. Prof. Khan has contributed and presented modules on Jurimetrics for the UGC e-Pathshala Project at graduate and post graduate level. Besides her research worthiness, innovation in module, curriculum and pedagogic renovation is the hallmark of her teaching calibre.



**ANURADHA ACHARYA** a distinguished alumna from IIT Kharagpur is the co-founder and CEO of Mapmygenome, a company that pioneered the field of personalized, preventive healthcare by making personal genomics tools available to the masses. With a vision to “Touch 100 million lives”, Mapmygenome was established in 2013, heralding the advent of improved healthcare through genomics based personalized, precision medicine in India. Under her leadership, the company has been achieving several milestones, awards and honors. From the ET startup Awards to NASSCOM Emerge 50, WSJ’s Top global startups award, Red Herring Asia and Global to the recently conferred Pride of Telangana award; Mapmygenome has certainly become a force to be reckoned with. A fiercely respected entrepreneur, she also serves as a governing board member for various high profile institutions such as the NIBMG, NIAB, KIIT, IvyCap Ventures, CSIR and ABLE.



**DR. MANJULA BATRA** is the Dean & Professor of Law at the Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and has been a former Director, Vivekanand Institute of Professional Studies. Dr. Batra has been teaching at the Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia since February 1991 and was the first person to be selected as a permanent lecturer into the Faculty of Law. She has been actively involved in the establishment of the Faculty of Law preparing the course curriculum and conducting the day to day affairs of the Faculty. She has over 20 years of experience in research involving work relating to academics/ industries/ business/ non-governmental organizations and government organizations. She holds her Ph.D. degree from the University of Delhi in 2004. She is a visiting faculty of Law & Legal Studies, GGS Indraprastha University for teaching L.L.M students.



**ALKA SHRIVASTAVA** is the Founder & Chairperson of “Laxmibai Mahila Nagrik Sahkari Bank, Gwalior. Another branch of this bank was opened by her at Dabra, Gwalior. She represents 90 All India Mahila Banks as Director of National Federation Of Urban Cooperative Banks And Credit Societies Ltd. New Delhi. She is also a member of RBI Task force committee. Alka is the Director, National Federation Of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Ltd New Delhi, Mahila President of “Kayastha Mahasabha”, Mahila President of “Hindustani Chetna-Manch” and Vice President of “Care-Gwalior” Organization. Alka established 'Verrangna Cab' for Safe conveyance facilities for women in the city. Alka was awarded for her commendable contribution to society and few of her innings account to Swayam Sidha Award awarded in 2003, Nari Shakti Samman in 2008, 'Best NPA Management', 'Nai Dunia Naika Award', “STREE SHAKTI SAMMAN” and Awarded 'Mixed Business 100 Crore and above' by Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mohd. Mehmood Ali.



**RJ SAYEMA** is a radio presenter and a social media influencer. She has done both her Masters and M Phil in social work from Delhi University. She is an eligible lecturer after having qualified in NET. However, she chose passion over qualification. She started her radio journey with All India Radio as an English presenter and National News Reader (English). Some years after, she joined Radio Mirchi as the hosts of night show “Purani Jeans”. In Delhi, she also hosts another show called ‘Har Marz ki Dawa Sayema’ playing contemporary melody. Sayema is an award-winning radio jockey who has pioneered to bring stories of Saadat Hasan Manto on a private Radio Station in her radio series, “Ek Purani Kahani’. She also keeps the tradition of Urdu poetry alive. She enjoys a massive fan following on social media. Sayema hosts, “SunO Zindagi with Sayema” that gets featured on Times Internet, which has garnered Sayema with global fanfollowing in no time.





**POORNIMA GARG** is an HR Practitioner with more than 18 years of work experience that spans across various aspects of Human Resources; primarily in the areas of designing HR systems & processes, building effective & high performing teams, talent acquisition, Learning and development programs, performance management in a multi-cultural environment and competency mapping. Poornima has accreditation including certification in competency assessment by XLRI, leadership & team building program from IIM-C, FIRO-B, Emotional Intelligence & Personal Profiling by Thomas International, Behavioral Interviews skills, Organisational Development, Executive Coaching. She is trained in policies and procedures of USAID, engaging and sustaining workforce, designing HR systems & processes, designing & delivering training programs, coaching & mentoring, team and leadership building; conflict resolution; C-Level hiring; capacity building etc.



**CHUNGNEIJANG MARY KOM HMANGTE**, better known as Mary Kom is an Indian Olympic boxer from Manipur. Mary is the only woman to become World Amateur Boxing champion for a record six times, and the only woman boxer to have won a medal in each one of the seven world championships. Mary is the only Indian woman boxer to have qualified for the 2012 Summer Olympics, competing in the flyweight (51 kg) category and winning the bronze medal. Mary became the first Indian woman boxer to get a Gold Medal in the Asian Games in 2014 at Incheon, South Korea and is the first Indian woman boxer to win gold at the 2018 Commonwealth Games. Mary was nominated by the President of India as a member of the Rajya Sabha. Mary has been conferred with Arjuna Award (2003); Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award (2009); Padma Shree (2010) and Padma Bhushan (2013).



**FLAVIA AGNES** is a legal scholar and women's rights lawyer with over three decades of experience. As a prolific writer, she has provided incisive analysis of many social trends and legal reforms including domestic violence, minority law reforms, secularism and human rights. Significant among her many publications are 'Law & Gender Inequality – The Politics of Personal Laws in India' (1999), 'Women and Law' (co-edit) (2004), Family Law (two volumes) – a prescribed text book for law students (2011), Negotiating Spaces (2012 (co-edit). (Publishers OUP, India). Her inspirational autobiographical essay 'My Story Our Story Of Rebuilding Broken Lives' is an important marker of the women's movement. Her organisation Majlis provides legal advocacy and litigation support to women and children from marginalized communities and conducts trainings to all stake holders including the police and the judiciary. Seven years ago Majlis started a new project RAHAT, to provide socio-legal support to survivors of sexual abuse and has now reached out to over 1000 survivors.



**ABHA SINGH** is a former civil servant and an advocate practicing currently in the High Court , Mumbai. She is also a renowned social activist and has contributed considerably in the realm of women's rights, gender equality and Justice. Abha joined the Indian Postal Service in 1995, thereby making advanced postal services accessible to the remotest of villages. During her stint as Director Postal Services in Uttar Pradesh she pioneered the usage of solar panels to power post offices. Abha runs an NGO; 'Rann-Samar', to provide free legal assistance to helpless women and slum dwellers who have been unfairly persecuted by local authorities and builders for land that is rightfully theirs. She launched her book 'Stree- Dasha aur Disha'. Taj Group conferred her with, Women Achievers Award in April'2008. She received 'Shatabdi Varsh Samman' by Bank of Baroda. She was awarded with the Government Citizen 'Karmaveer Puraskaar' by Confederation of NGOs, New Delhi and also 'Mumbai Mayors' award on International Women's Day on 8 March 2011.



**DR. LAXMI GAUTAM** is an associate professor in Vrindavan who is constantly working to ensure justice for women abandoned by families. She founded an organization “Kanak Dhara” which works for women and children welfare. She has started programs like KALI for ensuring the safety of women, Kanak dhara moksh for cremating the heirless women, Kanak dhara deh dhaan for donation of body organs, Kanak dhara beti bachao, beti padhao for unprivileged girl children. National legal service authority acknowledged her social survey on widows of vrindavan twice in 2011. Dr. Gautam has been awarded the Real Heroaward by Reliance Foundation 2013 for widow upliftment, Nari Shakti Award by Aadhar Foundation in 2013 for “beti bachao”, Women Transforming India Awards, National 100 Women Award of ministry of child and women development, Jijabai Award by Delhi University for women empowerment 2013, Nari Shiksha Aur Suraksha Samman, Devi Award. She has also received Nari Shakti Puraskar of ministry of child and women development given by President of India in 2015.



**DUTEE CHAND** is an Indian professional sprinter and current national champion in the women's 100 metres event. She is the third Indian woman to ever qualify for the Women's 100 metres event at the Summer Olympic Games. In 2012, Dutee Chand became a national champion in the under-18 category. Chand won the bronze in the Women's 200 metres event in the 2013 Asian Athletics Championships at Pune. She also becomes the first Indian to reach the final of a global athletics 100 metres, when she reached the final in the 2013 World Youth Championships. In the same year, she became the national champion in 100 metres and 200 metres at the National Senior Athletics Championships at Ranchi. In 2017, at Asian Athletics Championships she clinched two bronze medals. In 2018, Chand clinched silver in women's 100m at the Jakarta Asian Games. It was India's first medal in this event since 1998.



**SABINA CHOPRA** is the Managing Director, Indian subcontinent, Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI). Sabina serves as a member of RCI's senior leadership team, leading the execution of strategic priorities for the Indian market. She is responsible for driving business growth and delivering on-going value to RCI® members and affiliates in India. With more than 25 years of experience in the Indian travel market, Sabina brings a wealth of hospitality knowledge with her. Sabina most recently served as Chief Operating Officer-Hotels & Corporates for Yatra.com, one of India's leading online travel agencies, which she also co-founded. Prior to Yatra, she headed the India-based operations of ebookers, Europe's largest online travel company, where she was responsible for customer service, sales, air ticketing, email and online departments. Sabina has also held management roles at Hewitt Associates, RAC (Aviva Plc), Japan Airlines and Canadian Airlines.



**UPASANA TAKU**, Co-Founder and Director, MobiKwik is the first woman in India to lead a payments start up. Taku has played an instrumental role in building Mobikwik as one of India's largest digital financial services platform, with a well-entrenched network of over 3 million direct merchants and 107 million plus users. Taku was featured by Forbes as one of the 'Asia's Women to Watch in 2016'. She was also felicitated at CNBC Young Turks Conclave 2017 with the 'Young Business Women Award'. In August 2017, she was conferred with the 'Best Woman Entrepreneur Award 2017' by ASSOCHAM. She was also featured in the Fortune 40 under 40 List in the year 2016. Taku was amongst the 112 first ladies who were felicitated by the President of India in 2018. Taku has recently featured in the global list of 'Top 100 Women in Fintech', announced by Lattice80, a Global Fintech Hub headquartered in London.



**SARAH NAQVI** a textile artist has always seen potential in the tactility of a surface and its scope to act as a mediator by creating immersive experiences that not only channel emotions but also provide safe spaces for understanding and acceptance. Having been introduced to embroidery at a very young age, she evolves it as a skill. Of lately at very young age of 22 she has started working with textiles and embroidery addressing current issues and realities, many of which are rooted in religious and societal stigmas. And because textile forms seem familiar, they suggest a common language that goes beyond borders without any sense of threat or apprehension. As a textile artist she sees textiles as a medium which can provide a seamless link to express positive change and act as a sustainable and culturally empathetic means of activism.



**SONAKSHA IYENGAR** is an illustrator, writer and book designer. She hopes to work on creating picture books for children and adults on various subjects. She is also personally interested in exploring questions of mental health, self-care, body image, feminism, gender and identity and often furthers these curiosities through her work. She wants to continue working on developing the idea of safe spaces for conversations and spreading kindness through her work. Her projects 'A-Z of Mental Health' and 'Public Prescription' have been highlighted by organisations and publications around the world. Select platforms that have featured her work include; BuzzFeed, Design Taxi, Al Jazeera, Huffington Post, Mashable, The Hindu, My Modern Met, The Mighty, Metro and The Ladies Finger among others.



**NANDITA DAS** has acted in over 40 feature films in 10 different languages. She made her directorial debut with *Firaaq* in 2008, that won many accolades and appreciation, both in India and abroad. She was on the jury of the Cannes Film Festival twice (2005 and 2013), among others. She has a Master's degree in Social Work and is a strong advocate for issues of social justice and human rights. Nandita was conferred the 'Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters' by the French Government. She was the first Indian to be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the International Women's Forum. She was selected as a World Yale Fellow in 2014. Nandita's second directorial venture, *Manto*, based on the life and works of Saadat Hasan Manto, had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in 2018. It released in theatres in India and is on Netflix.



**AQUI THAMI** is an artist, activist and academic member of the Himalayan Janajati Thangmi community who got an Indian passport by being born in Darjeeling. She uses art as a form of medicine to heal wounds caused by colonization. A PhD candidate of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Aqvi now lives and works in Mumbai. Her multidisciplinary practice is inspired by the culture of DIY through which she has collaborated with young girls, women and children in Dharavi (Bombay), South Africa, Canada and United Kingdom. She is a founding member of Dharavi Art Room, a safe space to explore, exchange and express ideas through art. She is also one half of the collective, Bombay Underground that celebrates the power of the community by means of experimenting with various public art practices, including zine making and performance art. Currently she is doing a residency with the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and her work 'Sister Library' is shared in the fourth edition of the Kochi-Muziris Biennale.



**KANCHAN CHANDER** was a faculty at Art College, New Delhi from 1986 till 2005. She has participated in residencies at Braidwood, Australia and Fukuoka Museum, Japan and attended art camps in Switzerland, Singapore, China and many more countries. Amongst the awards she has received include the; AIFACS award, and the International Print Biennale Award, Bradford, UK. Kanchan's work form a part of many private and public collections including the collections of Lawrence Gallery, Santiago; Victoria & Albert Museum, and British Museum, London; Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris; Fukuoka Art Museum and Glen Berra Museum, Japan; Kiran Nadar Museum, New Delhi; MOSA(Museum of Sacred Arts,)Belgium Air India; New Delhi and Arts Acre Foundation, Kolkata. Her works have been published in prestigious art books like-Feminine Fables by Dr. Geeti Sen, Aradhnarashwar and Shringhar by Dr. Alka Pande "Forms of Devotion "by Sushma Bahl to name a few.



**DR. USHA BARWALE ZEHR** is Chief Technology Officer at Mahyco and is responsible for leveraging new technologies and tools, including biotechnology, for improving the quality and productivity of seeds and agriculture. Dr. Zehr joined Mahyco in 1997 as Joint Director, Research and she has been instrumental in setting up the R&D center of Mahyco as amongst the best seed research infrastructure in Asia. Dr. Zehr is also the Director of Barwale Foundation, a non-profit research Foundation which focuses on improving agriculture productivity in India. The Foundation aims to promote research, technology and knowledge in the areas of agriculture, health care and education for human welfare. Dr. Zehr also serves on a number of boards including the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center and Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). She is actively engaged with the International Seed Federation in various committees. She has been also associated with several charitable and educational organizations in Maharashtra and other parts of the country.



**RENU ARORA** is a Panch member of Gram Panchayat of Kusak Village, Haryana. Renu wanted to do something for Women Empowerment, so she started working with an NGO “Aam Jan Shiksha Sansthan” in Palwal city of Haryana. Renu was appointed as a teacher of the whole village and gives classes for sewing, stitching, make – up, hairdressing, styling and different creative fields. As member of Gram Panchayat she also contributes for the cause by doing regular charity work by organizing different competitions in the village for the women and wants to promote equality at a larger level.



**PALLAVI GUPTA** is Founder Head of Department of JEMTEC school of Law, affiliated to GGSIP University. Before joining this Institute Pallavi served in Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, Amity Law School and Vivekananda Institute of Professionals Studies (VIPS) and carries an experience of more than two decades in academics and advocacy. Pallavi has written three Books, 15 articles published in National and International Journal. Her two papers- namely ; Can Sex Workers claim Human Rights in India in & Feminist Jurisprudence In India with reference to Individual Freedom of women vis-a-vis State’s Duty To Protect them are considered as best papers. Pallavi has presented around 50 papers in National, International Conferences and seminar and organized several Workshops, seminars, faculty Development Programme, National Conference, National Moot Court competition & legal camp. Pallavi has delivered lectures in many universities.





**ARCHANA ARORA** is a member of Gram Panchayat of Kusak Village, Haryana. As a housewife, she decided that she wanted to work for the society and uplift the veil of the women who couldn't do much in their lives. To start Women Empowerment wave in this small village she started working with an NGO "Aam Jan Shiksha Sansthan". Archana was appointed as a teacher. She gives classes for sewing, stitching, make up, hairdressing, styling and different creative fields. As a member of Gram Panchayat she also does charity work by conducting competitions for these women and wants to make these women independent.



**SURJEET KHANNA** feel privileged to be leading the very energetic and successful Delhi Public School, Greater Faridabad as its founder Principal with wonderful support from enthusiastic students, committed teachers, supportive parents and highly esteemed management. Surjeet was designated amongst the 100 Highly Effective Principals 2017 by AKS Education Awards.



**ANJU SABHARWAL** is a seasoned HR professional with 20 plus years of working exposure with Citi Group, IBM, ICICI Prudential and Vodafone at a senior management level. An IIT and XLRI alumnae, Anju has mentored more than 1000 senior and midlevel professionals and won several awards and accolades during her corporate stint. She is known for designing innovative people strategies in line with business priorities and adding value to business. She has been instrumental in developing and executing Diversity & Inclusion strategy including POSH (Prevention of sexual harassment) for several organizations. Her passion for developing awareness & conscious thinking in addition to her personal interactive approach for people helps motivate her clients towards sustainable action and long term results. Anju lays emphasis on creating value and building trust with our clients and continually striving towards quality client service.



**ANJU NEGI RAWAT** is the founder of Farishte Group, incepted by her in 2010. The group works actively for the women who are harassed and tortured in the society either by their in-laws, in offices or in other work platforms. Anju is an advocate who hails from Pauri Garhwal in Uttarakhand. Anju was taken aback by the problems women face in the society; thereby she shifted her base to Gurugram near Delhi to fight for this fragile section of society. At times she fights the legal matters in courts for women who are harassed and defamed in the society free of cost. As of today, she has helped around forty such women, who have got justice. The Farishte Group, a trust founded by her works for the upliftment of women and other downtrodden section of society. The group has a team of around eighty members.



**PROF. (DR.) BALVINDER SHUKLA** is one of the 9 Women VCs of India. She is the Vice Chancellor, Amity University Uttar Pradesh. Dr. Shukla is an outstanding administrator, a brilliant academician, a vivid researcher, and a far sighted visionary. Dr. Shukla is popularly known for her multi-faceted insights, humility and leadership skills. She has been one of the key strategists, instrumental in the exponential growth of Amity Higher Education and is one of the front-runners in achieving various Rankings and Accreditations of Amity University. Her contributions are widely acclaimed and recognized with numerous prestigious awards and honours, such as Distinguished Academician and Outstanding Administrator Award 2012, Outstanding Leader in Education & Person of the Year Award 2013, Newsmaker's Achievers Award 2014, 100 Most Influential Directors of India Award 2016, Special Recognition Award 2016 by SHRM, Peacemakers Award 2017', 'Eminent Engineer Award 2017 and many more.



**DR. SONAM CHHATWANI** is a Counselling and Rehabilitation Psychologist. She is the founder of Aatman Counselling and Rehabilitation Centre. Dr. Sonam also has an outstanding contribution in the field of teaching. She has been into the research of the issues that children face and its efficacy. Dr. Sonam has also taken a supplementary vestige for the counselling of women in the households and the hurdles faced by them in today's world. She has also worked with different organisations like Nidaan Institute of Rehabilitation and training against suicides, psychologically guided victims at UMEED Rehabilitation, worked with school students in the Eastern Public School as well as Mithi Gobindram Public School, Bhopal and International Public School, Bhopal. Additionally, she worked for the young adults of Institute of Excellence on Higher Studies, Bhopal and Sant Hirdaram Girls College, Bhopal.



**GITA GOPINATH**, a renowned makeup-artist, entrepreneur & social activist with a phenomenal and unique style has made great contribution to the fashion fraternity. Born in an army family, she grew up amidst a cosmopolitan environment. She graduated from Miranda House, University of Delhi. A pioneer in her field, Gita Gopinath is one such woman, who not only dared to dream but also fulfilled and nurtured her dream to the extent that today she boasts of a salon “Sundri “(named after her late mother) that is 27 years old. From being the first generation entrepreneur to employing more than 200 employees today, she has received various laurels for her dedication and hard work. A very private person by nature, she has been a social activist for protection of animals rights. A member of ‘Bharat Sokka Gakkai’, a value adding Society based on Buddhist philosophy of Nicheren Daishonin, her life Gita has been focused on the value adding to society.



**MEENAL KUKREJA** is a prolific social worker and poet. She is working towards preventing child sexual abuse and domestic violence for almost 20 years. Meenal is busting all the stereotypes and helping women to go places and fulfill their dreams. Time and again she has worked with the Women Police Cell and Family Cell for the benefit of women in cases of domestic violence and child abuse and has also contributed in reuniting more than 100 families in cases of family disputes through the way of mediation. Meenal has also devoted her time for the lectures and counselling of different adolescents who are facing different career related issues or personal issues. She has also saved the lives of women who were almost pushed into the racket of prostitution. Meenal is working at the ground level for the underprivileged and providing them a helping hand. She is also working for gender equality in our society.



**PRIYA CHETTY-RAJAGOPAL** is the Managing Partner, Multiversal Advisory and well known in business and industry circles. She joined Stanton Chase India brand in 2004 (which was acquired by RGF, the global search brand of the Japanese \$ 15 billion Recruit Holding Co. Ltd.). Priya was active in the Global Marketing and Business Excellence Groups in Stanton Chase. She was on the Asia Pacific Board of AESC till Oct 2017. Priya was nominated Femina Woman of the Year 2017, conferred the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for Excellence in 1997 and was selected by the British Government for the Chevening Scholarship in 2004. Priya was Chairperson of the Indo American Chamber of Commerce (IACC), Karnataka, and from 2007, elected to the National Executive Council of the IACC. Priya has been the Convener of the CII Women's Business Leadership Forum and a board member at TiE, Akshara Foundation & Civilia. Priya serves on the Advisory Council of Common Purpose, India, Asia Pacific Council of the AESC as well as the Academic Council of her Alma Mater, Mount Carmel College.



**RITA TULI** is a lawyer and counsellor. She specializes in family law. Ritu has worked for more than three decades in the Parivar Pramarsk Kendra but hasn't taken a single penny. She gives her services and guidance free of cost and all of the money is contributed to different charities. She works on the issues of different women as well as men. Rita focuses on the elements that in a family both men and women can have issues and hence we need to focus our attention to both of their problems. She has also penned down her words of wisdom in different books. Rita works with All in Women Conference and Madhya Pradesh Women Cell. She has helped around 200 families and diverted their path from the way of divorce and judicial separation.



**RITU KAPUR** is the co-founder and CEO of The Quint. She has driven digital innovation at Quintillion Media from launching The Quint, to starting the innovation lab, to launching a health vertical – FIT to driving the fight against misinformation with WebQoof. Ritu has also strived to provide multiple platforms for free speech. One such platform is Talking Stalking, where The Quint collaborated with senior advocate Kamini Jaiswal and Member of Parliament Dr Shashi Tharoor to submit a bill in Parliament to make stalking a non-bailable offence. Ritu has also been a strategic investor (through Quintillion Media) in other digital media platforms such as The News Minute, Sheroes, and Youth Ki Awaaz. She is on the advisory board of Oxford University's Reuters Institute Of Journalism, the World Editor's Forum at WAN IFRA and Future News Worldwide. Ritu has been recognized by Outlook Business as "Woman of Worth 2017 - The Newsmaker" and is among Fortune magazine's "Most Powerful Business Women 2018".



**SHOBHA CHAUDHARY** a recipient of Governors Award and Rashtrapati Award, is a social worker who has been working for women empowerment since time immemorial. Presently, Shobha is the director of NSWE and has been conducting workshops for women to make them aware of issues like health, education and self-employment. Shobha believes that it is important that we should make society realize its mistakes. She believes that we should alter our thought process so that a new nation can be built. In the present circumstances where crimes like rapes are committed frequently, Shobha feels that it is the need of the hour to educate children about good and bad touch. Shobha has been working to provide free sanitary pads to prevent diseases which are caused at the time of menstruation. She aims to contribute more towards woman empowerment.



**MEERA DAS** an Odissi dancer and creative choreographer was tutored by Guru Kelucharan and traveled to many countries as proud members of Guruji's repertory. Being a senior artist of ICCR, she has performed in many international festivals as a solo performer. Meera is the founder director of Gunjan Dance Academy in the historic city of Cuttack. Meera redesigned and redefined the established traditional approach of Odissi. Meera received numerous awards and honours viz., Recipient of Sanjukta Panigrahi Samman, Debaprasad Smruti Samman", Bhavan samman" honoured by the former President of India – Smt. Pratibha Devi Singh Patel in 2015, Anupam Bharat with "best dancer of the year" samman 2013 to name a few. Meera received Certification from Her Excellency Ms. Eulina Brocks, Mayor of the City of Denton, Texas, USA and Certificate for Honorary Citizenship of Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA by His Excellency Mr. Bill La Fortune, Mayor, City of Tulsa, Oklahoma for the highly appreciated Odissi Dance performance in the City of Tulsa, USA.



**SHWETA BHARTI** heads the Dispute Resolution and Litigation practice at Hammurabi & Solomon, Law Firm. She brings together a perfect blend of litigation strategy & business practices meeting the business needs of the clients. Shweta has represented clients in all facets of the corporate litigation and strategy. Clients refer to Shweta as the 'most cooperative and diligent representative, as she understands the ecosystem of the problem and provides a unique solution, making complex issues look very simple. Shweta has held numerous positions of leadership in the legal community, both within India and Internationally. Her expertise ranges from Dispute Resolution Management, Constitutional Law, International Arbitration, Insolvency & Banking, International Law and Corporate Laws.



**PRACHI HAJELA** is a management professional in business management, project operations and sales coming with 11+ years of experience in institutional sales, operations management and performance tracking. Prachi is a consummate sales professional who has been recognized and rewarded in current as well as previous organizations. She is an excellent leader with team building and employee engagement skills and has experience in making presentations, conceptualizing campaigns and conducting trainings. Prachi possess the ability to plan and manage promotional events like MUN's, Educational fairs, College fests and school events, while ensuring their timely execution.



**ARCHANA KAPOOR** is a Delhi-based publisher, filmmaker, author and activist. As the founder of a national award-winning community radio initiative in Mewat, Haryana, she is giving voice to many who have long been quiet in the backward community. In 2010, Archana launched Radio Mewat, a radio station which has become a very powerful tool for empowerment of the community. It has been featured extensively in both national and international media for its innovative programming, and in journals brought out by both UNICEF and UNESCO. The radio station has received two national awards. Archana has also founded NGO Seeking Modern Applications for Real Transformation (SMART) which seeks to spread awareness on issues of public importance. SMART, is involved in raising awareness on the issues of education, women empowerment, health and sanitation, governance and strengthening of local elected bodies. Archana is also an elected member of the governing body of the Community Radio Association, an organisation set up to promote and lobby for community radio in India.





**PUJA KOTHARI JAIN** is a Delhi based interior designer who by virtue of her passion is running her company OM DESIGNS from last 9 years and has a wealth of experience and advice on achieving her signature style making it definitive in home and offices. Puja achieves a perfect combination of luxury with simplicity and has her experience and knowledge to ensure that decorating a project however big or small in scale runs smoothly, stays in budget and achieves the look client wants. She gratitude's her father, husband and kids to be pillar of strength to her always. "Please await the launch of aanyaabyom our retail furniture brand ", says Puja.



**ALANKRITA MANVI** is a Tarot Card reader for more than five years. Manvi's approach to tarot reading is to provide a positive experience for each client. Manvi was the Chief Executive Officer of Sadhna Group. Manvi is currently hosting live program based on spiritual science, special one-hour program on festivals of India on India news. Manvi is a Regular Panelist on current affairs news at National English news channel like News X. Manvi is also associated with BKP Media Vision Pvt. Ltd. & Adhyatmik Consultancy as anchor / producer for various projects. Manvi is associated with Divya Prem Sewa Mission as active member, and is also into hosting live cultural & social events.



**JAHANGEET SINGH** is India's youngest and only female dhol player of India. Geet since her childhood wanted to do something unique and explore the field which has remained eluded from females. Few of her achievements include; State Award by Chandigarh Administration, presented by the then Governor of Haryana, Hon'ble Shiv Raj Patil, Sirjanhaari Award by Nanhi Chhaan Punjab Public Charitable Trust in association with PTC Punjabi, recognized by USA based 'TOM-TOM Magazine as the first and youngest female drummer from India, April 2012 edition. Geet was a speaker at TED Chandigarh, 2018 and TED-Ed Student Talks Ludhiana, 2018. Geet was on a reality TV show, Entertainment Ke Liye Kuch Bhi Karega on SONY TV. Geet has given more than 300 live stage performances across the country and been a part THE QUINT's campaign 'Me the Change'. Geet's performances are telecasted by Doordarshan Jalandhar, ZEE Punjabi Channel, PTC Punjabi, ETC, Day and Night Channel, News 18 Channel etc.



**P. V. ARUNA KUMARI** is an astute legal practitioner with nearly two decades of standing in legal industry. Designated as resident partner at Kochhar & Co – Hyderabad, she practices in the areas of Real Estate, Litigation, Corporate and Commercial laws, Infrastructure, IP, labour and employment laws. Aruna is an eminent lawyer in real estate and practices in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and has advised government entities including the AP-Capital Region Development Authority and AP-RERA. She was a member for the Infrastructure & Real Estate Committee of FTAPCCI, panel member for Mediation and conciliation Network. She is a member in IACC's 'Women Empowerment Committee'. She was selected by ISB for Goldman Sachs sponsored "Entrepreneurship Development Programme". Aruna is prominent speaker on legal issues in events organized by companies, TV channels, law schools and is acclaimed for her splendid oration and knowledge on consumer protection laws, sexual harassment etc.



**MONIKA KAPIL MOHTA** was appointed as Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Kingdom of Sweden & Latvia on 11 November 2016. Mohta joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1985. She has occupied a number of important positions in the Ministry of External Affairs and in Indian missions abroad. She served as the Ambassador of India to Poland and Lithuania from July 2011 to January 2015. Prior to that she served as the Director of The Nehru Centre and Minister (Culture) at the High Commission of India to the United Kingdom from 2006 to 2011. In the Ministry of External Affairs, she has served in many different positions including Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary (Southern Division), Director (Pakistan), Director (Gulf), Director (External Publicity) & Deputy Spokesperson, Director (United Nations). She has also served at Indian Embassies in France, Nepal and Thailand, and in the Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO.



**NEERJA CHATURVEDI** is a journalist, broadcaster and teacher. Neerja is currently associated with freelancing for Delhi Doordarshan; DD national and DD Bharti as Hindi anchor/presenter/interviewer, Radio Jockey in Hindi on Air FM Rainbow, All India Radio, New Delhi, Special Correspondent with the monthly edition of senior citizen's newspaper, "Varishth Nagarik Awaz". Neerja's achievements include; Best Female Radio Jockey by Indian Media Welfare Association, Special contribution award on women empowerment by Bhagidari Jansahyog Samittee, Maatreshree Award 2005 for the contribution towards TV Journalism, Articles and Interviews in national dailies; Dainik Hindustan, Navbharat Times, Jansatta, Punjab Kesri, Rashtra Times, Varishth Nagrik Awaz, Nai Dhara, etc. Neerja's research papers have been published in national and international journals.



**LIZA BHANSALI**, is an advisor and stake holder at many young startups including Samaarambh Group, Whiteinc consultancy, Wayan Pvt LTD, JSK Arms and Ammunitions Pvt Ltd etc. Liza Co-founded Tarani' to help deprived sections of the society. Liza is a Member National youth and adolescent development fund for the scheme of national young leader program of Nehru Yuva Kendra and was on the panel of central board of film certification for North region from June 2015 till June 2017. Liza is a coordinator Sanskriti Naimishey, National core committee member for Ekal Youth, Vice President of World Hindu Economic Forum, and coordinator for HSYN Asia. Liza co-authored '24 PILLARS OF LIFE' a life coach book with Monit Pahwa. Liza was also coordinator of World Hindu Congress, Chicago 2018.



**DR. SHILPA DODANI**, has a passion for obstetrics. She is providing quality compassionate care during pregnancy with state of the Art machines. She has been working day and night for 20 years to improve the notion and stature of female health and well- being. She charges a modest amount of fees for her patients and many a times she has been seen working for her patients without any overhead costs. Dr Shilpa is also part of different NGO's and is a trustee of Nirmala Mahila Aashraya Grah. She is a self-made woman who has empowered different women not only in the course of health but also by providing them all kinds of financial and emotional assistance. Dr. Shilpa time and again collaborates with different news channels to reach out to different women in regard to their feminine health. Dr. Shilpa is known for her benevolent attributes as well as her support to different classes of women and altruistic work.

# Contribution of INBA



INDIAN  
NATIONAL  
BAR  
ASSOCIATION

INBA has been dedicatedly working for the status-quo of women in the Indian society. We have climbed the first ladder in compiling the efforts of over 100 women, in the form of a book, “Phenomenal She”. These trendsetters have marked a niche for themselves, irrespective of the pebbles in their way. INBA is felicitating the commendable work of these females and setting an example for the others to follow.

INBA's endeavour is to appreciate and acknowledge contributions made by women in every professional area, which she thinks holds worth for herself and the society at large.

Women are synonymous to wealth, fortune and prosperity. They are the potential force in the struggle to build a new social order. These women have managed multiple tasks and demonstrated excellence in their personal and professional life. INBA has recognized Women who have carved a landmark in fields which were considered impossible for them to supercede. We acknowledged the work of Political Leaders, Supreme Court Judges, Senior Counsels, Corporate Heads, Activists, Authors, Sports Women, Artists and many more; for we believe that women are innately born with excellence and high-level impact. INBA believes that the numbers of successful female leaders will undoubtedly rise, if their male counterparts recognize their efforts and give them opportunities they deserve and the support they need.

The Indian National Bar Association salutes this unimaginable struggle. As part of our efforts to support womanhood, we propose a yearlong campaign from March 2018 – March 2019, where we propose to deliver programmes and activities that recognises the role of women in society. Following is the list of few of the programmes; we would like to conduct from the fund generated through this initiative:

- Free Legal Aid.
- Mediation Drive.
- National Mootcourt.
- Research Programs.
- Sexual Harassment Survey.
- Training to students under INBA's guidelines.
- Panel Discussion on case laws.
- International debates and workshop on legal reforms.
- Survey conducted on Delhi Police.
- Legal research works.
- Gender Equality Campaign.
- Mentorship to Women's Start-ups.

**Indian National Bar Association** sincerely thank all its Partners, Sponsors and Contributors who made it possible for us to launch the book, **‘The Phenomenal She’, Volume II.**

- \* Shri K. T. S Tulsi Ji, Senior Patron INBA, Member of Parliament and Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India.
- \* Dr. Subroto Dutta, Country Head, US Aid
- \* Tabrez Ahmed, Group Director, Dell
- \* Mr. Santanu Mukherjee, Advocate & Head of Chambers, Ex Legal Chambers
- \* Prof Rajiv Khanna, SGT University
- \* Ms. Purnima Voria, Founder & CEO of National US India Chamber of Commerce
- \* Mr. Per O’ Berg, Sweden
- \* Mr. James Nedumpara, Professor & Head Centre for Trade & Investment Law
- \* Mr. Zamir Nathanai, Director Legal, UFO Movies
- \* Mr. Sachin Kalra, In-House Council, HT,
- \* Mr. Mukesh Tyagi, CEO, Global Energisers
- \* Mr. Arun Sharma, CEO RDA Overseas
- \* Mr. Kumar Rakesh, Senior Journalist
- \* Mr. Naresh Sabharwal, Chairman, Shivam Group.
- \* Special Contribution by Ms. Megha Ahuja

**Our Students Volunteers:**

- \* Ms. Bhawna Gandhi | Ms. Palak Arora | Mr. Puneet Arya
- \* Ms. Ankita Dawra | Ms. Sakshi Madan | Ms. Arushi Sethi
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