



**Mr. Sanjay Kumar**, 45 year old, post graduate resident of Village Plauhta Post office Upper Behli Tehsil Sundernagar District Mandi Himachal Pradesh has been awarded **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Antyodaya Krishi Puraskar-2020** by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi on 16.07.2021 for his exemplary work in the field of farming. Spending about five years abroad, he came back to his native place and adopted farming for self employment. He acquired several skills in various fields like Agricultural Extension Service Provider, Nursery grower, Organic grower, integrated farming, Mushroom cultivation and protected cultivation from CSKHPKV, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mandi and established integrated farming system model at his farm with technical support of KVK. His integrated farming system model with components of protected cultivation, crop production, dairy, goat rearing, SPNF, SPNF resource centre, mushroom cultivation and rain water harvesting not only secured him livelihood but also become a role model among fellow farmers. His IFS model is suitable for marginal and small farmers of the state and an example to other fellow farmers. Being a true leader, he is brilliant master trainer involved in up-scaling the Natural Farming technologies among the farmers in the state and trained more than 1000 farmers till date. Mr. Sanjay Kumar is a source of inspiration to the farming community. He has established his identity for integrated farming system model which has been widely appreciated at national level.

Keeping in view his excellence in farming, application of Sanjay Kumar for the aforementioned award was recommended by the Vice-Chancellor, CSK HPKV, Palampur which recommendations have been duly honoured by the ICAR selecting this progressive farmer of hill state for this prestigious award.