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RECOMMENDATION

For Award in the field of *Dramatic Arts*

With great pleasure I am recommending **Shri Suman Kumar**, the versatile theatre-artist and dramatist from Bihar for a *Life-time Achievement Award* in the field of *dramatic arts*. Highly interested in the performing arts since his childhood, he has gained expertise in all aspects of dramatics during the last fifty years, in acting, directing, scripting, anchoring, organizing and teaching, apart from choreography, stage craft and writing articles on the related subjects. He has contributed his expertise in about 500 presentations (including stage-plays of National and International repute) in varied languages such as in Hindi, Bhojpuri, Maghai, and Maithili, in almost all forms of dramatics, such as street plays, folk theatre and childrens' theatre, in and outside Bihar, many in prestigious festivals, out of which he has acted in about 150 and directed about 120 of them,. He has been teaching students of dramatics since last 15 years, encouraged a large number of amateur theatre groups and has been a guiding force for young enthusiasts in dramatics. He has planned, organized, anchored or choreographed prestigious cultural programmes at instance of Government, such as Folk dance and light-and-sound presentations in Pragati Maidan, Cultural programmes in Apna Utsav, New Delhi, Folk art presentation in Inter-state Cultural meet in Warangal, Andhra Pradesh, Inter-state Cultural meet in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Jharkhand, Mumbai, Delhi; Jhanki during Independence day and Republic day parades in Patna; Vaishali and Rajgiri Mahotsav in Bihar, Yuva Lok Utsav and Indo-Russia Dance Festival at instance of the Department of Culture, Govt of Bihar, Bihar Gaurab Gaan in Siwan and elsewhere, Theatre Workshop at Purnia at the instance of the Eastern Zonal Cultural Council & Govt of Bihar, Childrens Theatre Workshop in Bhagalpur, Football, Badminton, Karpuri Thakur Gold cup tournaments and many more.

His contribution as a senior creative artist and participation in theatrical programmes of Akashvani (for about 35 years) and Doordarshan (for about 27 years, since its inception at Patna) have been versatile, including not only Production, Direction and Acting in dramatic programmes, but also news-reading and anchoring prestigious broadcasts. He is remembered also for his acting talents displayed by him in prestigious Films and TV serials including *Bharat-ek khoj* (by Shyam Benegal), *Gandhi* (by Sir Richard Attenborough), *Damul* and *Vidroha* (by Prakash Jha), *Bhim Bhawani* (by Basu Chatterjee), *Mirza Ghalib* (by Gulzaar) and many others. He has been actively associated with almost all prominent dramatic and cultural organizations of the state including Bihar Art Theatre (as senior activist and a member of the faculty), Kala Jagaran (as Founder member and presently its Secretary), Kala Sangam (Founder member) and the like, and also with all culture related organizations of Government such as the Bihar Sangeet Natak Academy, Department of Arts and Culture, Government of Bihar, and the Eastern Zonal Cultural Council of Government of India. He has received several recognitions, honours and awards for his excellence in Dramatics and related activities from Bihar and outside Bihar. Accordingly I consider him as the most deserving candidate for a *Life-time Achievement Award* relating to *Dramatics*, and strongly recommend him for this prestigious award.



Patna, 30th October, 2012.

(R N Dash)