

# Mr. Bunker Roy

## Founder Director, Barefoot College

Born: 30th June 1945

Education: The Doon School (1956-1962); St Stephens College Delhi: University (1962-1967)

Married Aruna in June 1970. No children. Cannot afford them.

### **Work Experience:**

Founder Director of the Barefoot College based in the village of Tilonia in Rajasthan India. Started 40 years ago it is the only College built by the poor for the poor and managed by the poor who earn less than \$ 1/day. The College follows the work style and lifestyle of Mahatma Gandhi where living conditions are simple, austere and down to earth, where there are no written contracts and no one can get more than \$ 100/month as wages.

Since 1972 more than 20 Barefoot Colleges have started in over 13 States of India. The Barefoot approach has trained nearly 300 rural semi-literate middle aged women to solar electrifying 800 villages in 25 countries in Africa, Asia and South America from the Least Developed Countries in the South.

Founder Chairman of the Global Rain Water Harvesting Collective based in India focusing on collecting rain water from the roofs of remote rural schools. More than 100 million litres have been collected in over 1,000 schools all over the world.

### **Recognition:**

Padma Shri 1986: The Schwab Foundation for Outstanding Social Entrepreneurs, World Economic Forum Geneva Switzerland September 2002: Stockholm Challenge Award for Information Technology (Category Environment) Stockholm Sweden October 2002: Tech Museum For Innovation Benefiting Humanity California November 2002: St Andrews Prize for the Environment, Scotland May 2003: The Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy London July 2003; Tyler Prize April 2004 California USA: The Skoll Foundation 2005: US \$ 1 million ALCAN Award for Sustainability 2006: The Sierra Club Green Energy Award USA June 2009: SUEZ Environment-Water for All Foundation- Paris July 2009: First Indian to receive the Robert Hill Award For Promotion of Solar Energy: 24th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference, Hamburg Germany September 2009: Conde Nast Environmental Award Washington November 2009:

Identified by The Guardian in London on 5th January 2008 as one of the 50 Environmentalists in the world who could save the planet

April 2010 identified by TIME magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world.