

## TAFE Chief Mallika Srinivasan Gets Padma Shri

Industrialists Mallika Srinivasan and Pratap Govindrao Pawar are among the five chosen for Padma Shri awards from trade and industry category this year.

Dalit entrepreneurs Ravi Kumar Narra and Rajesh Saraiya and Indian-American businessman Ashok Kumar Mago are the other three recipients.

Srinivasan — the Chairman and CEO of Chennai-based \$1.6 billion TAFE (Tractors and Farm Equipment Ltd) — is the wife of TVS Motor company Chairman Venu Srinivasan.

Pawar, who is

**Mallika Srinivasan**

the Chairman of Sakal Media Group, has also been the former President of the Indian Newspaper Society, New Delhi.

He is also Chairman of Ajay Metachem group of Industries and a Director on Boards of various Indian-listed firms like Bharat Forge, Kirloskar Oil Engines, Finolex Cables, Force Motors among others.

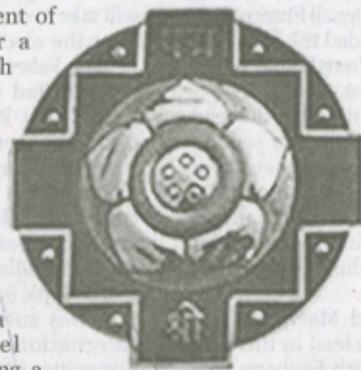
Mago, Chairman and CEO of Dallas (US)-based business and investment consulting company Mago & Associates, has helped raise millions of dollars for Dallas Asian organisations.

He is also a recipient of the 2010 Pravasi Bharatiya Samman for his efforts in working towards bringing businesses in India and the US closer.

Narra, a Dalit entrepreneur, is

the President of Andhra Pradesh chapter of industry body Dalit India Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Saraiya runs Steel Mont Trading, a multinational firm dealing in metals.



**PADMA SHRI**  
(Trade and Industry)

**MALLIKA SRINIVASAN** - Tamil Nadu

**PRATAP GOVINDRAO PAWAR** - Maharashtra

**RAVI KUMAR NARRA** - Andhra Pradesh

**RAJESH SARAIYA** - Maharashtra

**ASHOK KUMAR MAGO** - USA

## List of 127 Padma Awardees Announced

Express News Service

**New Delhi:** The names of the 127 awardees of Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri were announced on Saturday on the eve of the 65th Republic day.

The largest number of awards — 101 — were given out in the Padma Shri category.

The list of awardees, included cinematographer Santosh Sivan; chairman and chief executive officer of TAFE, Mallika Srinivasan; squash player Dipika Pallikal; member of Indian women's cricket team Anjum Chopra; cricketer Yuvraj Singh; mountaineer Love Raj Singh Dharmashakti and contemporary artist Paresh Maity. Film stars Vidya Balan;

Paresh Rawal; Sabitri Chatterjee and Supriya Devi were also conferred the Padma Shri.

In literature and Education, the Padmashri was given to poet and short story writer Keki N Daruwala; Ashok Chakradhar;

Manorama Jafa; Dinish Singh, Naheed Abidi and Vishnu Narayanan Namboothiri.

In trade and industry, Union Minister Sharad Pawar's younger brother Pratap Govindrao Pawar and India's first Dalit billionaire, Rajesh Saraiya and Ravi Kumar Narra were awarded the Padma Shri.

The awards will be handed over by President Pranab Mukherjee at a ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in March/April.



# Parveen Sultana, Ruskin Bond, J.S. Verma, Vairamuthu, Paes get Padma Bhushan

Padma Shri for Vidya Balan, Boniface Prabhu, Mallika Srinivasani, Santosh Sivan, Yuvraj

**NEW DELHI:** Classical singer Begum Parveen Sultana, Justice Dalvir Bhandari, author Ruskin Bond, the former Chief Justice of India J.S. Verma, former Comptroller and Auditor General V.N. Kaul, renowned novelist Anita Desai, and Tamil lyricist Vairamuthu are among the 25 people selected for this year's Padma Bhushan.

Lyricist Vairamuthu, who holds the unique honour of receiving the President's award for lyricist six times, said he was happy about receiving the Padma Bhushan.

Seventy-six-year-old Desai was shortlisted thrice for Booker Prize. She has been selected for her contribution in the field of literature and education.

Cine stars Parash Rawal and Vidya Balan, sand artist Sudarsan Pattanaik, theatre artist Bansi Kaul, Chairperson of the Chennai-based Tractors and Farm Equipment (TAFE) Mallika Srinivasan, P. Kilemsungla, and Union Minister Sharad Pawar's brother Pratap Govindrao Pawar, owner of Sakal newspaper group, have been chosen for the Padma Shri.

"It is a matter of pride for the team [in TAFE]," said Ms. Srinivasan. "We accept this with pride and humility." The award would inspire "us to build the company into a global one" with the focus on improving the lot of the farming community. "Our thrust will be on developing rural India," she said.

Ms Kilemsungla, the first woman from Nagaland to be appointed member of the Union Public Service Commission, has been awarded Padma Shri for her contribution to the field of literature and education.

Among the other Padma Shri awardees are tabla player Vijay Ghate, filmmaker and cinematographer Santosh Sivan, theatre person-



**TOP ROW:** (From left) Padma Bhushan awardees Ruskin Bond, Parveen Sultana, J.S. Verma, Leander Paes, Vairamuthu and Pallela Gopichand.  
**SECOND ROW:** (From left) Padma Shri awardees Yuvraj Singh, Mallika Srinivasan, H. Boniface Prabhu, Dipika Pallikal, Parash Rawal and Parveen Talha.

ality Mohammad Ali Baig, TV actress Niyana Apte Joshi, musician Musafir Ram Bhardwaj, Manipuri dancer Elam Endira Devi, Kathak dancer from Bengal Rani Karnaa, film animator Ram Mohan, dancer Kalamandalam Sathyabhama and former UPSC member Parveen Talha. Ms Talha was the first ever Muslim woman to enter any Class-I civil service through the Civil Services examination. She was also the first Muslim woman to be appointed UPSC member.

In sports, tennis star Leander Paes and badminton player-turned-coach

Pallela Gopichand have been selected for the Padma Bhushan, while cricketer Yuvraj Singh is among the seven sportspersons chosen for the Padma Shri. Leander Paes, 40, winner of the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna and Arjuna Awards, is the most successful tennis player of the country with 14 Grand Slam titles. He also won India's first Olympic medal in singles at the Atlanta Games in 1996 - a bronze.

Gopichand, one of the finest badminton players in the country, is the second renowned sportsperson to be conferred the Padma Bhushan this year.

Squash player Dipika Pallikal, former Indian women's cricket captain Anjum Chopra, Sunil Dabas (kabaddi), Love Raj Singh Dharmshaktu and Mansta Sodha (mountaineering), and H. Boniface Prabhu (wheelchair tennis) are the other sportspersons selected for the Padma Shri. Dharmshaktu has climbed Mount Everest five times. He won the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award in 2003. Boniface Prabhu is one of the pioneers of wheelchair tennis in India. He has competed in all major Grand Slam Wheelchair Tennis Championships. - PTI

## Overjoyed, overwhelmed: Vidya Balan

**NEW DELHI:** National award-winning actor Vidya Balan is thrilled at being selected for the Padma Shri, saying it is a matter of "great pride" for her. "Dedicating the honour to her family, an emotionally overwhelmed Ms Balan said: "I'm thrilled. I'm overjoyed. I'm overwhelmed. I'm honoured. I'm humbled... I'm running out of words to express my feelings and gratitude."

Ms Balan is known for her portrayal of strong female protagonists in films like *Paar*, *Ishqiya*, *No One Killed Jessica*, *The Dirty Picture* and *Kahaani*. "To be receiving this honour from the government of my country is a matter of great pride for me and I dedicate this award to my family who make me, me!" she went to add. - PTI



Vidya Balan

