



Women in Chhattisgarh recreate 'Chipko movement'





[VIRONIKA](#)



[@vironika_om](#)
([@vironika_om](#))



[t.me/vironika_om](#)



[@vironikaom](#)



domain.com

vironika.studyiq@gmail.com





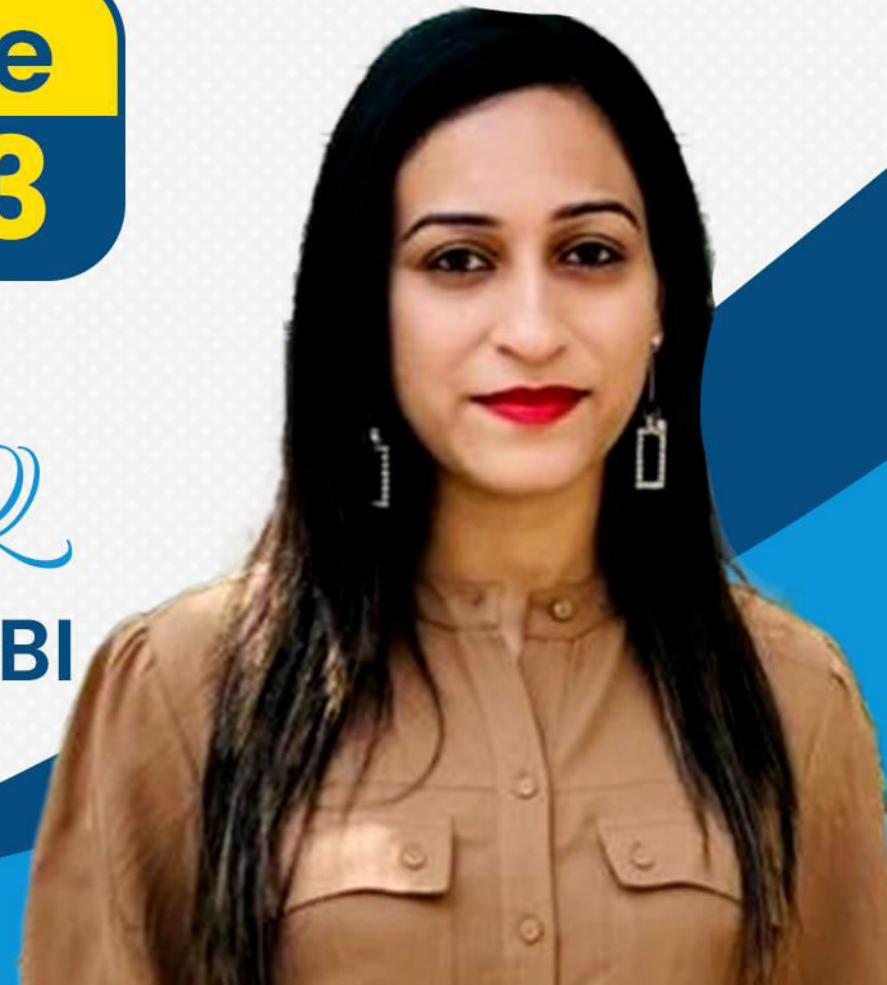
Discount

**33%
Off**

Use Code
VIRO33

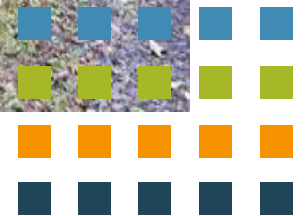
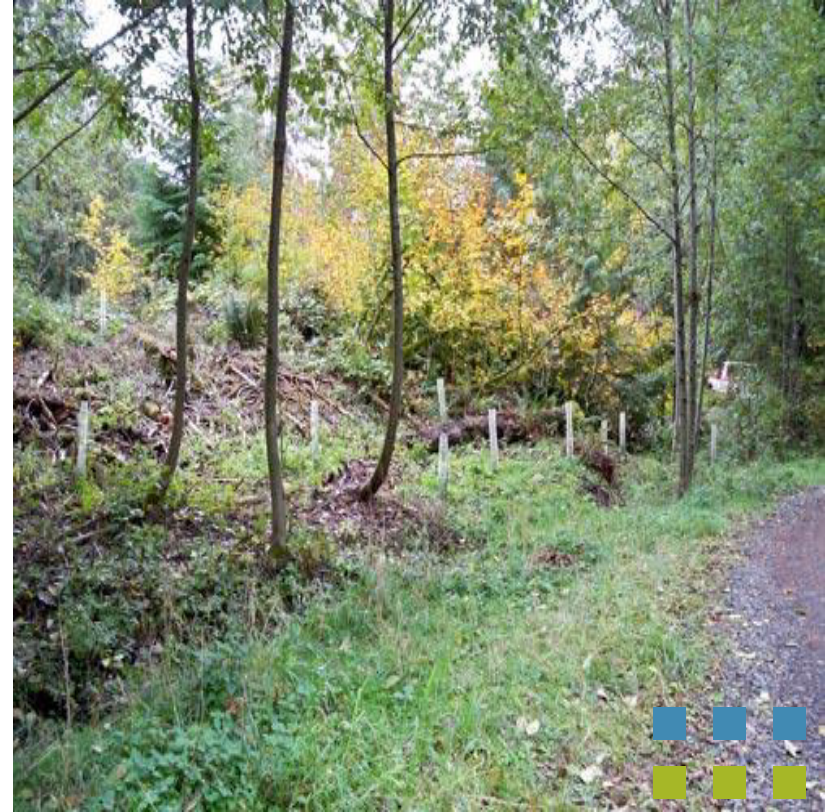
For All Courses on Study IQ

UPSC, Judiciary, RBI, State PSC, SEBI



Why???

Local women in Surajpur district of Chhattisgarh **started a tree-hugging** campaign on the morning of April 26, 2022, as they were being cut for the **mining project in Hasdeo Aranya.**





FORESTS

Women in Chhattisgarh recreate 'Chipko movement' to save Hasdeo Aranya

Activists claim more than 200,000 trees spread across 841 hectares of forest will have to be chopped down for the mining projects planned in the area



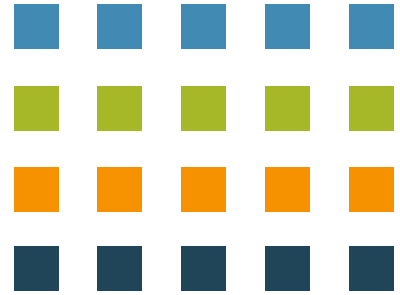
NEXT NEWS >

By [Shuchita Jha](#)

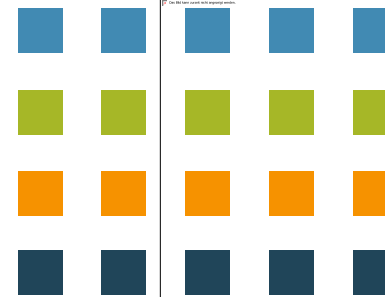
Published: Wednesday 27 April 2022



- Also Environmentalists stood in the sun at the Chhattisgarh Sadan from 10 am to late afternoon **on April 11, 2022**, protesting the second phase clearance given to the mining projects in **Hasdeo Aranya**.



What is the issue??



- The Chhattisgarh government has given the **final clearance for the Parsa coal block** and the second phase has also been allowed for the **Parsa East Kete Basen coal mine**.
- Both are owned by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam and operated by the **Adani Group**.



Coal blocks in Hasdeo Forest

- There are **18 coal blocks** in the **Hasdeo Arand** area and a major part of these coalfields is still in a virgin state, with huge resources of power grade coal.
- Out of the 18 coal blocks, mining operations are currently being carried out in two coal blocks – **Parsa East and Kete Basan (PEKB) and Chotia.**



**MUST READ**

Auto driver's dream turns real, his son is Kerala's new football sensation

[Home](#) / [India](#) / Chhattisgarh clears Rajasthan's mining project on forest land

Chhattisgarh clears Rajasthan's mining project on forest land

Over 1,130 hectares of the pristine Hasdeo Aranya forests in Chhattisgarh will be diverted for this project.

By: [Express News Service](#) | Jaipur, Raipur |
March 27, 2022 4:54:33 am



• LIVE BLOG

Delhi News Live Updates: HC allows Nizamuddin mosque to remain open till Oct 14; Section 144 imposed in Noida

18 mins ago

Narendra Modi Europe visit Live Updates: PM arrives in Germany, to hold 1st in-person talks with Olaf Scholz, co-chair 6th IGC

22 mins ago

Weather Live Updates: Dust storm likely in





परसा खदान
जारी वन स्वी
निरस्त कर
#SaveHesc

**Put ecology over
economy**

कोयले के नाम पर
वन संसाधनों की
लूट बंद करो
#हसदेव बचेगा देश बचेगा

Dear, Rahul Gandhi
Keep your PROMISE...
Show your love for forests
& your people!
#SaveHasdeo

शुद्ध
जंगल
जमीन
को नष्ट न करें
कोयला न निकालें

**SAVE
HASDEO
ARANYA
Stop Adani**

IFTU
हर देव
जंगल
जमीन
बचाना नही
धलेगा

**QUIT
FOSSIL
FUELS**

Government should protect
people & regulate corporations,
not protect corporations
& regulate people

- **Over 1,130 hectares** of the pristine Hasdeo Aranya forests in Chhattisgarh will be diverted for this project.
- The Hasdeo forest covering Chhattisgarh's **Korba, Surguja and Surajpur districts**, spans an area of 170,000 hectares. It is a noted migratory corridor and has a significant presence of elephants.
- Phase I of the PEKB coal mine, which had a validity of 15 years, was allegedly exhausted within just eight years, necessitating phase 2 mining.





- The Chhattisgarh government's permission for diversion of forest land comes after the Union Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change cleared the project.
- Environmentalists **protested against the Stage II clearance for the Parsa coal block**, that will uproot the lives of around 700 families from six villages in Chhattisgarh.

Earlier Protests

- For the last three years, the affected communities of the Parsa coal block have been regularly highlighting the issue of fake Gram Sabhas, on the basis of which, the forest clearances have been processed.
- The entire affected community also sat on a **75-day dharna or sit-in in December 2019** and **carried out a 300 km march to Raipur**, asking the state government to take cognizance of the matter and take action.

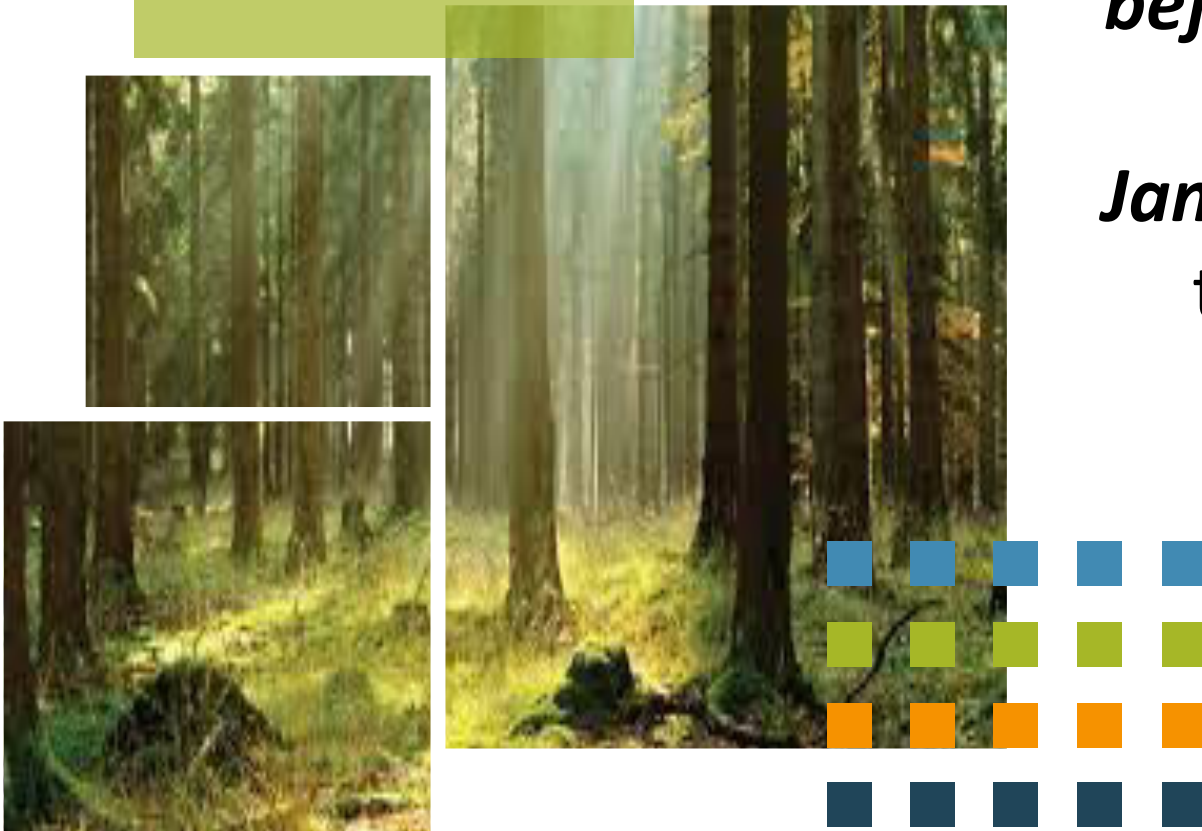


Now the Chipko Movement



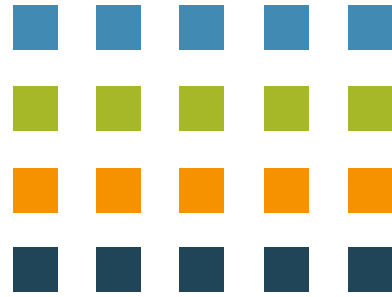
- Local women in Janardanpur village received news on April 26 that the forest authorities and district administration officials were about to cut trees. They reached the spot and hugged the trees as a sign of protest.

“The authorities went back during the day, when they saw the locals vehemently protesting, but came back before the break of dawn, at 3 am and felled around 300 trees in Janardanpur,” Alok Shukla, convener of the Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan.



Concern

- Activists have assessed that **more than 200,000 trees will have to be axed** for the mining in the Parsa coal block to begin.
- According to the clearance report by the forest advisory committee, 95,000 trees will be cut for the project.
- But according to the activists, more than 200,000 trees spread across 841 hectares of forest will have to be chopped down.



- The Hasdeo forest is also the catchment area of the Hasdeo river, the largest tributary of the Mahanadi.
- The area was declared as a **‘No-Go Zone’ for mining** by the Centre in 2009. Despite this, mining in the region continued as the policy for the ‘No-Go Zone’ was not finalised.



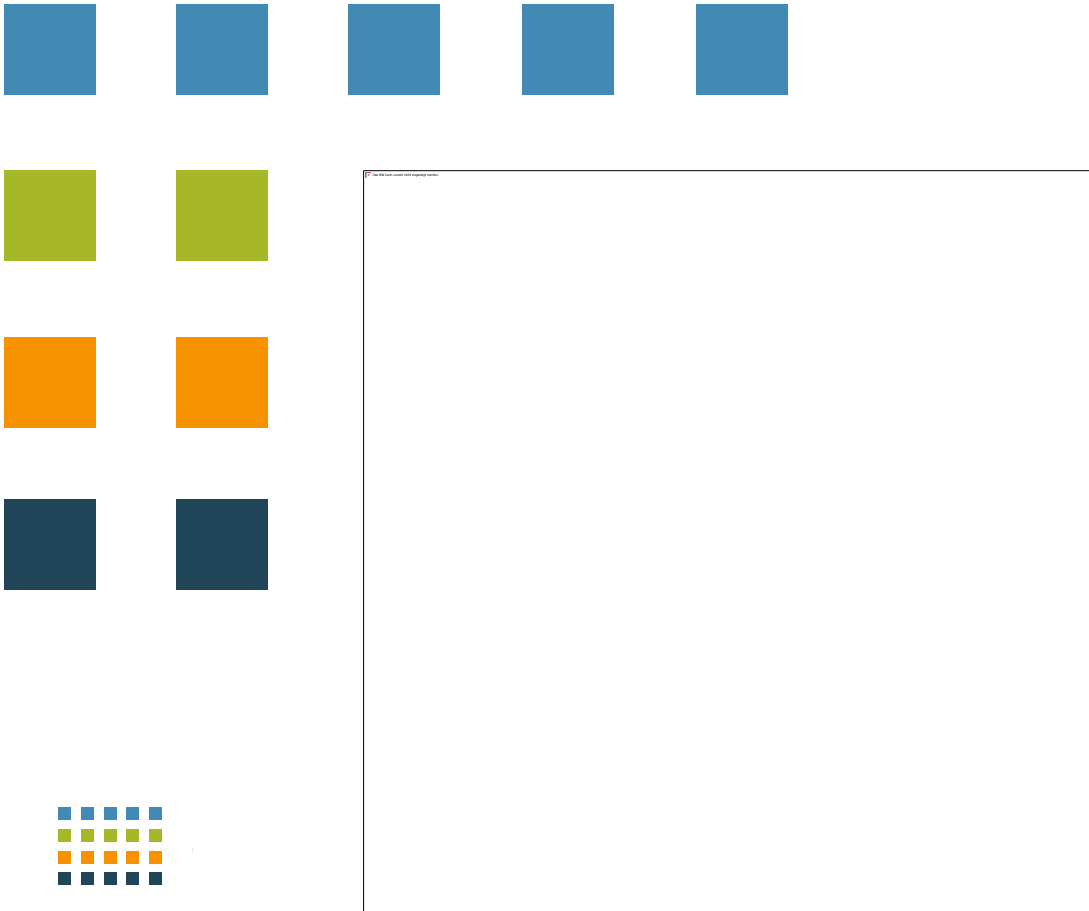
Environmental issues associated with Coal Mining

- **Air Pollution** (*blasting and drilling operations, coal fires, vehicular traffic, heavy trucks plying on haul roads, loading and unloading of coal, wind erosion from overburden dumps.*)
- **Water Pollution** (*drainage from mining sites, sediment runoff from mining site, erosion from overburden dumps and spoils heaps, leaking from tailing pond heated and heavy metals loaded effluents from coal industries and sewage effluents*)
- **Soil pollution** (*wind erosion from overburden dumps, coal heaps, tailing ponds, dust generated due to heavy machinery used for extracting coal, burning of coal.*)

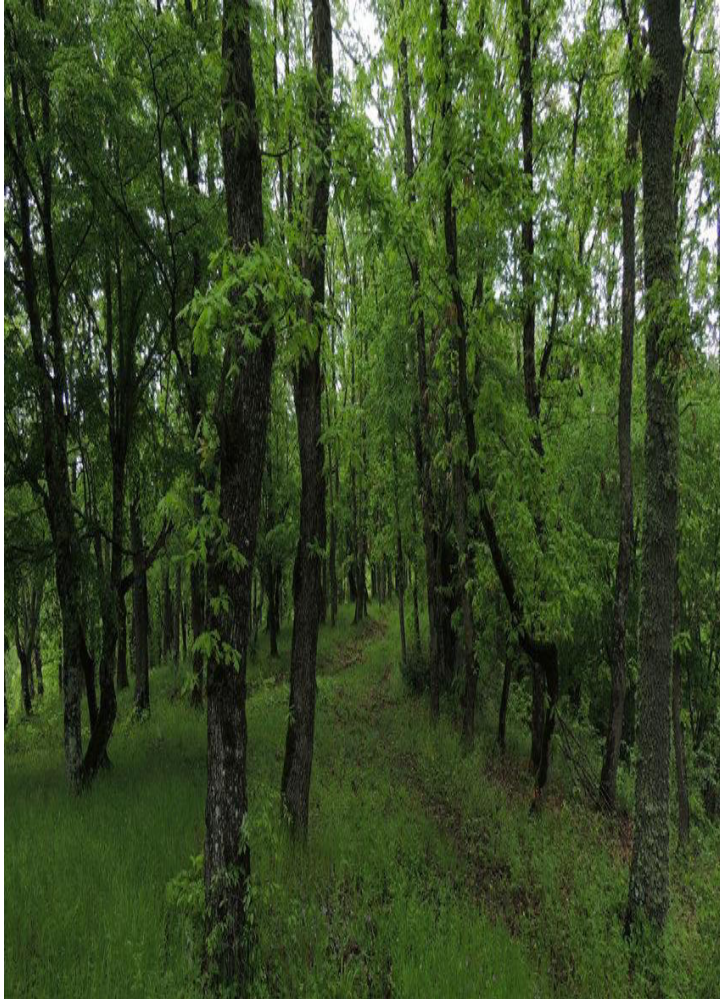
- **Change in Vegetation cover and pattern** (*Loss of vegetation*)
- **Changes in Topography**
- **Solid Waste** (*Open-cast mining strips away topsoil, or “overburden”, to expose the seams underneath. It is the waste or spoil -organic material and soil that overlie a mineral deposit.)*)



What is Chipko Movement?



- This movement was a non-violent agitation **in 1973** that was aimed at protection and conservation of trees.
- It is remembered for the collective mobilisation of women for the cause of preserving forests, which also brought about a change in attitude regarding their own status in society.



- The uprising against the felling of trees and maintaining the ecological balance originated in **Uttar Pradesh's Chamoli district (now Uttarakhand) in 1973** and in no time spilled onto other states in north India.
- The name of the movement 'chipko' comes from the word 'embrace', as the villagers hugged the trees and encircled them to prevent being hacked.

- The original Chipko andolan dates back to the 18th century and was **started by Rajasthan's Bishnoi community**.
- The incident has been etched in the annals of history for the sacrifice of a group of villagers, who led by a **lady named Amrita Devi**, laid down their lives while protecting trees from being felled on the orders of then King of Jodhpur.
- After this incident, the king, in a royal decree, banned cutting of trees in all Bishnoi villages.
- The trigger for the modern Chipko movement was the growth in development that Uttar Pradesh witnessed following the 1963 China border conflict.





- The Chipko movement can essentially be called a **women's movement**.
- Women, being solely in charge of cultivation, livestock and children, suffered the most due to floods and landslides, caused due to rise in deforestation in the face of urbanisation.
- The Chipko Andolan also stands out as an **eco-feminist movement**.





- The Chipko Movement gained traction under Sunderlal Bahuguna, an eco activist, who spent his life persuading and educating the villagers to protest against the destruction of the forests and Himalayan mountains.
- It was his endeavor that saw then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi banning the cutting of trees. Bahuguna is best remembered for the slogan “***ecology is the permanent economy***”.



*“Kya hai jangal ke upkar
Mitti, paani aur bayar
Mitti, paani aur bayar
Yeh hain jindagi ke aadhar”*

*(The symbol of the famous 'Chipko movement' to
save trees was given by Sundarlal Bahuguna.)*

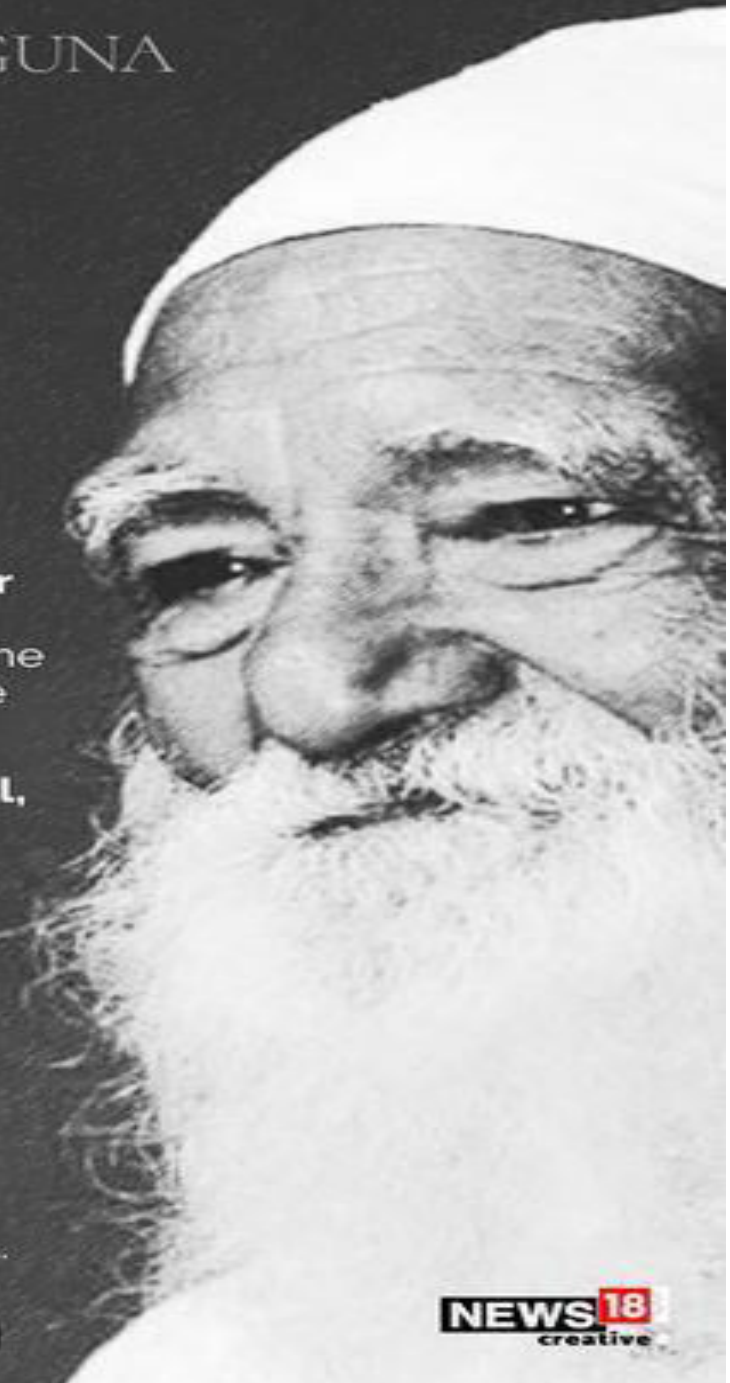


SUNDERLAL BAHUGUNA

Born: 1927

**In village Maroda
near Tehri**

- Age 13:** Joined the **freedom struggle**
- Age 17:** **Imprisoned** for taking part in the freedom struggle
- Age 22:** **Met social activists Mira Behn and Thakkar Bapa;** got interested in social work. Soon after he opened a school for the untouchables
- Age 29:** **Married Vimla Nautiyal,** a social worker
- Age 33:** **On a call from Vinoba Bhave,** Sunderlal Bahuguna began long padayatra all over the hills and observed the devastation brought about by deforestation
- Age 40+** Bahuguna found his calling as an **environmental activist.**
- Age 94:** **Passes away due to Covid-19**



Question:

Who among the following was associated with chipko movement?

- A. Sundarlal Bahuguna
- B. Gaura Devi
- C. Sudesha Devi
- D. All of the above



UPSC/IAS! (Pre + Mains) Smart Course



EMI Available



Visit studyiq.com or Download The APP

