



### SMT. SIVASANKARI



Smt. Sivasankari is a distinguished Indian writer renowned for her profound awareness of social issues, exceptional sensitivity to human suffering, and unwavering commitment to stimulating thoughtful reflection among readers. Over five decades of sustained literary contribution, she has emerged as a powerful voice of social conscience and occupies a prominent place among the most respected and influential writers of her generation.

2. Born on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1942, Smt. Sivasankari received her school and collegiate education in Chennai. She completed her Bachelor of Science degree as a University rank holder, reflecting her early academic excellence.

3. A truly multifaceted personality, Smt. Sivasankari has made an enduring contribution to contemporary literature through an extensive and varied body of work. She is the author of more than 30 novels, approximately 40 collections of short novels, over 100 short stories, 16 travelogues, three biographies, and a two-volume memoir chronicling her own life. Her writings are noted for their depth of research, social relevance, and humanistic perspective. Her magnum opus, 'Knit India Through Literature,' stands as a landmark achievement in Indian literary history. The project involved extensive sourcing, research, and translation of literary works from 18 Indian languages recognised under the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. Completed single-handedly over a period of 16 years, this pioneering endeavour is widely acclaimed as the first of its kind. Conceived as a form of literary tapas (penance), the project aims to introduce Indians to one another through literature and culture, thereby fostering national integration and mutual understanding.

4. Smt. Sivasankari was selected as "Woman of the Year 2000" by the International Women's Association in recognition of her outstanding literary and cultural contributions. In 1997, the Golden Jubilee year of Indian Independence, she was honoured by Femina magazine as one of the "50 Women Who Have Influenced the Evolution of Independent India." She was also one of the four writers whose works were recorded in her own voice for the Archives of the U.S. Library of Congress during its bicentennial celebrations in August, 2000. Her numerous awards include the Bharathiya Basha Parishad Award, Premchand Rashtriya Sahitya Sanman, Vision of Indian Literature.