

Twitter Thread by [yudhika](#)



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Tulasi Gowda was born in a poor Hallaki tribal family & lost her father when she was only 3 and a child-bride at 12.

She started working at a very young age as a labourer for the Karnataka Forestry Department. Her main duty was to take care of the seeds in the Agasur seedbed.



Over the years, Gowda achieved extraordinary results, also thanks to her deeply-rooted cultural heritage, as in her matriarchal tribe women have been in charge of protecting, looking after and cultivating the land for hundreds of years.



She walked barefoot through plantations, can discern the state of budding plants by just touching them lightly. She's never been to school, but knows perfectly how to interpret tamarind, eucalyptus and dozens of other plants.



Tulasi Gowda started her journey in the 60s when she was younger than Greta Thunberg by making this world a better place to live by planting one sapling after another.

Tulasi Gowda

Encyclopedia of Forest

- Known as the 'Encyclopedia of Forest' due to her **vast knowledge** of diverse species of plants & herbs - despite not having any formal education
- Despite growing up in **poverty** amongst backward community, planted and nurtured **thousands** of **trees** over the past **60 years**
- Even at the age of 72, continues to nurture plants and share her knowledge with the new generation, carrying forward the message of environmental protection
- Joined the Forest Depart as a temporary volunteer - the department recognized her dedication towards nature, offering her a permanent job as a Member

"illiterate Halakki Tribal woman known for possessing endless knowledge of plants and herbs"



Padma Shri | Social Work (*Environment*) | Karnataka | 72 Yrs



Today she's 73, but when people way younger than her fail to do anything to arrest the effects of climate change, she is still as busy as she was six decades ago.

Every year she plants and nurtures thousands of trees and goes on about her deeds like no one's watching.

