

CURRENT AFFAIRS MARCH 2016 - AWARDS

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News 1 - Randeep Hooda Felicitated With Achievement Award.



Bollywood actor Randeep Hooda was honoured by members of a non-profit organization South Asian Public Affairs Council (SAPAC) in Australia with an achievement award for making his mark in the film industry. The actor launched a non-profit organization 'Nobody Dies Hungry' founded by an Australian Indian Alope Kumar.

The award was presented to Mr. Hooda by the Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism Danielle Green. He also accepted to become an ambassador of 'Bully Zero Australia'.

News 2 - Three British scientists win 2016 Brain Prize.



Tim Bliss, Graham Collingridge and Richard Morris, three British scientists, will share the Grete Lundbeck European Brain Research Prize (also known as Brain Prize) for their work on memory.

The prize worth one million euros is awarded each year for an "outstanding contribution to European neuroscience".

News 3 - Dr. Bhagwati Lal Vyas chosen for Bihari Puraskar 2015.



Dr. Bhagwati Lal Vyas has been nominated for the 2015 Bihari Puraskar. He will be awarded for his anthology of Rajasthani poems 'Katha Sun Aawe Hai Sabad'. The award carries a cash prize of 1 lakh Rupees, a citation and a plaque. Dr Vyas, also a Sahitya Akademi recipient, has highlighted the increasing tendencies of commercialization and degradation of human values through his poetry.

The award was instituted by K K Birla Foundation in 1991. It is given annually for an outstanding literary work in Hindi or Rajasthani published during last 10 years by a Rajasthani writer.

News 4 - Manoj Kumar to be conferred Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2015.



Veteran Film Actor and Director Shri Manoj Kumar is to be conferred the 47th Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2015. Award is conferred by the Government of India for outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian Cinema. The Award consists of a Swarn Kamal (Golden Lotus), a cash prize of Rs. 10 lakhs and a shawl.

Last year, the Dadasaheb Phalke award was given to Shashi Kapoor.

News 5 - Ratan Thiyam nominated for 11th META Lifetime Achievement Award.



Veteran playwright and director and the current chairman of the National School of Drama, Ratan Thiyam will be awarded with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award for 2016 at the 11th edition of Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards (META).

The award will be given to him for creating a new language in theatre and for his various roles as writer, director, designer, composer and choreographer.

News 6 - Srinivasan K. Swamy receives Distinguished Service Award.



Srinivasan K Swamy, Chairman and Managing Director, R K Swamy BBDO was awarded the Distinguished Service Award given by Advertising Club Madras for his outstanding contribution to the advertising industry.

The award was presented by N. Murali, Co-Chairman, Kasturi and Sons Limited (The Hindu Group).

News 7 - Amrita Patel awarded with Mahindra Lifetime Achievement Award.





Former Chairman of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Dr. Amrita Patel has been honoured with the Mahindra Samridhi India Agri Lifetime Achievement Award - Krishi Shiromani Samman in New Delhi.

Dr. Patel had played a pivotal role in the implementation of Operation Flood to promote, finance and deliver a variety of supporting services to a national cooperative dairy structure. It helped transform the lives of millions of marginalized and small farmers and milk producers.

News 8 - Padma Sachdev given Krutitava Smagra Samman.



Eminent Dogri poetess and writer Padma Sachdev was awarded Krutitava Smagra Samman for 2015 by the Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad in Kolkata, West Bengal for her outstanding contribution in literature and great service to Dogri Language. The award carries an amount of Rs. 1 lakh, a shawl, and citation.

Padma Sachdev has won the Sahitya Akademi Award at the young age of thirty for her first collection of Dogri poetry titled Mere Kavita. She is also a Padma Shri recipient.

News 9 - Poll Based Investor Communication Award to NTPC.



NTPC Ltd has been conferred the Research Investor Communication Award amongst the “Large Corporates” category for following transparent and fair communication practices by Research Bytes in an independent poll having participation of over 3000 Fund Managers/Analysts/Non Institutional Investors.

The award recognizes NTPC’s effort in building a strong ecosystem based on consistent and regular communication with investors across the globe in a fair and transparent manner.

News 10 - ‘Nari Shakti Puraskar-2015’ conferred by the President.





The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee conferred the 'Nari Shakti Puraskar-2015' on the occasion of International Women's Day. The awards are given every year by the Ministry of Women & Child Development to institutions and individuals who have made exceptional contribution towards empowerment of women.

Nari Shakti Puraskar carries a cash award of Rs. 2 Lakh and a certificate for institutions and Rs.1 Lakh and a certificate for individuals. This year, 7 awards have been given in the Institutional Category and 15 in the Individual Category.

News 11 - Tezpur University and JNU won the annual Visitor's Awards for Central Universities.



Tezpur University won the annual Visitor's Award for the Best University whereas Rakesh Bhatnagar and the Molecular Parasitology Group of JNU won the Visitor's Awards in category of Research and Innovation. The Visitor's Award for Research was presented to the Molecular Parasitology Group of Jawaharlal Nehru University for its pioneer work in the area of molecular parasitology, especially anti-malaria, leishmaniasis and amoebiasis.

Awards were presented by President Mr. Pranab Mukherjee to the awardees at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 14 March 2016. Tezpur University received a Citation and Trophy while winners of Visitor's Award for Innovation and Research will receive a citation and cash award of one lakh rupees.

News 12 - CEO of Jagran Group, Sanjay Gupta, presented IAA Editor of the Year.



Union Minister of State (Home Affairs) Kiren Rijju presented the IAA Editor of the Year award at the 4th Indian Advertising Association (IAA) Awards in Mumbai to CEO of Jagran Group and editor of Dainik Jagran, Sanjay Gupta.

Bharat Patel of Procter and Gamble: Inducted in the IAA Hall of Fame for his contribution in building the Vicks brand in India and popularizing it as a household name.

The recipients of awards in other various categories are –

Brand Endorser of the Year	Varun Dhawan, Actor
TV Anchor of the Year	Rajat Sharma of India TV
Media Person of the Year	Raj Nayak of Colors
CEO of the year	Kumar Mangalam Birla

News 13 - Palestinian Hanan Al Hroub wins 2016 Global Teacher Prize.



A Palestinian primary school teacher, Hanan Al Hroub, won one-million-dollar Global Teacher Prize for educating her students about non-violence, beating nine other finalists from around the world, including an Indian, Robin Chaurasiya. She grew up in a Palestinian refugee camp and now is a teacher of refugees herself. Hroub runs the Samiha Khalil High School in Al-Bireh, Palestine.

The Global Teacher Prize is a 1 million US dollar award set up by Kerala-born entrepreneur and educational philanthropist Sunny Varkey, to recognize one exceptional teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession.

News 14 - Kerala Tourism campaign wins Golden City Gate Award.



Kerala Tourism's new campaign on responsible tourism has bagged the silver prize of this year's Das Golden Stadttor or 'Golden City Gate Award' at the world's leading travel trade show, at the Internationale Tourismus-Borse Berlin (ITB Berlin) 2016. Titled 'New Worlds', the multimedia campaign which contains three short films was directed by reputed Malayalam filmmaker Anwar Rasheed.

Kerala Tourism had earlier won the Ulysses Prize of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) for its contribution as a global leader to sustainable tourism.

News 15 - Chameli Devi Jain Award 2015-16 announced.



The Media Foundation's Chameli Devi Jain award for 2015-16 has been jointly awarded to Priyanka Kakodkar and Raksha Kumar for work that combines social concern and compassion with ground-breaking reportage and sharp analytical skills.

The annual Chameli Devi Award of the Media Foundation is the premier award for women media persons in India.

News 16 - India-Based Software Engineer Wins First Prize in United Nations #LinksSDGs Data Visualization Challenge.



The United Nations announced that Abdulqadir Rashik won the Unite Ideas #LinksSDGs Data Visualization Challenge. Mr. Rashik, a software engineer, entrepreneur and founder of India-based Miavy Systems, was awarded the Challenge’s top prize for his submission “Links to Sustainable Cities”, an interactive visualization that identifies and maps the links between Sustainable Development Goal 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and the other 16 Goals.

The project was a collaboration between the Division for Sustainable Development and the Office of Information and Communications Technology.

News 17 - Oxford Professor Sir Andrew Wiles wins 2016 Abel Prize.



British mathematician Sir Andrew Wiles on 15th March 2016 has been announced as this year’s recipient of the Abel prize, widely regarded as the Nobel for mathematics. The award is given by the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters in Oslo. The award carries a prize money of 600,000 Pound.

He won the award for solving a centuries-old hypothesis, Fermat's Last Theorem.

News 18 - The Assassin swept away the 10th Asian Film Awards ceremony.

The 10th Asian film awards were declared in Macau, China. 'The Assassin' bagged prizes for, best actress and best director. It received eight out of 15 trophies announced in the ceremony.

Major winners of the 10th Asian Film Awards –

10th Asian Film Awards	Winners
Best Film	The Assassin
Best Director	Hou Hsiao-Hsien for The Assassin
Best Actor	Lee Byung-hun for The Inside Men
Best Actress	Shu Qi for The Assassin

News 19 - Skoch Awards conferred on KTR Rao and Venkaiah Naidu.



The Skoch Challenger of the year Award was awarded to IT Minister of Telangana KT Rama Rao for his initiative in establishing the path breaking tech incubator T-Hub.

The Skoch Lifetime Achievement Award was conferred on Urban Development Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu for his contributions to inclusive growth and towards poverty alleviation in India. on 18 March 2016 conferred with.

The awards were conferred at 43rdSKOCH summit held in New Delhi. Skoch Challenger Awards is the highest independently instituted civilian honors and conferred for the efforts in the area of digital, financial and social inclusion.

News 20 - Tikka Shatrujit Singh honoured with top French award.



French ambassador to India Francois Richier bestowed the prestigious Knight of the Legion of Honour to Tikka Shatrujit Singh, the royal scion of Kapurthala's Ahluwalia dynasty for his "extraordinary work in the exchanging the French lifestyle and Indian culture with each other."

Singh, known as the "guru of luxury," is the Advisor to the Chairman of multinational group Moët Hennessy-Louis Vuitton (LVMH). The Legion d'Honneur, created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, is the highest civilian award given by the French Republic for outstanding service to France, regardless of the nationality of the recipients.

News 21 - Indian Origin Geetakshi Arora wins first Noor Inayat Khan Prize.



An Indian Origin student, Geetakshi Arora of SOAS South Asia Institute, was awarded the first Noor Inayat Khan Prize

for her excellent thesis on “Goddess Myths in Graphic Novels: Reimagining Indian Femininity”. Geetakshi was presented the award in Delhi by Michael Hu, head of SOAS South Asia Institute.

The award was founded by Noor Inayat Khan Memorial Trust in the memory of Noor Inayat Khan, famous World War II heroine, to promote the message of peace, non-violence and religious and racial harmony. The award consists of 1,000 pounds and certificate.

News 22 - 5th National Photography Awards presented.



The Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting Arun Jaitley gave away 5th National Photography Awards in New Delhi.

Amateur category award was given for works on the theme – ‘Save Mother Earth’, while the theme for professional photographers was ‘Festivals of India’.

Recipients of major awards –

5th National Photography Awards	Recipients of major awards
Life Time Achievement Award	Bhawan Singh
Professional Photographer Award	Javed Ahmed Dar
Amateur Photographer	Himanshu Thakur

News 23 - The 63rd National Film Awards announced.

The Directorate of Film Festivals of India presented the 63rd National Film Awards to honor the best films of 2015 in the Indian cinema. The award ceremony will be held on 3 May 2016.

Major winners –

63rd National Film Awards	Winners
Best Feature Film	Baahubali: The Beginning
Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film Of A Director	Neeraj Ghaywan for Masaan
Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment	Bajrangi Bhaijaan
Best Children's Film	Duronto
Best Direction	Sanjay Leela Bhansali for Bajirao Mastani
Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration	Nanak Shah Fakir
Best Film on Environment / Conservation / Preservation	Valiya Chirakulla Pakshikal

Best Film on Social Issue	Niranayakam
Best Actor	Amitabh Bachchan for Piku
Best Actress	Kangana Ranaut for Tanu Weds Manu Returns

News 24 - The President conferred Padma awards 2016 on 56 awardees.



President Pranab Mukherjee conferred five Padma Vibhushan, eight Padma Bhushan and 43 Padma Shri Awards 2016 on 56 distinguished personalities at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

List of Recipients –

Padma Vibhushan –

- Founder of Reliance Industries late Dhirubhai Hirachand Ambani (posthumous)
- Former Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Jagmohan
- Art of Living founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar
- Indian-American economist Avinash Kamalakar Dixit
- Renowned dancer Yamini Krishnamurti

Padma Bhushan –

- Actor Anupam Pushkarnath Kher
- Badminton star Saina Nehwal
- Former CAG Vinod Rai
- Pallonji Shapoorji Mistry
- Hafeez Sorab Contractor
- Barjinder Singh Hamdard
- Alla Venkata Rama Rao
- Duvvur Nageshwar Reddy

Padma Shri –

Some the prominent personalities among the 43 awardees included Actor Ajay Devgn, Filmmaker Madhur R Bhandarkar, Scientist Dr Mylswamy Annadurai, Athlete Deepika Kumari, Celebrated chef Mohammed Imtiaz Qureshi, etc.

News 25 - Playback singer P. Susheela entered Guinness World Records.





Legendary versatile playback singer P. Susheela Mohan entered the Guinness Book of Records for recording highest number of songs in several languages. She recorded 17695 songs in 12 Indian languages.

She has sung songs in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Hindi and other Indian languages. Asia Book of Records has also officially recognized her for singing most number of songs in Indian languages.