

PROFILE Dr. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO

Padam Bhushan, Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao was born in September 1942 in the village of Manaklao, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from which he derives his surname. A man of innate simplicity and humility and an academician by profession, Dr. Manaklao plunged into social service inspired by the fiery spirit of Antyodaya.

A persuasive leader, a successful motivator and a great mobiliser of the masses, Dr. Manaklao has aroused & sensitized the community about the deleterious impact of opium consumption on the health, productivity and welfare of the people. He launched a opium de-addiction treatment and training way back in 1979, has conducted nearly 700 drug de-addiction camps, set up a viable community drug rehabilitation programme & vocational centre at Manaklao, Jodhpur and treated more than 60,000 addicts from all parts of the country by employing a low-cost & effective technique – the first of its kind not only in India but the world over. In recognition of this landmark work, Dr. Manaklao has been invited at international (United Nations), regional (Indo-Asian & SAARC) and national programmes to share his rich experiences of drug de-addiction for its replication in a number of countries.

In 1991, Dr. Manaklao also founded *Sucheta Kriplani Shiksha Niketan* – unique residential school for physically challenged children in Manaklao village to impart free and quality education, which now accommodates 500 boys and girls. The children of these schools have made the country proud by securing as many as 10 and 13 Gold medals in last two successive years in the Disability Sports competition at England.

This apart, as a charismatic speaker and committed social reformer, Dr Manaklao has been engaged and contributed proactively in several community welfare oriented projects/programmes such as Aged Care, Gaushala & Environmental Protection for the betterment of rural population. He is also member of Rajasthan High Court Permanent Lok Adalat, Jodhpur.

In recognition of Dr. Manaklao's services, the Government of India bestowed him with a Padam Shri in 1986 and Padam Bhushan in 1991. He was nominated as Member of the Parliament in 2003.

Dr. Manaklao strongly believes that social service is an instrument to bring hope, joy and a meaningful life to the poor and the deprived.