



Prof. Madabhushanam Sridhar Acharyulu
Central Information Commissioner

- Professor (Dr.) Madabhushanam Sridhar Acharyulu (known with pen name Madabhushi Sridhar) is an Author of 30 books on Law & Journalism both in English and Telugu languages. He was professor of law at National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR) University of Law at Hyderabad till 20th November 2013 which he resigned to take up the position of Central Information Commissioner at New Delhi on 22nd November 2013.
- He wrote four books on Right to Information subject. He was a resource person at training workshops on Right to Information for the Information Commissioners organized by National Law School of India, Bengaluru and Center for Good Governance, Hyderabad. He was training different administrative officers, scientists, engineers and academicians at Administrative Staff College of India ASCI Hyderabad on RTI. Some of his popular books are: Right to Information-Law and Practice, Nirbhaya Act, Legal Language, Law of Expression, and Alternative Dispute Resolution. Professor Sridhar is given Best Teacher Award by Andhra Pradesh Government in September 2013.
- A double post graduate with LL.M., and M.C.J (Journalism) from Osmania University, Madabhushi achieved FIVE Gold Medals in all. Madabhushi has penned more than 100 research articles, developed lessons in Media Law and Journalism, presented papers at International and National Seminars on subjects of socio-legal importance and a columnist both in English and Vernacular Telugu on socio-legal issues in Daily Newspapers and the web journals. He wrote edit page articles in Eenadu, the Largest Circulated Telugu Daily and Property Law matters in Deccan Chronicle, Indian Express, The Hindu and The Hans India, Hyderabad. Besides, he also designed and presented various legal awareness programs on popular tv channels like ETV and HMTV. His BhoomiKosam(=for land) program on HMTV has spread awareness about land rights in AP. He wrote several articles on media and law in www.thehoot.org and indiacurrentaffairs.org websites.
- At NALSAR University of Law Hyderabad, he was coordinator of Center for Media Law and Public Policy and Registrar, Coordinator of NALSAR Proximate Education, MHRD Chair Professor of IPR in 2009-10. Prior to 2005 he was engaged by AP Government to draft legislation on Right to Information Bill. He led the teams to draft the legislations on Right to Redressal of Grievances, Rent Controls, Abolition of Child Labour and Compulsory Education, for Andhra Pradesh Government. For International Water Management Institute (IWMI) he studied thousand judgments of District Courts on enhancement of compensation for Land Acquisition, and presented an analytical report, based on which a paper also was presented at International Workshop on Inter-linking of Rivers and Issues, at New Delhi in 2009. For ILO he studied the status of Contract Labour in Andhra Pradesh in 2008. Dr. Madabhushi is also associated with the efforts of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights in evolving recommendations on education of children to abolish child labour.
- Born on 10th November 1956 to Freedom Fighter and Founder Editor of Janadhama Weekly and Warangal Vani Daily, Late M. S. Acharya and Mrs. Ranganayakamma, Dr Sridhar is educated in Masoom Ali High School, AVV Junior College, CKM College, Law College Warangal, and Osmania University, Hyderabad.



Personal Profile – Rakesh Dubbudu

Rakesh Dubbudu is the founder of '**FACTLY**', an initiative aimed at making government data/information meaningful for the common citizen. Within a short period of time, the Factly has come to be as known as one of the best in the public information/data journalism space in India.

Under Rakesh's leadership, Factly won the first ever **Innovation for Good**¹ award in 2015 instituted by Centre for Work, Technology and Social Change in collaboration with SASNET at Lund University, one of Europe's oldest Universities and also the Social Media for Empowerment (SM4E) award in Communications & advocacy category. Factly is also featured as a use case in the **Open Data Impact Map**² of the World Bank Group. Factly has also recently launched its first data tool called '**Counting India**'.

Rakesh Dubbudu is also a well-known transparency campaigner in India and has been working on Right to Information (RTI) related issues for the last 13 years. He is currently one of the co-convenors of the National Campaign for People's Right to Information (NCPRI). He played an instrumental role in some of the well-known research studies on RTI. He also has experience in leading various research & impact studies on the RTI law in India and has been a Right to Information Fellow of the Government of India in 2014.

Rakesh brings immense experience in dealing with Government Data, Policy and various government related information. He is an engineering graduate from one of the foremost engineering institutions in India.

Rakesh played a significant role in the launch of the 'Open Data Policy' by the Government of Telangana, the newest state in India and has been helping the Government of Telangana with opening up data and with other e-governance/good governance initiatives. He is also a visiting faculty at various administrative training institutes of the state & central governments.

He is a regular columnist in the leading Telugu and English dailies on issues related to transparency, accountability & data based decision making in governance.

Awards & Achievements

- Selected for the South & Central Asia Region Legislative Fellows Program (an exchange program for Young leaders from 5 South & Central Asian countries sponsored by the U.S. Department of State). He is one of the five selected from India in 2014.
- Was one of the few speakers from India at the 'International Open Data Conference 2016 (IODC 2016)' in Spain on 'From supply based to demand based strategies in Open Data'
- Selected as a 'RTI Fellow' for the year 2014 by Government of India.
- Speaker at various events like TEDx GITAM University, TEDx Alexander Road, Ignite and Pecha Kucha Nights Hyderabad etc.
- Received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from NIT Warangal, his alma mater, the youngest person to win such an award.
- Received many other awards for his work on RTI

¹ <http://www.southasiamediaproject.com/innovationforgood-2015/>

² <http://opendataimpactmap.org/usecases.html>

Prof.K.Nageshwar



Prof.K. Nageshwar is India's noted political analyst. He is a former member of the [Telangana Legislative Council](#) and professor in the Department of Communication & Journalism, [Osmania University](#), Hyderabad, India. He is the former editor of [The Hans India](#), English Daily. he was earlier the Editor-in-Chief of Telugu news channel HMTV. He was the Chairman of Telugu News Channel 10 TV. He is the author of the books Interpreting Contemporary India; How to win at life.

He served on the United Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council from 2007 to till the bifurcation of the State in 2014.

He won the elections to the legislative Council from the Graduates' Constituency of Hyderabad, Mahabubnagar and Ranga Reddy districts first in 2007 and subsequently in 2009. Contesting as an Independent Candidate, he defeated the candidates belonging to the major political parties.

Earlier, he worked with Indian Express and the Times of India groups. During the last three decades of journalistic experience, he published articles in the leading newspapers/magazines like The Hindu, The Indian Express, Deccan Chronicle, The Pioneer, The Economic Times, Outlook, Frontline, Economic & Political weekly, etc. He also commented on various channels like Republic TV, Times Now, NDTV, India today, CNN-News 18, Headlines Today, STAR TV, ZEE NEWS, AAJ TAK, Al Jazeera etc.,. He regularly comments on Telugu channels and YouTube [channel](#) on wide-ranging issues of contemporary nature. Leading websites like Firstpost, India Times, etc., publish his articles.

He received the Junior Research Fellowship in Journalism in 1986. He won the UGC Career Award in 1994. He has been the visiting professor at Birla Institute of Technology and Sciences, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad; National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, National Police Academy, DR MCR Institute of Human Resource Development, NALSAR and many Journalism Schools.



Sidharth Chauhan

Assistant Professor (Law), NALSAR

Sidharth Chauhan is presently serving as an Assistant Professor (Law) at NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. He holds a bachelor's degree in law from NLSIU Bangalore (2008) and a master's from the University of Pennsylvania Law School (2011). He is currently working on his Ph.D. thesis which is provisionally titled 'Juridical Engagement with Electoral Reservations in India'. His main fields of interest are Political Philosophy, Indian Constitutional Law and Judicial Behaviour.

His official profile can be accessed here: <https://www.nalsar.ac.in/sidharth-chauhan>

His published works can be accessed here: <https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/results.cfm>



Mr.R.Muralidharan

Advocate, Law Lecturer
Patent & Trademark Attorney
Manu Associates Bangalore

Mr. R. Muralidharan is an Advocate, Law Lecturer, Registered Patent Agent & Mediator. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Chemistry (1976) and a Masters Degree in International Law and Constitutional Law.(1980). As a final year Law student, Mr. Muralidharan represented India in the Philip. C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition held at Washington D.C. USA (March 1979).

Subsequently, Mr. Murali had also participated in a Programme on Intellectual Property Law organized by Washington Graduate School (USDA) during April 1988. He had also attended the International Law Seminar organized under the aegis of International Law Commission at Palais De Nations, Geneva, Switzerland (1991).

Mr. Muralidharan was earlier one of the founding faculty members of National Law School of India, Bangalore and worked for 4 years as Assistant Professor. Acts regularly as a guest faculty in NALSAR Hyderabad, IIM Bangalore, NLSIU Bangalore, and National Law University Jodhpur, Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad and many others. He has published many articles in National and International journals and has been instrumental in improving the literacy of Intellectual Property Rights and Cyber legal regimes in India by being a Visiting Faculty in NALSAR PRO Patents, Cyber and Media Laws P. G Diploma courses.

He is also a Life member. Indian Society of International law, N.Delhi-1, Mediator. Bangalore Mediation Centre(an initiative of Karnataka High Court Bangalore).He regularly attends and acts as Resource Person in Professional Improvement Programs on IP Law, Environmental law and International Trade law.



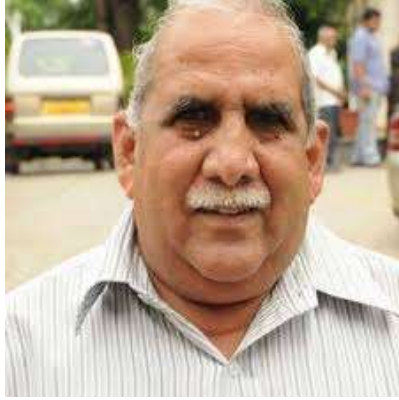
Mr. Sudhakar Reddy Udumula

Senior Assistant Editor, Times of India

Currently Sudhakar Reddy Udumula is a Senior Assistant Editor of the Times of India in Hyderabad. He is known for his investigative journalism. During his last job he was holding dual positions as Bureau Chief-Andhra Pradesh and City Editor at Deccan Chronicle Hyderabad and heading the 32-member-strong reporting teams of three Indian States Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Telangana. With a varied academic background he has been working in the field of journalism for 21 years holding various positions in print media. His stories have created huge impacts triggering social changes in some cases and leading to arrest of corrupt officials and politicians in others. He had covered 2004, 2009 and 2014 General Elections by doing ground reporting in districts and city. He also covers Legislative Assembly sessions of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. His stories also appear in Economic Times.. As a seasoned reporter he covers several major beats including Political, Anti-Corruption, Crime, Security, Health, Science, Environment, Climate Change, Legal, Civic, Urban affairs, Water issues, Pollution and Human Rights, legislative affairs, wild life, biodiversity, consumer affairs and internal security for the Times of India. Sudhakar Reddy is a microbiologist, lawyer and computer applications graduate by education, journalist by profession and teacher and environmentalist by passion.

Sudhakar Reddy is a Global Investigation Journalism Network Fellow and took part in the IJASIA conference in 2018 at Seoul in South Korea

He is an alumnus of International Visitor Leadership Programme (IVLP - 2016) of the US Department of State and have received training in Investigative Journalism from agencies like ICIJ in the United States. He won the UNICEF Media award 2016 for his news stories. He is an UK's Chevening South Asia Journalism Programme-2017 fellow with University of Westminster in London. He won the International Girl Child Alliance's Balikabandhu GAA award for his news stories on gender discrimination. He unearthed several scams involving Indian companies and individuals in Panama papers, IPS medal scam, fake engineering certificate racket, kidney racket and did exclusive coverage on Telgi stamp paper scam, Satyam Computers fraud and the ongoing CBI cases in the State. Series of stories on subjects like killing of girl child, gender discrimination, bio piracy and victims of police torture has won accolades.



Brief Profile of K Amarnath

K Amarnath is a senior journalist based in Hyderabad. He worked in Andhra Bhoomi for about three decades and retired as News Editor. He later worked in Han India English daily and NSS news agency.

He is an activist of Indian Journalists Union (IJU) was Secretary for three terms. He was former President of Andhra Pradesh Union of Working Journalists.

He served as member of Press Council of India (PCI) for two terms from 2011 to 2017. He was Convenor of the PCI Sub-committee on Safety of Journalists in the country and authored its report, which is acknowledged as authoritative document on the killing of the journalists in the country. It was quoted by United States of America government in its report on state of the media in India in 2017.

Born in a farmer's family in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh, 67 year old Amarnath is now editing a monthly magazine Scribes News, which deals with issues of journalists, freedom of the press and expression and other democratic rights.



Mr. Kingshuk Nag

Kingshuk Nag (60) is a senior journalist who was earlier Resident Editor of The Times of India in Hyderabad and Ahmedabad. He worked for The Times of India for close to two and a half decades. Presently he is Chairman of Wordsworth Consultants a company floated by him.

A post graduate in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics, **Nag** spent three and a half decades- first as an economist and then as an economic and business journalist and ultimately as a political journalist. He has worked in New Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Hyderabad.

Nag is also a well- known author with 8 non -fiction titles to his credit. This includes a biography of Narendra Modi, Netaji Subhas Bose and the story of Vijay Mallya and the saga of the Telangana struggle. His latest book on Mohan Bhagwat and the RSS has just hit the stands.