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Agents of change

Madhuri Krishnaswamy - Tribal activist

Daughter of a former air vice-marshal, moved out of Delhi's comforts in 1993 to get involved in the struggle of tribals under Adivasi Dalit Sanghathan in Barwani. "I was working within the city's slums when I realised the people who lived there came Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh. I travelled to these areas to trace the cause of such displacement."

Suryakant Jog - retired IPS Officer, Vidarbha, Maharashtra

At the age of 75, he taught the importance of water harvesting to 500 residents of Pandhari village by building 100 structural road level to store water. His vision has finally changed the arid landscape, with 1 crore litres of water being stored in bunds.

Jogesh Sahadeva - Ajiveena, NGO, works in a Korean MNC

Ajiveena is initiative to equip the visually impaired with special clothing to save them in low light condition by using the multi-coloured reflective material with a triangular cautionary symbol. Has distributed more than 100 such vests in Delhi.

Dr **Bhagwanrao Kapse** - Scientist, Maharashtra

Taught grafting technique to the farmers of Jiradgoan, Borgoan, Kandari, Ner, Ranjani, Maherjavala, Sakalgoan and Shevgal can produce the king of fruits - mango. Dr Kapse's initiative brought together other academicians as well.

Col **Pratap Save** - Kinara Bachao Sangharsh Samiti, Gujarat

A veteran of two wars, he opposed the building of a mega port vigorously supported by MNCs and the bureaucracy, but with Umbergoan, Maroli and several villages of South Gujarat. He succumbed to injuries inflicted by the police.

Abhishek Bharadwaj - 27-year-old graduate from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences

He works for the rights of the homeless by getting them ration cards, medical facilities and night shelters. Says, "We want dignity".

Divay Gupta - INTACH, New Delhi

Working to protect, conserve and restore heritage sites. He restored six landmark buildings in Bhuj after the 2001 earthquake. Tsemo Temple in Ladakh's Shey village.

Aman Namra - Former journalist

Quit as a journalist after realising that developmental issues were unlikely to get adequate space in mainstream media. He has developed communication skills to rural activists so they can communicate their views through radio shows, informal newspapers and "The idea is to build barefoot journalists, activists who can make unheard voices reach out to the world."

Sushant Misra -FTII Graduate, 40, Puri, Orissa

Through his Bring Your Film Festival (BYOFF), has provided a platform for filmmakers who can screen their films after p. There is no selection, jury or awards to be given. Says, "Anyone can make a film with a handycam. Ours is an avenue to sh efforts".

Compiled by **Swati Pujari**

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