Shell Helen Keller Awards for seven men and women

International Day of People with Disability to be celebrated today

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Seven men and women and six organisations were honoured with the Twelfth NCPEPD-Shell Helen Keller Awards 2012 on Sunday for their contributions towards improving the lives of disabled persons or serving as role models and a source of inspiration for everyone. The International Day of People with Disability is celebrated on Monday, December 3.

Among the winners in the category for “Role Model Disabled Persons” were Abdul Rajied Ali, president, Chittagong Silgongala Hakkuha Vidika, Ketan Kothari, Regional Programme Development Advisor, Social Inclusion: Sight Savers (Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind), Radhika Chand, assistant, Art and Craft Department for Special Section, Vasant Valley School, and Sangita Gulu, chairperson, National Foundation of Deaf Women.

Abdul Sajjad Ali was awarded for his efforts to ensure that the Andhra Pradesh government provided employment for the disabled under the 100-day job guarantee scheme. Ketan Kothari is credited with ushering in systemic changes to help visually-impaired people have access to the printed word. Radhika Chand, a person with Down Syndrome is an artist and school teacher. Sangita Gulu, who is hearing-impaired, is an associate director to filmmaker Senjay Leela Bhanasi.

The awards in this category are given to disabled persons who work within the disability sector or outside who have been active as ambassadors of the cause of employment for disabled people and are a positive role model for others. The awards in the category of “Role Model Supporters” were Inbhubala Satyan, Founder and Director, Turning Point, for promoting employment of mentally disabled people; and R. Hari, General Manager (Human Resources), for making his company, Lemon Tree Hotel Pvt. Ltd, an inclusive workplace.

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