Dr. Jaya Arunachalam received the Jamnalal Bajaj Award 2009 instituted in memory of Smt. Janki Devi Bajaj for her outstanding contribution for the development and welfare of women and children on 6 November 2009 in Mumbai.

(L.R) Dr. Jaya Arunachalam, Smt. Minal Bajaj (Hon. Director), Dr. Mariamma Verghese (Co-Chairperson-Women & Children Award) Justice C.S. Dharmadhikari (Chairman, Constructive Work Award), Shri. Lavanam, Swami Ramdevji, Shri. Rahul Bajaj, Rev. Father Dougherty, Shri. Ayyappa Masagi, Dr. R.A. Mashelkar (Co-Chairperson - Rural Technology Award), Ms. Anu Aga (Co-Chairperson - International Award) and Shri. Madhur Bajaj (Trustee-Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation).

Dr. Jaya Arunachalam receiving the Jamnalal Bajaj Award 2009 for Development and Welfare of Women and Children (instituted in memory of Smt. Janki Devi Bajaj).

"About 30 years ago I was compelled by the despicable situation of poor women in rural areas and urban slums to initiate Working Women’s Forum (WWF).

Resolute commitment from poor women resulted in a small initiative of 800 women leading to a massive social movement of over 11 lakh women today creating a social platform to voice their needs.”
JAMNALAL BAJAJ AWARDS - 2009
For Development and Welfare of Women and Children
Dr. Jaya Arunachalam
CITATION

We stand honoured in recognizing your initiatives in Alleviating the suffering of poor women through developing their human resource potential, thereby instilling in them much-needed confidence and a sense of independence.

As Founder-President of Working Women's Forum, you have been the driving force in reaching out to over 11 lakh women in three southern states, touching their lives in multi-dimensional ways.

Through your determined efforts at unionization, the wages of agricultural workers increased substantially, the fisherwomen of Adirampattinam were able to break the monopoly of the auctioneer and reap better profits, the status of women weavers of Kancheepuram was elevated on par with the male weavers, the incidence of child mortgage and bondage was reduced, the small fishermen from Adirampainam took on big trawler operators for their fishing rights, and won justice from the Supreme Court.

Your empathetic approach made the 'Devadasis' of Bellary aware of their right to break away from the exploitative tradition they had earlier compelled to follow.

We applaud your efforts in initiating a social security programme which has impacted maternity benefits and insurance cover to over 4,00,000 women.

We congratulate you for being awarded the 'Padmashri' in 1987, for your services to the lower strata of society, chiefly women who had not seen the light of hope for generations.

In appreciation of your commendable work in the development of women and children, the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation feels honoured in presenting this Citation to you.

Air Chief Marshal I.H. Latif
Chairman Council of Advisers
Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation

Rahul Bajaj
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation

November 6, 2009
Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Shakthi Award - 2009

Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India and Rajiv Rural Development Foundation, Tirupati (AP) presented Dr. Jaya Arunachalam with Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Shakthi Award - 2009 on 20 August 2009 at two day National Colloquium on Grassroots Level Planning and Local Government Institutions in India: Policy Initiatives and People’s Participation Since 1992 in recognition for the outstanding accomplishment in the field of Women Empowerment and Sustainable Development and for the services rendered to the nation and humanity at large where she was invited as a special invitee for the Panel - IV session on Transparency, Accountability and Enhancement of Capacity in the local government institutions for human development Action Plan for Future Vision.
MESSAGE

I am pleased to know that Citizen Forum on Human Rights has decided to organize its second National Convention in Ahmedabad on February 28th, 2008.

The National Convention on World Human Rights would provide a common platform for champions of human rights to exchange novel ideas to protect Human Rights. I hope that the deliberations of the convention would go a long way in creating public awareness to preserve Civil Rights.

I wish the National Convention on World Human Rights all success.

Nawal Kishore Sharma
Activist SK Bhattacharjee says a global meet on human rights will be held in A'bad next year

The second national convention of the human rights organisation, Citizens Forum on Human Rights for Government, Semi-Government Employees and General Public, was organised here at the Tagore Hall today along with the felicitation ceremony for winners of the Gujarat Gaurav Award. Delegates had come from all over the country to take part in it. The guest of honour was Merry Shuttleworth, international president, Youth for Human Rights International US.

“There is extensive violation of human rights in our country these days. It is necessary to spread awareness about this, “said SK Bhattacharjee, national president Citizen Forum on Human Rights. He added that next year they would be organising an international convention on human rights here in Ahmedabad.

Other guests included well known social activists such as Harshad Bhrambhatt, Balakrishna Renake, Chairman, national commission for de-notified, nomadic & semi-nomadic tribes, Padmashree Dr. Jaya Arunachalam, Sathi Umraomal Purohit, Justice SN Bhargava, Justice IS Israni, MK Paul and RG Karnik.

“It is an honour for Gujarat that the national convention of the Citizens Forum on Human Rights is being held with the felicitation ceremony for winners of Gujarat Gaurav award” said Bhrambhatt. We hope all Gujaratis will support us next year in organising the international convention.”
Dr. Jaya Arunachalam, president, Working Women's Forum, has been honoured with the Social Lifetime Achievement Award in the Godfrey Philips National Bravery Awards for 2010 at a function held at New Delhi on 11 November 2010 where Shri. K.K Modi, President, Godfrey Phillips India and Dr. Farooq Abdullah, Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy participated.

The Award has been instituted to recognise individuals who have selflessly spent their lives working for the betterment of society. It has recognised Ms. Arunachalam's "enormous contribution to the empowerment of marginalised women in rural Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka."

The citation reads, "Yours is a crusade which has relentlessly lobbied for the rights of women and restoration of social justice and gender equality."