



Alokanda Roy

Dancer & Social Worker

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Ms Alokanda Roy is a classical dancer, dance educationist, choreographer and social worker.

Ms Roy is a cultural icon in Bengal as also elsewhere across the globe. She has had an amazing journey over the course of 50 years on the professional stage where she made her debut at the tender age of four. Ms Roy had her formal training under Ms Manjulika Das; Bharat Natyam under Mr Maruthappa Pillai, and Odissi under Ms Sanjukta Panigrahi.

She also has a diploma in Rabindra Sangeet from Dakshinee; a political science honours degree from Calcutta University; a certificate of excellence in vocal music from Dakshinee; a diploma in pianoforte from Trinity College London; training in classical ballet Russian style from Calcutta School of Music; Miss Calcutta Title in 1969; Miss India first runner up in 1969; The Sanskrit Parishad Award; The Gold Medal of Shri Shikshayatan College, as well as honorary citizenship of the city of Clarksville, USA.

She had been granted as an "A" category artist of Doordarshan since 1976. Her Tagore dance drama such as 'Shyama', 'Chitrangada' and 'Chandilika', are legends as are her classical dance items and innovative choreographic creations on classical style such as 'Vande Mataram', 'Meghdoot', 'Supernatural', 'Shringar', and finally her own magnum opus, 'Amrapali'.

She has performed all over the country and the world to full houses and in prestigious events. Ms Roy also has a dance school of her own - 'Chandalaloke'. She is a deeply spiritual person with an unshakeable faith in the Divine and a lifelong devotee of Aurobindo and the mother. Her overriding humanity had in recent years drawn her increasingly into the cause of underprivileged children who she looks after through her 'Inspiration Foundation' and she is also associated with several organizations dealing with them such as Calcutta Social Project, Calcutta Samaritans, Women's Interlinked, and Anandan.

Ms Roy is presently working with the convicts of the Presidency Correctional Home, Kolkata and other correctional homes of West Bengal, in 'Dance Therapy'.



Anand Kumar

Founder

Super 30

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Mr Anand Kumar is the Founder of the Super 30 educational program. A mathematics teacher, he wanted to pursue higher education in Mathematics – his first love. He got an opportunity to study in the prestigious Cambridge University in 1994, but couldn't do so because of the untimely demise of his father as also due to his financial position. Though he missed the opportunity he never wanted to miss; it made him work for the underprivileged students like him. Today, he is ushering in a silent revolution in his home State of Bihar through his highly successful initiative – Super 30, which helps talented students from poor families successfully chase the big IIT dream.

Super 30 is a highly ambitious and innovative educational program which hunts for 30 meritorious talents from among the economically backward sections of the society through an entrance test. During this program, students are provided absolutely free coaching, lodging and food. In the last eight years, Super 30 has seen 212 students making it to India's premier institution – the IIT. In the last three years, all 30 students from Super 30 made it to the IIT – a feat that drew worldwide attention. Time Magazine called it as the “best cram school in Asia” and several international newspapers and channels including “Discovery Channel” had carried this achievement.

After the success of Super 30 and its growing popularity, he got many offers from private organizations as well as the government for financial help, but he always refused it. He wanted to sustain Super 30 through his own efforts and to prove that even with limited resources; one can make a difference if one has the willpower. Mr Kumar also runs evening classes for intermediate level students in order to fund Super 30.

Mr Kumar finds a place in the Limca Book of Records (2009) for his contribution in helping poor students crack the IIT-JEE by providing them free coaching. He was also awarded the S Ramanujan Award for 2010 by the Institute for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences (IRDS) in July 2010. Super 30 also received praise from US President Mr Barak Obama's special envoy Mr Rashad Hussain, who termed it the “best” institute in the country. Newsweek Magazine had taken note of the initiative of Mr Kumar's Super 30 and included his school in the list of four most innovative schools of the world. He even received the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Shiksha Puraskar by the Government of Bihar, in November 2010 as also the Prof Yashwantrao Kelkar Yuva Puraskar 2010 by Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi.



Nisha Singh
Councilor
Municipal Corporation of Gurgaon
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Ms Nisha Singh is a Councilor of the Municipal Corporation of Gurgaon from Ward No 30, representing a population of 35,000 people.

Ms Singh did her schooling from the Delhi Public School, New Delhi, and later went on to do her Engineering in Electronics from Mumbai University and an MBA from the London Business School. She also has experience in the corporate sector in companies such as Siemens, Barclays and Google.

Ms Singh left her job to invest her time and skills in the field of social development. She believes that providing quality education to children is the key to eradicating poverty and the many ills that follow. In May 2012, she stood for Municipal Elections and according to her; it was Gurgaon's pot-holed roads that drove her to the decision.

As a councilor, she believes that she is in a position to make a direct impact on the surroundings and the city, by getting civic authorities to do their job in a clean and efficient manner. By getting these authorities to direct their resources and funds to the projects which improve the quality of life for the citizens, without corruption taking its toll, she is making a significant contribution in her field.

She also believes that political leadership by ethical and competent people is the fastest way to bring about all other necessary reforms that will take India to the next level of growth and prosperity.

Ms Singh hopes to inspire others to take up ethical politics.