

Bharat Shakti Pondy Lit Fest 2026



DAY 1: 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY
04:35PM to 05:25PM



The Path of Yoga as Taught by
Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda
**Revered Swami
Shuddhidanandaji Maharaj**
Adhyaksha, Advaita Ashrama
(A branch of Ramakrishna Math,
Belur Math)

DAY 1: 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY
05:40PM to 06:25PM



An Interactive session
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Union Minister of Finance
and Corporate Affairs
Moderator
Prof Anand Ranganathan – Scientist,
SCMM, JNU, Author, Political Analyst

DAY 3: 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026 – SUNDAY
06:45PM to 07:30PM



The RSS at 100
B L Santoshji
National General
Secretary (ORG) BJP
in conversation with
Deep Halder – Journalist and Author

LIST OF SPEAKERS (Alphabetical Order)



Prof Anand Ranganathan
Scientist, SCMM, JNU, Author,
Political Analyst



Col Anurag Awasthi (R)
CEO Escape Velocity MediaWorks
& Executive Director MEDEPC



Deep Halder
Journalist and Author



Diganta Chakraborty
Author and
Columnist



Col Dr. DPK Pillay (R)
Shaurya Chakra, Research
Fellow, Manohar Parikar
Institute for Defence Studies
and Analysis, Author



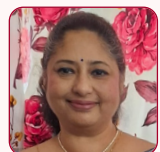
Jataayu
Tamil Scholar and Exponent
of Hindu Thought



Joydeep Sen
Senior Advocate
Kolkata Highcourt



Dr. M R Venkatesh
CA turned Advocate,
Author



Nandini Sen Gupta
Journalist and Author



Prabal Pratap Singh Judev
Vice President BJP
Chhattisgarh



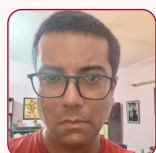
Dr. Pranjal Garg
Assistant Prof History,
CUTN



Prasenjit K Basu
Economist and Author



Sandeep Unnithan
Editor in Chief,
Chakra News, Author



Dr. Saumya Dey
Head of Research, FIHCR



Prof Shailja Singh
Scientist SCMM, JNU



Prof Subramony Ramaswami
Professor of English,
Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya,
Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
Creative writer, Cultural critic.



Dr. Sunil Narayan
Dean Research (Medical
and Health Sciences),
SRM Institute of Medical
Sciences, Chennai



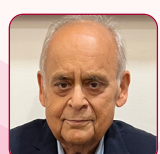
Swati Goel Sharma
Journalist, Founder Sewa
Nyaya Utthan Foundation



Tuhin A Sinha
National spokesperson,
BJP, Author and Columnist



Uttam Sinha
Senior Fellow Manohar Parikar
Institute of Defence
Studies (IDSA), Author



Vikram Sood
Former Head R&AW,
Author

SESSIONS

DAY 1: 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY

04:15PM to 04:35PM Concentration with Srma's Prayer followed by Lamp Lighting and Invocation by **Dr. Mollika Ganguly**.

05:25PM to 05:40PM **Book Talk – The Mother's Creation: Growing up in Sri Aurobindo Ashram – 100 years of Sri Aurobindo Ashram**

06:55PM to 07:40PM **Dr. Saumya Dey** – Head of Research, FIHCR – **Indic Kingship in Theory and Practice.: Reconsidering Marxist Historiography 500 BCE – 1800 CE**, in conversation with **Alo Pal** – Festival Director

07:40PM to 08:25PM **Vikram Sood** – Former Head R&AW, Author and **Col Anurag Awasthi (R)** – CEO Escape Velocity MediaWorks & Executive Director MEDEPC and **Sandeep Unnithan** – Editor in Chief, Chakra News, Author, Moderator: **Col Dr. DPK Pillay (R)** – Shaurya Chakra, Research Fellow, Manohar Parikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, Author – **Pakistan – Cultivating Irrationality**

DAY 2: 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026 – SATURDAY

09:30AM to 10:15AM **Prof Subramony Ramaswami** – Professor of English, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (a central university), Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, Creative writer, Cultural critic. – **Book Talk & Presentation – The Vedic Order in Tamilakam: Sangam Literature Dharma and Kingship**

10:15AM to 11:00AM **Sandeep Unnithan** – Editor in Chief, Chakra News, Author – **Fortress Travancore: Dharmic Warriors of Kerala**

11:30AM to 12:15PM **Col Anurag Awasthi (R)** – CEO Escape Velocity MediaWorks & Executive Director MEDEPC – **Semiconductors and Techno-Geopolitics**

12:15PM to 01:00PM **Prof Anand Ranganathan** – Scientist, SCMM, JNU, Author, Political Analyst and **Prof Shailja Singh** – Scientist SCMM, JNU and **Swati Goel Sharma** – Journalist, Founder Sewa Nyaya Utthan Foundation, Moderator: **Deep Halder** – Journalist and Author – **Journalism in Science and Science in Journalism**

02:30PM to 03:15PM **Col Dr. DPK Pillay (R)** – Shaurya Chakra, Research Fellow, Manohar Parikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, Author – **India at War: Empires Battles and the Making of a Nation**, in conversation with **Sandeep Unnithan** – Editor in Chief, Chakra News, Author

03:15PM to 04:00PM **Dr. Sunil Narayan** – Dean Research (Medical and Health Sciences), SRM Institute of Medical Sciences, Chennai – **Non-Invasive Brain Stimulation in Neurotherapeutics**

04:00PM to 04:45PM **Prasenjit K Basu** – Economist and Author – **India Reborn: The Epic Story of a Civilisation's Rebound from Two Centuries of Decline**, in conversation with **Nandini Sengupta** – Journalist & Author

05:15PM to 06:00PM **Jataayu** – Tamil Scholar and Exponent of Hindu Thought – **Bhakti, Poetry and Society: The Making of Tamil Culture**

06:00PM to 06:45PM **Uttam Sinha** – Senior Fellow Manohar Parikar Institute of Defence Studies (IDSA), Author – **Trial by Water: Indus Basin and India Pakistan Relations** in conversation with **Deep Halder** – Journalist and Author

06:45PM to 07:30PM **Joydeep Sen** – Senior Advocate Kolkata Highcourt, in conversation with **Deep Halder** – Journalist and Author – **Justice for Victims of TMC Violence Murder and Rape**

DAY 3: 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026 – SUNDAY

09:30AM to 10:15AM **Dr. Pranjal Garg** – Assistant Prof History, CUTN – **Inclusion of Philosophy in Indian History**

10:15AM to 11:00AM **Vikram Sood** – Former Head R&AW, Author – **Great Power Games: From Western Decline to Eastern Ascent**, in conversation with **Alo Pal** – Festival Director

11:30AM to 12:15PM **Prabal Pratap Singh Judev** – Vice President BJP Chhattisgarh and **Swati Goel Sharma** – Journalist, Founder Sewa Nyaya Utthan Foundation – **Shuddhi Movement at 100: Is that enough?**

12:15PM to 01:00PM **Diganta Chakraborty** – Author and Columnist, in conversation with **Alo Pal** – Festival Director – **Hindutva in the Intellectual Heritage of Bengal**

02:30PM to 03:15PM **Deep Halder** – Journalist and Author – **Inshallah Bangladesh: The Story of an Unfinished Revolution**, in conversation with **Nandini Sengupta** – Journalist & Author

03:15PM to 04:00PM **Prof Anand Ranganathan** – Scientist, SCMM, JNU, Author, Political Analyst and **Prof Shailja Singh** – Scientist SCMM, JNU, in conversation with **Alo Pal** – Festival Director – **Should India Focus on Vaccines or Drugs?**

04:00PM to 04:45PM **Nandini Sen Gupta** – Journalist and Author and **Tuhin A Sinha** – National spokesperson, BJP, Author and Columnist, Moderator: **Deep Halder** – Journalist and Author – **Where has the Opinion Page Vanished?**

05:15PM to 06:00PM **Dr. M R Venkatesh** – CA turned Advocate, Author – **Discovery of Bharat: Christian Constitution in a Hindu Nation**, in conversation with **Deep Halder** – Journalist and Author

06:00PM to 06:45PM **Tuhin A Sinha** – National spokesperson, BJP, Author and Columnist – **Naxal Terror Vanquished**, Contributing Panelist: **Prof Anand Ranganathan** – Scientist, SCMM, JNU, Author, Political Analyst, Moderator: **Deep Halder** – Journalist and Author – **Decoding the Dimaagi Naxal**

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