



## *Sam Rajappa*



### *National Awards for Excellence in Journalism*

ON THE OCCASION OF NATIONAL PRESS DAY

**VALEDICTORY OF GOLDEN JUBILEE**

PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA

HONOURS

**SAM RAJAPPA**

**VETERAN JOURNALIST**

WITH

**RAJA RAM MOHAN ROY AWARD, 2017**

*Vibha Bhargava*

Vibha Bhargava  
Secretary  
Press Council of India

*P. K. Prasad*

Justice Chandramauli Kumar Prasad  
Chairman  
Press Council of India

November 16, 2017

After a degree in philosophy, Sam Rajappa joined the Free Press Journal in Bombay in 1960. In 1962, joined the Delhi edition of The Statesman and has been associated with the newspaper ever since. Simultaneously he worked as the South India correspondent of BBC from 1982 to 1996. Taking leave of absence from The Statesman for one year, he established the South Indian network of India Today during 1980-81. He founded and edited The Andhra Pradesh Times (now defunct) in 1996-97. He is the founder of the Statesman Print Journalism School in Calcutta and worked as its director from 2008 to 2011. He continues to be on the editorial team of The Statesman and on the adjunct faculty of the SPJS.



## *Sarat Misra*



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He started his career in 1960 as a Sub-Editor in Eastern Times (the only English daily of Odisha.) He joined National English Daily Amrita Bazar Patrika (ABP) in 1967 at Kolkata and continued to be associated with it till he retired in 1996 as the Joint Editor.

After retirement he was actively associated with various newspaper, Anupam Bharat, Amasamayara Pratinidhi, Odia and went on to become Editor, Printer and Publisher of the Samaja. In 2009, he was honored with Bhubaneswar's prestigious Ekamrashree Award by the Hon'ble Governor Mr M. C. Bhandare. He has been conferred with various prestigious awards for his contribution in field of Journalism. After 36 years of English journalism and 20 years as Editor of Odia print media he retired at the age of 80 in 2016.







## Chitrangada Choudhury



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CHITRANGADA CHOUDHURY

FREELANCER

WITH

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## THE KEONJHAR TAKEOVER

How the Odisha Mining Corp, a state PSU, is perpetrating a Rs 79,000-crore gyp in hunt for iron in the forests



BY CHITRANGADA CHOUDHURY  
IN KEONJHAR, ODISHA

**G**OPINATH Nalka, a member of the forest rights committee of Urumunda village, is completely flummoxed. He has just seen a signature in English, purported to be his, certifying a gram sabha resolution, purportedly of his village. "I sign like this in Oriya," he says, demonstrating. "I've never studied English in my life. How

would I sign in English?"

The resolution revokes the consent of the Odias villagers to hand over 855 hectares of forest land to the Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC), a public-sector undertaking of the Odisha government which holds mining lease in the region and carries out mining activities. The Urumunda resolution is one of several identical gram sabha resolutions that the state government and the OMC submitted to the Union ministry of environment, forests and climate change (MoEF) in

January last year as part of an application for forest clearance for expanding activities. The OMC, which calls itself "India's largest public sector mining company," wants to clear 1,500 hectares around Urumunda and six other villages in Keonjhar district, including 1,404 hectares of forest land that's about 450 jobs. The OMC also has a 300-million-tonne Gandhamardan-Bhuteswar Mine, which it proposes to run for 33 years. Its documents put the annual sale value of ore from the mine at Rs 2,410 crore. The

cumulative value of ore from the forest would then be over Rs 79,000 crore.

Gandhamardan, after which the mine is being named, is a biodiverse mountain range. The Gandhamardan area in Keonjhar district, over 250 km north of the state capital Bhubaneswar, offers a striking landscape of adivasi Munda and Bhuiyan villages, deciduous forests, mountaintide farms of corn, millet and sesame irrigated by natural streams. Wildlife, including elephant herds, roam parts of the forest, according to villagers.



*C.K. Thanseer*



*sign of democracy-*

A rare fretenity scene from a polling booth, in the voting day of Kerala Legislative Assembly Election 2016. Narayani, the 84 year old women shows her voting ink mark to Thazhekonalath Pathumma, an elder voter and her friend after casting vote at Chullikkaparamb GLP school polling booth in Thiruvambady, kerala *PHOTO: C.K THANSEER*



*Vijay Verma*



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**VIJAY VERMA**

PRINCIPAL PHOTO JOURNALIST, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

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SINGLE NEWS PICTURE

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*J. Suresh*



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**CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER, MALAYALA MANORAMA**

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