

# President to confer 5 Gujarat educators with National Awards

Among the selected teachers, the maximum are from Gujarat followed by Karnataka and Maharashtra



From left: Indranath Sengupta, Satya Acharya, Zankhana Mehta and Rita Fulwala

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**F**ive teachers from Gujarat, including two school teachers and three from institute of higher education, have been selected for the National Teachers Award and will be awarded by the Ministry of Education on the occasion of Teachers Day on September 5.

The teachers will receive the award from the President of India, Dr Draupadi Murmu in Delhi. The five are Deepak Jethalal Mota from Shree Hundraibag Primary School in Kachchh, Rita Fulwala from Sheth Shri PH Bachkaniwala Vidyamandir in Surat, Mehta Zankhana from

Government Polytechnic college, Ahmedabad, Prof Indranath Sengupta, Professor of Mathematics at the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar and Dr Satya Ranjan Acharya, Professor at Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII).

Starting this year, the ambit of the National Teachers' Award has been expanded to include teachers of the Department of Higher Education and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Among the selected teachers, maximum are from Gujarat (5) followed by Karnataka and Maharashtra with four awardees each, officials said.

Prof Sengupta of IITGN has been selected for his contribution to

higher education and enriching the lives of his students. "I am deeply humbled. Such a prestigious award for faculty members of the Higher Education Institutions will encourage more teachers to take up teaching along with their research. There has to be a perfect balance of research and teaching for every teacher in order to create a future generation of academicians who would be well-trained, he said."

Acharya is selected in the award category for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) & Polytechnic Institutes. "The award is for recognition for entrepreneurship promotion and promoting startups. Next generation belongs to the startups and all teachers should promote entrepreneurship as a

## LESSONS ON BICYCLE



At the peak of COVID pandemic, the majority of people chose to stay indoors and worked from home. A primary school teacher in the distant village of Hundarai in Kachchh commits himself to ensure that no school student in the farthest of his area of responsibility is left without getting education.

Deepak Mota, a primary school teacher started Digital Mobile School on his e-cycle to reach remote places. He gathered students and taught them lessons using his laptop and a speaker to enable students to listen to the online classes clearly. Mota himself converted his bicycle into an e-bicycle to be able to commute easily from one place to another. The cycle has facilities of horn, side signals, headlight, USB charging point, battery indication, speedometer and laptop for which Mota had spent an estimated Rs 18,000. Mota also made a Shikshan Rath using his car, where he fit LED TV in the boot space to showcase online academic lessons to students.

career," he said.

Officials at the Government Polytechnic College said that it is for

the first time in 65 years that a teacher from the institute has been selected for this prestigious award.