

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

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Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019-Important Awards & Honors

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January 2019 – Important Awards & Honors

Government honours outstanding young entrepreneurs with National Entrepreneurship Awards

- **The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship hosted the third edition of the National Entrepreneurship Awards in New Delhi** on January 4, 2019.
- The awards recognise and honor outstanding **young first-generation entrepreneurs and those who have contributed immensely in building the entrepreneurship ecosystem.**
- A total of 43 awards were presented this year, which include 39 awards for Young Entrepreneurs in different sectors and four awards for Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Builders.
- **The winners received a trophy, certificate and cash prizes ranging from Rs 5-10 lakhs.** There were also special awards for women, persons with disability, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and entrepreneurs from areas with limited opportunities.

2019 Golden Globe Awards: Bohemian Rhapsody wins Best Picture Drama

- **The 76th Annual Golden Globe Awards were announced on January 7, 2019 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, California, the United States of America.** These annual awards honour the best in Motion Pictures and Television for the year 2018.
- **This year's event was hosted by actors Andy Samberg and Sandra Oh,** who took over from 2018 host, comedian Seth Meyers. Oh joined a small group of actors who won an award in the same ceremony they hosted.

Film Category

Category	Awardees
Best Motion Picture Drama	Bohemian Rhapsody
Best Motion Picture Musical/Comedy	Green Book
Best Director in Motion Picture-Drama	Alfonso Cuaron (Roma)
Best Actress in Motion Picture-Drama	Glen Close (The Wife)
Best Actor in Motion Picture-Drama	Rami Malek (Bohemian Rhapsody)

Television Category

Category	Awardees
Best Television Series, Drama	The Americans
Best Television Series – Musical/ Comedy	The Kominsky Method

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Best Television Limited Series/ Motion Picture made for Television	Assassination of Gianni Versace: The American Crime Story
Best Actress in Limited Series/ Motion Picture made for Television	Patricia Arquette (Escape at Dannemora)
Best Actor in Limited Series/ Motion Picture made for Television	Darren Criss (Assassination of Gianni Versace: The American Crime Story)
Best Actress in Television Series – Drama	Sandra Oh (Killing Eve)
Best Actor in Television Series - Drama	Richard Madden (Bodyguard)

Asha Parekh, Farooque Shaikh to be honoured by Bimal Roy Memorial and Film Society

- **Veterans Asha Parekh and Farooque Shaikh will be honoured by the Bimal Roy Memorial and Film Society** on January 8, 2018 to commemorate the 52nd death anniversary of the renowned filmmaker.
- The Bimal Roy Memorial and Film Society was instituted 22 years ago in memory of the late filmmaker, Bimal Roy. Its aim is to reward unsung heroes of the film industry.

Journalist Dinu Randive conferred with lifetime achievement award

- **Veteran journalist Dinu Randive has been conferred with the lifetime achievement award by the Mantralaya and Vidhimandal Vartahar Sangh**, an association of journalists covering Maharashtra legislature and secretariat.
- Randive started his journalistic career in 1956. He also participated in the freedom struggle, the Sanyukta Maharashtra movement and the Goa liberation movement.

PM Narendra Modi conferred with first-ever Philip Kotler Presidential Award

- **The Prime Minister Narendra Modi** was on January 14, 2019 **conferred with the first-ever Philip Kotler Presidential Award**.
- The Award focuses on the triple bottom-line of **'People, Profit and Planet'**. The award will be offered annually to the leader of a Nation.

Namita Gokhale wins Sushila Devi Literature Award

- **Writer Namita Gokhale has won the Sushila Devi Literature Award** for her novel "Things to Leave Behind".
- She was awarded in the **'Best Book of Fiction Written by a Woman Author'** category at the inaugural edition of **Bhopal Literature and Art Festival (BLF)** that began in Bhopal on January 12, 2019.
- The festival, a brainchild of former bureaucrat Raghav Chandra, is being held at the Multi Art Centre of the Bharat Bhawan here.

Centre announces Gandhi Peace Prize awardees for 2015-18

- After a gap of four years, **the Centre on Wednesday announced the awardees for the prestigious Gandhi Peace Prize for 2015 to 2018**.
- While **Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari**, won the award **for 2015 for rural development and education**.
- For 2016, the award has been jointly given to **Akshaya Patra Foundation** for providing mid-day meals to children across the country and **Sulabh International** for its work towards emancipation of manual scavengers, **the Ministry of Culture announced**.

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- For 2017, the award has been given to **Ekai Abhiyan Trust** for its contribution to education for rural and tribal children.
- And for 2018, to **WHO Goodwill Ambassador Yohei Sasakawa** for his role in leprosy eradication.

India's Satyarup becomes world's youngest mountaineer to climb 7 peaks, 7 volcano summits

- **Mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta today conquered Antarctica's highest point, Mount Sidley. With this feat, he became the first Indian and youngest man to climb the seven highest peaks and volcanic summits across all continents.**
- According to the in-Reach Satellite, Communicator Satyarup was carrying, he summited Mount Sidley at 6. 28 in the morning Indian Standard Time at a temperature of minus 40-degree Celsius.
- **Bharat Ratna CNR Rao chosen for first Sheikh Saud International Prize for Materials**
- **Eminent Indian scientist, Chintamani Nagesa Ramachandra Rao, popularly known as CNR Rao, was on January 18, 2019 chosen for the first Sheikh Saud International Prize for Materials Research by the Centre for Advanced Materials of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).**
- The award will be presented to Rao by Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, the ruler of one of UAE's seven emirates Ras Al Khaima at the International Workshop on Advanced Materials on February 25, 2019.

Government institutes Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar

- **The government has instituted an annual award titled Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar.**
- It will be announced every year on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The Award carries a certificate and a cash prize of 51 lakh rupees.
- This year, **8th Battalion of National Disaster Response Force located at Ghaziabad has been selected for the Award for its commendable work in disaster management.**

In a first for Kashmir, Lance Naik Wani to be awarded Ashok Chakra

- **In a first for Kashmir, Lance Naik Nazir Ahmad Wani belonging to the state, will be awarded the highest peacetime gallantry award "Ashok Chakra" posthumously on Republic Day.**
- The award will be presented to his wife Mahajabeen by President Ramnath Kovind.

Central Bank of India received Atal Pension Yojana Award

- **The Central Bank of India has been given away the Atal Pension Yojana Award for promoting the scheme across the country.**
- Bank MD and CEO Pallav Mohapatra received the Atal Pension Yojana award from Department of Financial Services Secretary Rajiv Kumar for promoting the scheme in various geographical locations of the country, an official statement said on Thursday.
- **The award function was organised by Pension Fund Regulatory Development Authority (PFRDA) on Wednesday.**

Three Indian expats from the UAE win prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2019

- **Three Indian expats from the UAE are amongst those who won the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2019, the highest honour conferred on Indian diaspora.**
- **President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the award on Girish Pant, Surender Singh Kandhari and Dr Zulekha Daud and other awardees at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention in Varanasi.**

Pranab Mukherjee, Nanaji Deshmukh Bhupen Hazarika awarded Bharat Ratna

- **Social activist Nanaji Deshmukh, Music maestro Bhupen Hazarika and former President Pranab Mukherjee have been awarded with country's highest civilian honour Bharat Ratna.**
- As per a press communique issued by President's office, **Nanaji Deshmukh and Bhupen Hazarika will be awarded**

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with the honour posthumously.

Government announces Padma Shree award winners, cricketer Gautam Gambhir, Kadar Khan among 94 to be honoured

- President of Djibouti Ismail Omar Guelleh, L&T chairman A M Naik, late journalist Kuldeep Nayar, late actor Kadar Khan and cricketer Gautam Gambhir were among the 112 prominent personalities who were named on Friday for conferment of this year's Padma awards.
- India football captain Sunil Chhetri, table tennis star Sharath Kamal, wrestler Bajrang Punia were among the recipients for the the Padma Shri awards announced on the eve of the Republic Day on Friday.
- Harika Dronavalli (chess), Bombayla Devi (archery), Prashanti Singh (basketball) and Ajay Thakur (kabaddi) have also been conferred the Padma Shri award while Bachendri Pal (mountaineering) was honoured with the Padma Bhushan award.
- Folk artist Teejan Bai, Guelleh, Naik and theatre actor Balwant Moreshwar Purandare will be honoured with Padma Vibhushan, former CAG V K Shunglu, former union minister Kariya Munda, Akali leader S S Dhindsa were named for Padma Bhushan, which will be conferred by President Ram Nath Kovind in March-April.

ICAR's 'Kisan Gandhi' tableau wins first prize at R-Day parade

- The ICAR tableau in the Republic Day Parade has won the first prize for its Kisan Gandhi theme. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research tableau with the theme "Mishrit Kheti, Khushiyan Ki Kheti" portrayed Gandhi with goats and a cow and Kasturba engaged with charkha and caring animals. The tableau showcased a view from Bapu Kuti at Wardha Ashram.
- Tripura bagged the first prize for the state tableau while tableau from Jammu and Kashmir was adjudged the second and Punjab won the third prize. The theme of Tripura's tableau was 'Empowering Rural Economy the Gandhian Way'.

India bags the Award of Excellence for 'Best in Show' at New York Times Travel Show 2019

- India received the Award of Excellence for 'Best in Show' at the recently concluded New York Times Travel Show 2019.
- The New York Times Travel Show 2019 is the largest travel show in North America that was held during January 25-27, 2019 in New York, USA.
- Yogendra Tripathi, Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism received the Award of Excellence
- The Union Ministry of Tourism participated as the 'Presenting Partner' in the New York Times Travel Show (NYTTS 2019) organised at Jacob K Javits Centre, New York.

Sahitya Akademi Awards 2018 presented to 24 writers; Hindi writer Chitra Mudgal among winners

- India's national academy of letters, Sahitya Akademi on January 29, 2019 presented the Sahitya Akademi Award 2018 to 24 writers. The awards were given for 24 different Indian languages.
- Renowned Hindi writer Chitra Mudgal, Dogri writer Inderjeet Kesar, Kannada writer KG Nagarajappa and Kashmiri story writer Mushtaq Ahmad Mushtaq were among the 24 winners.
- Sahitya Akademi President, Chandrasekhar Kambar presented these awards at a function in New Delhi during the Festival of Letters, organised by Sahitya Akademi.

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February 2019 – Important Awards & Honors

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal awarded 4th annual Carnot Prize

- **Union Minister of Railways & Coal Piyush Goyal** was on **January 30, 2019** formally conferred with the **fourth annual Carnot Prize** by the **Kleinman Center for Energy Policy** at the **University of Pennsylvania School of Design** in **New Delhi**.
- The Minister had previously been unable to accept the award in the **United States of America**, due to the **unfortunate train tragedy** that took place in **Amritsar**.
- **The 2018 Carnot Prize has been conferred in recognition of India's efforts towards eliminating energy poverty with sustainable energy solutions.**

President Ram Nath Kovind confers Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for Year 2017

- **The President, Ram Nath Kovind** conferred the prestigious **Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards** for the year **2017** on **February 6, 2019** at **Rashtrapati Bhawan** during a special investiture ceremony.
- **The General Council of the Sangeet Natak Akademi** selected **42 artists** from the field of **Music, Dance, Theatre, Puppetry and Overall contribution/scholarship in the Performing Arts** for the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2017** at its meeting in **Imphal, Manipur** that was held on **June 8, 2018**.
- These **42 artists** include one joint award.

Sena medals awarded to 92 army men, including Lance Naik Wani

- **Lieutenant General Ranbir Singh, GOC-in-C of Northern Command** presented the **Sena medals to 92 army men** at an investiture ceremony for their gallant and distinguished services.
- **76 medals** were presented for gallantry services, **7 medals** for distinguished services and **8** for **Vishist Seva**.
- **Lance Naik Nazir Ahmed Wani**, a recipient of **Ashok Chakra** was also awarded **Bar to Sena Medal** posthumously which was received by his wife.

2019 Grammy Awards: Kacey Musgraves, Childish Gambino, Cardi B & Quincly Jones created history

- **Kacey Musgraves, Childish Gambino, Cardi B and Quincly Jones** created history by winning the **2019 Grammy Awards** held at **Staples Center** in **Los Angeles**.
- Country singer **Kacey Musgraves** won the '**Album of the Year**' award for her record "**Golden Hour**". Kacey also won awards for **best country album, best country song and best country solo performance**.
- **Childish Gambino's "This Is America"** won four awards for **song of the year, best rap or sung performance, best music video and record of the year**.
- "**This Is America**" became **first rap track to get the award in the history of the Grammys**.
- **Cardi B** became the **first woman to win the Best Rap Album Grammy award** for her debut '**Invasion of Privacy**'.
- **Lady Gaga's "Shallow"** from the movie "**A Star Is Born**" won two awards.

Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt visit India Pavilion at Berlinale 2019; release IFFI 2019 Brochure

- **The team of 'Gully Boy' movie** including **Ranveer Singh, Alia Bhatt, Zoya Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani** visited the **India Pavilion at Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2019**.
- They released the **IFFI 2019 Brochure** and were apprised by the **Indian delegation** about activities planned for the **Golden Jubilee anniversary of IFFI to be held in 2019**.

Indian historian Sanjay Subrahmanyam wins Israel's Dan David Prize 2019

- **Indian historian Sanjay Subrahmanyam** on **February 10, 2019** won the prestigious **Dan David Prize 2019** for

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his work on inter-cultural encounters between Asians, Europeans and people of North and South America during the early modern era.

- He won the Israel's prestigious USD 1 million dollar award in the category of "Past Time Dimension" for his work in macro history. He shared the award in the Past category with Professor Kenneth Pomeranz of University of Chicago.

PM Modi presents Swachh Shakti-2019 Awards; inaugurates development projects in Haryana

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 12, 2019 participated in **Swachh Shakti 2019 event and distributed the Swachh Shakti 2019 Awards during his visit to Kurukshetra, Haryana.**
- On the same occasion, he also inaugurated and laid foundation stone of several development projects in Haryana.
- **The Prime Minister Modi gave away the Swachh Shakti awards to woman sarpanches from across the country in Swachh Shakti 2019 programme.** He also visited the Swachh Sundar Shauchalay exhibition at Kurukshetra.
- **The Swachh Shakti 2019 was attended by women panches and sarpanches from across the country.**

NFDC declared Winner under Miniratna Category by Ministry of MSME

- **National Film Development Corporation of India** has been declared winner under the **Miniratna Category (Category II)** by **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).**
- National Film Development Corporation Ltd. (NFDC), incorporated in the year 1975, was formed by the Government with the primary objective of planning and promoting an organized, efficient and integrated development of the Indian film industry.
- **NFDC has so far funded and produced over 300 films.**

President to confer Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony

- **Indian President Ram Nath Kovind would be presenting the Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony to Rajkumar Singhajit Singh, Bangladesh cultural organisation Chhayanaut and Ram Sutar Vanji for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively** on February 18, 2019 at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi.
- The award was instituted by the Union Government in 2012 to recognise the contributions made by Rabindranath Tagore to humanity at large with his works and ideas, as part of the commemoration of **his 150th Birth Anniversary, for promoting values of cultural harmony.**
- **The award is conferred annually and carries an amount worth Rs one crore, citation in a scroll, a plaque and an exquisite traditional handicraft and handloom item.**

Laureus World Sports Awards 2019 presented

- **Laureus World Sports Awards 2019 were announced at the Laureus Awards Ceremony in Monaco.**
- The Laureus World Sports Awards is an annual award ceremony honouring individuals and teams from the world of sports along with sporting achievements throughout the year.
- **Ace Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat became the first Indian to receive a nomination in the prestigious Laureus World Sports Awards.**
- She was nominated for the **Laureus World Comeback of the Year.**

List of Awardees

Award Name	Person Won	Country	Sports related to
Sportsman of the Year	Novak Djokovic	Serbia	Tennis

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Sportswoman of the Year	Simone Biles	USA	Gymnastics
Team of the Year	France's Football Team	France	Football
Comeback of the Year	Tiger Woods	USA	Golf
Breakthrough of the Year	Naomi Osaka	Japan	Tennis
Lifetime Achievement Award	Arsene Wenger	France	Manager of Arsenal Football Team
Sport for Good Award	Yuwa (Jharkhand based NGO)	India	Football

I&B minister Rathore presents National Photography Awards

- Information and Broadcasting Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore on Tuesday gave away **the 7th National Photography Awards to 13 persons in different categories at a function in New Delhi.**
- The theme for the Professional category was **Women led Development**, while the theme for **Amateur category was Fairs and Festivals of India.**
- Renowned landscape photographer Ashok Dielwali was conferred with lifetime achievement award. Photojournalist S L Shanth Kumar was awarded in the professional category. Arun Sreedhar, Kailash Mittal, Mihir Singh, Ms Ranita Roy and P V Sunder Rao were honoured with special mention awards.

Sunil Chhetri honoured with the first ever Football Ratna award

- India's national football captain Sunil Chhetri has been conferred the first ever Football Ratna honour by Football Delhi.** The governing body for football in the Capital conferred the honour on India's leading international goal scorer at a glittering ceremony at the Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.
- Football Delhi president Shaji Prabhakaran**, himself a former footballer of repute, presented the Delhi boy with the award.
- Sunil Chhetri**, who was conferred the Padma Shri on the Republic Day this year, stressed the need to continue focus on developing talent in India.

National Informatics Centre to confer Digital India Awards

- The National Informatics Centre (NIC) will organize the fifth edition of Digital India Awards on February 22, 2019.**
- The Digital India Awards have emerged over the years as a credible platform to recognize the digital presence and e-Governance efforts of various Government institutions across the country.

PM Narendra Modi receives Seoul Peace Prize for 2018

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** on February 22, 2019 received **the prestigious Seoul Peace Prize 2018 for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth.**
- The committee credited him for his efforts in promoting global peace and harmony through inclusive economic growth and improving quality of life.
- The award was presented to him by Kwon E-hyock, the Chairman of the Seoul Peace Prize Cultural Foundation** at a grand ceremony in Seoul, South Korea. A short film on the life and achievements of Prime Minister Modi was also screened at the event.
- With this, **PM Modi became the 14th recipient of the Seoul Peace Prize.**

Jitendra Singh presents National e-Governance Awards 2019

- Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office, **Dr Jitendra Singh on February 27, 2019 presented the National e-**

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Governance Awards, 2019 in New Delhi.

- The awards are given every year to recognise and promote excellence in implementation of e-Governance initiatives. The Minister gave the award in six categories.
- The initiative seeks to disseminate knowledge on effective methods of designing and implementing sustainable e-Governance initiatives.

MP: CZPDC Bhopal, WZPDC Indore bag Saubhagya award

- In Madhya Pradesh, the Central Zone Power Distribution Company, Bhopal and West Zone Power Distribution Company, Indore have been awarded the Saubhagya award under Pradhanmantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana at the National Conference of Energy Ministers. The award included Rs 100 crore each.
- The awards were presented by the Union Minister of State for Energy RK Singh on February 26, 2019.
- The Central Zone Power Distribution Company, Bhopal is the first power distribution company in the country that has illuminated more than 7 lakh 85 thousand houses while around 4 lakh houses have been electrified by the West Zone Power Distribution Company, Indore under Pradhanmantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana-Saubhagya.

PM Modi confers Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes for Science & Tech

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday conferred the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes for Science and Technology for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 in New Delhi.
- Among the ten scientists who got the prize for 2017 are Dr Deepak Gaur of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi and Dr S Suresh Babu of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre. There were thirteen prize winners for 2018. They include Dr Amit Kumar of IIT, Delhi and Dr Nitin Saxena, IIT, Kanpur.
- The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize is the most coveted national recognition bestowed upon young scientists and engineers to honour their research and developmental work in India. It was first instituted in 1957 to honour the eminent scientist Dr Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar who was also the founder Director and the chief architect of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, CSIR.

March 2019 – Important Awards & Honors

Awards	Winners
2019 World's Most Ethical Companies	Tata Steel
Green Era Award for Sustainability	TVS motor company
First Prize in the category of TV Cinema Spot at International Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2019	The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India
Best Domestic Water Purifier Award 2018-19	Kent RO Systems Pvt. Ltd
Templeton Prize	Brazilian physicist and astronomer Marcelo Gleiser
Non-Life Insurer of the Year Award 2019	Bharti AXA General Insurance
Awarded the exploration rights for Abu Dhabi's Onshore Block 1	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, and Indian Oil Corporation Limited
Commonwealth Youth Award for the Asian Region	Padmanaban Gopalan

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Best Bank Award by the Tamil Nadu government for W-SHG	Indian Bank
Windham-Campbell prize	Raghu Karnad for his debut book, 'Farthest Field: An Indian story of Second World War'
Cleanest city award for the third straight year under Swachh Survekshan, 2019.	Indore
Vyas Samman 2018	Leeladhar Jagudi
2019 Missile Systems Award	Satheesh Reddy
Global Teacher Prize for 2019	Peter Tabichi
Golden Peacock Innovative Product Award – 2019	ACKO General Insurance
Turing Award	i). Google Brain researcher Geoffrey Hinton ii). Facebook chief AI scientist and NYU professor Yann LeCun iii). University of Montreal professor Yoshua Bengio
Bodley Medal	Amartya Sen
Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award	Dr Rajendra Joshi

April 2019 – Important Awards & Honors

Designation	Awardee
Zayed Medal by UAE	PM Modi
Global Slag Company of the Year	Tata Steel
Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2019	Smriti Mandhana
Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2019	Virat Kohli
Best Athletic Coach In Asia 2019	Indonesian Eni Nuraeni
Asian Tour with a 'Special Achievement Award'	Pawan Munjal
"Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle", by Russia	PM Modi
Next Billion Edtech Prize 2019	Dost Education
Freedom of the City of London for the recognition of her work to promote insurance ties between India and the UK.	Alice G. Vaidyan
Presidential Award of Maharshi Badrayan Vyas Samman 2019	Dr Gyanaditya Shakya
'D. Litt in Astrology' (Doctor of Letters)	Dr. Sohini Sastri
John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award	Vikram Patel
New Zealand Prime Minister's Sir Edmund Hillary Fellowship for	Deepa Malik

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2019	
Honorary Doctorate from University of Law, London	Shah Rukh Khan
Celent Model Bank 2019 Award	Fincare Small Finance Bank
Best Digital Agency Award	Sudhanshu Kumar
Lifetime Achievement Award 2019 during 4th APJ Abdul Kalam Innovation Conclave	Dr A K Singh
UK Royal Society honour	Yusuf Hamie
Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Award	Sunil Kumar Gautam, for his book 'Samvidhan Kavya'.
Best cinematography award at Beijing International Film Festival	Malayalam film "Bhayanakam"
World Press Photo of the Year	John Moore
Swacchta Pakhwada Awards 2019	i. All India Radio ii. Publication Division iii. Children's Film Society of India
2019 Citi Journalistic Excellence Award	Teena Thacker
India's first retail company to cross the Rs.1 lakh crore annual revenue milestones	Reliance Retail
Order of Ikhamanga in the Silver Division	Jacques Kallis
World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) awards of the United Nations (UN).	"Utkarsh Bangla" and "Sabooj Sathi" scheme
2019 class of Cleveland International Hall of Fame	Sree Sreenath
Selected for UNESCO/Guillermo Cano Press Freedom Prize 2019	Kyaw Soe Oo and Wa Lone
IPI's 71st World Press Freedom Hero in 2019	Journalist Cyril Almeida
National Intellectual Property Award 2019	IPR cell of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU)
Saraswati Samman 2018	K Siva Reddy
National Basketball Coaches Association's 2019 Coach of the Year	Mike Budenholzer
National Intellectual Property Award for 2019 in the category of Top Individual for Patents and	Benny Antony

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Commercialization	
Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize for his 2010 novel "Solo", a tale of estrangement and the ultimate failure of material existence	Rana Dasgupta

Batman will become the first Inductee of Comic-Con Museum's Character Hall of Fame:

- On his 80th Birthday, Batman will become the first Inductee of Comic-Con Museum's Character Hall of Fame, in a ceremony at 50th Annual Comic-Con International in San Diego, USA.

Kandhamal Haldi (turmeric) gets Geographical Indications (GI) tag:

- Kandhamal Haldi (turmeric), Odisha's locally grown turmeric in its Kandhamal district has received the Geographical Indications (GI) tag from Intellectual Property India. It is organically grown by tribals.

Guwahati Railway station becomes the first to get ISO certification in India:

- The Guwahati Railway Station has become the first ever railway station in the Indian Railways to get an ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) certification from the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

150 Indian peacekeepers honoured with UN Medal for their service in UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS):

- In Malakal, South Sudan, the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) awarded 150 Indian peacekeepers with Medals of Honour for serving the mission with extreme dedication and sacrifice.

Isaak Hayik, 73, set a new record as world's oldest soccer player:

- 73-year-old Israeli Isaak Hayik set a new world record as the world's oldest person to play in a professional soccer match. He played a match for FC Ironi Or Yehuda against FC Maccabi Ramat Gan.

3 Indian teams win awards at NASA Rover Challenge 2019:

- NASA has awarded three teams of Indian students in its 25th Annual Human Exploration Rover challenge 2019 at the US Space and Rocket Centre in Huntsville, Alabama. The program invites college students and high school students to develop and test roving vehicles for future missions to the Mars, Moon and beyond.
- "AIAA Neil Armstrong Best Design Award" won by team from KIET Group of Institutions in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. Team from Lovely Professional University in Phagwara, Punjab, received "STEM Engagement Award."
- The Mukesh Patel School of Technology Management and Engineering, Mumbai, Maharashtra, received the "Frank Joe Sexton Memorial Pit Crew Award" and also won the System Safety Challenge Award at the competition hosted by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center.

Helen, Salim Khan and Madhur Bhandarkar get Deenanath Mangeshkar award:

- National Award-winning filmmaker Madhur Bhandarkar, popular scriptwriter Salim Khan and yesteryears dancing diva Helen were honoured with the prestigious Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Award at a ceremony.

- For music and art - Classical dancer, Smt. Sucheta Bhide-Chapekar
- Lifetime award (Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar) - Salim Khan
- Special Award - Madhur Bhandarkar (for his contribution to Indian Cinema)
- Special Award - Helen (for her contribution to Indian Cinema)
- The Vagvilasini Award - Vasant Abaji Dahake (for Literature)
- Mohan Wagh Award - Bhadrakali Productions — Soyare Sakal|| (for Best Drama of the Year)
- Anandmayee Puraskar - Pandit Suresh Talwalkar of Taalyogi Ashram (for espousing a social cause)

Neeraj, Sindhu picked for ESPN India Multi-Sport Awards:

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1. Olympic silver medallist P V Sindhu and star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra were named as female and male sportsperson of the year in the ESPN India Multi-Sport Awards for their achievements in 2018.
2. Sportsperson of the Year (Male) - Neeraj Chopra (athletics)
3. Sportsperson of the Year (Female) - P V Sindhu (badminton)
4. Comeback of the Year - Saina Nehwal (badminton)
5. Coach of the Year - Jaspal Rana (shooting)
6. Emerging Sportsperson of the Year - Saurabh Chaudhary (shooting)
7. Team of the Year - Women's team (table tennis)
8. Match of the Year - Amit Panghal vs Hasanboy Dusmatov (boxing)
9. Differently-abled athlete of the Year - Ekta Bhyan (para-athletics)
10. Moment of the Year - Women's 4x400m relay
11. Lifetime Achievement Award - Pradip Kumar Banerjee (football)

Pulitzer Prize: 2019 Winners List:

- Pulitzer Prize is an award for achievements in newspaper, magazine and online journalism, literature, and musical composition in the United States. It was established in 1917 by provisions in the will of American (Hungarian-born) Joseph Pulitzer who had made his fortune as a newspaper publisher, and is administered by Columbia University in New York City
- Prizes are awarded yearly in twenty-one categories. In twenty of the categories, each winner receives a certificate and a US\$15,000 cash award. The winner in the public service category of the journalism competition is awarded a gold medal.

1. Public service: South Florida Sun-Sentinel
2. Criticism: Carlos Lozada of The Washington Post
3. Editorial Writing: Brent Staples of The New York Times
4. Breaking News Reporting: staff of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
5. Investigative Reporting: Harriet Ryan, Matt Hamilton and Paul Pringle
6. Explanatory Reporting: David Barstow, Susanne Craig and Russ Buettner of The New York Times
7. Local Reporting: staff of The Advocate of Baton Rouge, Louisiana
8. National Reporting: staff of The Wall Street Journal
9. International Reporting:
 - i. Maggie Michael, Maad al-Zikry and Nariman El-Mofty
 - ii. Wa Lone, Kyaw Soe Oo and a team from Reuters
10. Commentary: Tony Messenger
11. Editorial Cartoons: Darrin Bell
12. Breaking News Photography: The photography staff of Reuters
13. Feature Photography: Lorenzo Tugnoli of The Washington Post

BOOKS, DRAMA, AND MUSIC

1. Fiction: The Overstory by Richard Powers
2. Drama: Fairview by Jackie Sibblies Drury
3. General Nonfiction: Amity and Prosperity: One Family and the Fracturing of America by Eliza Griswold
4. History: Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom by David W. Blight

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

5. Autobiography or Biography: The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke by Jeffrey C. Stewart
6. Poetry: Be With by Forrest Gander
7. Special Citation: Aretha Franklin

May 2019 – Important Awards & Honors

Designation	Person
Goldman Environmental Prize	1. Alfred Brownell, Liberia 2. Bayarjargal Agvaantseren, Mongolia 3. Ana Colovic Lesoska, North Macedonia 4. Jacqueline Evans, Cook Islands 5. Alberto Curamil, Chile 6. Linda Garcia, United States
The Billboard Music for his album 'Scorpion'	Rapper Drake
Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Legion d'Honneur,	A S Kiran Kumar
2019 V K Krishna Menon award	GD 'Robert' Govender
Star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame	Anne Hathaway
McCain Institute Award for Courage and Leadership.	IPS officer Chhaya Sharma
\$100,000 Nine Dots Prize 2019	Annie Zaidi
Sasakawa Award 2019	Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra
Third prize in the international section of Nespresso Talents 2019	Achyutanand Dwivedi's film, "Seed Mother"
Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star	Shyam Saran
Most viewed stand-up comedian in India and abroad by the World Book of Records London.	Comedian-actor Kapil Sharma
UN medal 2019 for courage and sacrifice in the line of duty	Jitender Kumar
FICCI Claims Excellence Award.	Bharti AXA Life Insurance
Lifetime recognition award by the Confederation	N Kumar

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

of Horticulture Association of India.	
Football Writers' Association (FWA) Footballer of the Year 2019	Raheem Sterling
ACJ (Asian College of Journalism) Award for Investigative Journalism, 2018 for her article 'Coalgate 2.0'	Nileena M S
PC Chandra Purashkaar 2019 award	Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty
UK's wealthiest people for the third time	Hinduja brothers
Time magazine Next Generation Leaders' 2019	Ajey Nagar (Indian YouTuber)
Man Booker International Prize for "Celestial Bodies"	Jokha Alharthi (Oman)
SAIL's 'Top Performer Award	Hi-Tech Pipes
UN highest peacekeeping award	Chancy Chitete (Late Malawian soldier)

June 2019 – International Current Affairs

KOLHAPURI CHAPPAL GETS GI (GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS) TAG

- World famous handcrafted footwear, Kolhapuri chappal gets a Geographic Indication (GI) tag from The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Mark.
- The tag was given to the states of Maharashtra and Karnataka, covering four districts each.

NITESH KUMAR JANGIR, AN INDIAN ENGINEER WON INNOVATION AWARD IN UK

- An Indian engineer, Nitesh Kumar Jangir, from Bangalore has won the Commonwealth Secretary-General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award 2019 in the "People" category in London, UK (United Kingdom) for the creation low-cost neonatal breathing device named "Saans" for saving the lives of newborn babies

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, UNION FINANCE & CORPORATE AFFAIRS MINISTER, AMONG '100 MOST INFLUENTIAL IN UK-INDIA RELATIONS: CELEBRATING WOMEN' LIST.

- To mark 'India Day' in the Houses of Parliament in London, United Kingdom (UK), Sajid Javid, Home Secretary of UK, released the '100 most Influential in UK-India Relations: Celebrating Women' list.
- Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister of India, Nirmala Sitharaman, was one among the 100 most influential women driving the UK-India relationship forward.

MALAYALAM FILM 'VEYILMARANGAL' WON AN AWARD AT SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

- In the 22nd Shanghai International Film Festival, Director Bijukumar Damodaran has received the Outstanding Artistic Achievement Award for the film, Veyil Marangal (Trees Under the Sun).

RACHNA KHAIRA OF THE TRIBUNE WON REDINK AWARD FOR 'JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2019' FOR AADHAAR EXPOSE

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

- Rachna Khaira of The Tribune News Service won RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year 2019'. The award was bestowed for her expose on the functioning of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and its Aadhaar data cache in 2018.

DR GAURAV NIGAM, AN EDUCATIONIST, PEDIATRICIAN AND AUTHOR, HONOURED WITH 'INNOVATIVE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD 2019'

- A well-known educationist, pediatrician and author, Dr Gaurav Nigam was conferred with the 'Innovative Research Excellence Award 2019' by Lyonpo Ugyen Dorji, Minister for Labour and Human Resources of Bhutan at the Asian Leadership Summit held at Thimphu, Bhutan. The event was organized by Global Leaders Foundation.

DD INDIA CHANNEL WILL BE BROADCASTED IN BANGLADESH & SOUTH KOREA

- Prakash Javadekar, Information & Broadcasting (I&B) Ministry, Government of India signed the agreement with Bangladesh and South Korea for DD (Doordarshan) India, an Indian English News and Current Affairs Channel which is to be telecasted in those countries.
- This exchange is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Act East policy.

RAJASTHAN HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONFERRED WITH WHO'S AWARD FOR TOBACCO CONTROL

- The Medical and Health Department of Rajasthan was conferred with the World Health Organization's (WHO) Tobacco Control Award for 2019 in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control.
- It was presented on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day(WNTD) celebrated on May 31, 2019 in an event held in New Delhi. It was the only government body in country to receive the award for its tobacco-free initiatives.

FLIGHT LIEUTENANT MOHANA SINGH BECAME THE FIRST IAF WOMAN PILOT TO FLY HAWK JETS

- Flight Lieutenant Mohana Singh became the first IAF woman pilot to become completely operational by day on Hawk advanced jet aircraft.
- She landed the grueling 4 aircraft combat sortie at the Kalaikunda Air Force Station in West Bengal. In June 2016, she along with two other women pilots Bhawana Kanth and Avani Chaturvadi had joined the fighter stream.

EX-PRESIDENT PRATIBHA PATIL AWARDED MEXICO'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD

- Former president of India, Pratibha Patil was honored with the highest civilian award of Mexico termed "Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca" (Order of the Aztec Eagle).
- She becomes the second Indian after the late President S. Radhakrishnan granted this honour. The award was presented by Ambassador of Mexico to India, Melba Pria.

VETERAN ACTRESS SHEELA CONFERRED WITH J C DANIEL AWARD

- Veteran actress Sheela was conferred with Kerala's highest J C Daniel award for her contribution to Malayalam cinema at the Kerala state film award function at Nisagandhi auditorium in Thiruvananthapuram.
- The award consists of 5 lakh cash prize, a citation, and a plaque.

JAY-Z IS THE WORLD'S 1ST BILLIONAIRE RAPPER AS PER FORBES MAGAZINE

- As per Forbes Magazine, Jay-Z, whose real name is Sean Carter, was named as World's 1st Billionaire Rapper. The 49 years old rapper, husband of the singer Beyonce, has a wealth of \$1bn (£800m).

GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT, JAL SHAKTI MINISTER, PRESENTED AWARDS TO THE WINNERS OF GANGA QUEST 2019

- In an event organized by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) to celebrate World Environment Day 2019, Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, presented the awards to the winners of Ganga Quest 2019, a month-long online quiz organized for awareness and knowledge dissemination about river Ganga.

TAYARI JONES NOVEL AN AMERICAN MARRIAGE WINS WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

- US Novelist Tayari Jones received Women's Prize for Fiction worth \$40,000 for her novel An American Marriage. The novel was praised by Barack Obama and Oprah Winfrey.
- This is her fourth novel based on a middle-class black couple torn apart by injustice. She also received Aspen Words Literary Prize for the same novel.

RIHANNA NAMED AS WORLD'S RICHEST FEMALE MUSICIAN WITH \$600 MILLION WEALTH

- Singer Rihanna of age 31 is named as the world's richest female according to the Forbes magazine with an estimated fortune of \$600 million.
- She overtook Madonna and Beyonce who topped the list previously. She is from Barbados.

SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN INITIATIVE REDUCED GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

- According to the study on "Environmental impact of the Swachh Bharat Mission on Water, Soil, and Food" by United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation shows Swachh Bharat has reduced groundwater contamination.

EQUATOR PRIZE 2019 ANNOUNCED BY UNDP

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and partners announced the winners of the 10th Equator Prize 2019. It recognized 22 local and indigenous communities from across the world.
- From India, Telangana-based NGO, the women sangams (groups) of the Deccan Development Society (DDS), won UN's Equator Prize 2019.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY WAS AWARDED BEST PERFORMING PRODUCTION UNIT IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT

- The report on achievements of environment management of Indian Railways, "Environmental Sustainability Annual Report 2018-19", stated that best-performing Production Unit in the field of the environment was awarded to Rail Wheel Factory, Yelahanka, Karnataka. Ministry of Railway observed World Environment Day on June 6.

SUNDER PICHAI, ADENA FRIEDMAN TO RECEIVE 2019 GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

- American multinational technology company, Google's India-born CEO Sundar Pichai (46) and NASDAQ 's (National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations) President Adena Friedman (50) were chosen for the prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019.
- They were chosen by business advocacy group US-India Business Council (USIBC) for "catalyzing growth in the US-India commercial corridor".

FORMER U.S PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER TO BE HONOURED WITH H. W. BUSH AWARD FOR STATESMANSHIP

- Ex-President of United States of America (USA), Jimmy Carter (94) has won the inaugural George H. W. Bush Award.
- He was awarded in recognition of his contributions to relations between the U.S. and China. He will receive the award at a private award ceremony which is scheduled on June 12 at the Carter Center in Atlanta.

A 16-YEAR-OLD CLIMATE ACTIVIST GRETA THUNBERG WINS AMNESTY HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

- Swedish teenage activist Greta Thunberg (16), has won the Amnesty International's, "Ambassador of Conscience award" for fighting against the peril of global warming.
- She is known for initiating a movement, "Fridays for Future", a climate movement that formed in November 2018.

MAHINDRA WINS GOLD AWARD IN SOUTH AFRICA

- The automobile Giant Mahindra Group won the Gold Award in South Africa. It clinches the top spot among 29 vehicle brands for the award.

AMAZON BEATS APPLE AND GOOGLE TO BECOME THE WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE BRAND: SURVEY

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

- According to the report, “BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brand ranking 2019”, compiled by WPP research agency Kantar states that American multinational technology company, Amazon has overtaken Apple and Google to become the world’s most valuable brand at \$315.5 billion.
- The brand value of Amazon grew 52% between 2018 and 2019.

SEVEN INDIAN-ORIGIN AUSTRALIANS HONOURED

- Seven Indian-origin Australians have been honoured for their outstanding contributions in the field of medicine, music, education and finance in Australia.
- The winners included three women and four men. In the field of Medicine, Jayashri Kulkarni, The Director of the Monash Alfred Psychiatry Research Centre and Winita Hardikar received Member of the Order of Australia (OAM).

MANIPUR YOUTH INDUCTED INTO FACEBOOK ‘HALL OF FAME’ FOR DISCOVERING WHATSAPP BUG

- A 22-year-old civil engineer, Zonel Sougajam from Imphal east of Manipur was recognized by the social media giant “Facebook” for discovering and reporting a WhatsApp bug that violated the privacy of a user.
- Zonel Sougajam was rewarded \$5000 and also inducted into the Facebook ‘Hall of Fame’ 2019.

RENOWNED ENGLISH WRITER AMITAV GHOSH HONOURED WITH 54TH JNANPITH AWARD, 2018

- Noted English Fiction writer Amitav Ghosh (63) received the country’s highest literary honour 54th Jnanpith Award in New Delhi.
- The decision taken by the Jnanpith Selection Board chaired by Jnanpith laureate Pratibha Ray. Former West Bengal Governor, Gopalakrishna Gandhi, who was the chief guest of the event presented the award.

RIL, HDFC AMONG 57 INDIAN COMPANIES GET PLACE IN FORBES ‘GLOBAL 2000’

- In a list of the ‘world’s 2,000 largest public companies’, compiled by Forbes magazine, Mukesh Ambani led Reliance Industries leads the list of 57 Indian companies (71st rank globally).
- The overall chart has been topped by the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) for the 7th year in a row.

PRIYANKA CHOPRA AWARDED DANNY KAYE HUMANITARIAN AWARD BY UNICEF

- Indian actress Priyanka Chopra was selected for “Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award” by United Nations International Children’s Fund’s (UNICEF) American chapter for her contribution to social causes and for being a voice for children’s education.
- She will be presented with this award at UNICEF American chapter’s Snowflake Ball which is to be held in December 2019 in New York.

DELL TOPS THE LIST OF MOST TRUSTED BRAND IN INDIA, WHILE AMAZON IS MOST TRUSTED INTERNET BRAND: TRA RESEARCH 2019

- According to the report “Brand Trust Report, 2019”, by Trust Research Advisory (TRA), Dell tops the list as the most trusted brand for 2019 in India.
- It is followed by automobile brand Jeep, and LIC (Life Insurance Corporation of India). While largest E-commerce player Amazon has emerged as a most trusted internet Brand ranked as 4th in the list followed by Apple iPhone at 5th position.

CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING AWARDED KYRGYZSTAN’S HIGHEST HONOUR

- Chinese President Xi Jinping was conferred with Kyrgyzstan’s Highest National Award, “Manas Order of the First Degree” in Kyrgyzstan for developing the Kyrgyzstan-China comprehensive strategic partnership.
- Xi Jinping was on a state visit to Kyrgyzstan and to took part in two-day 19th SCO summit.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY INSTALLED WORLD’S HIGHEST OPERATING WEATHER STATIONS ON MOUNT EVEREST

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

- National Geographic Society scientists and researchers announced that they installed the world's highest operating automated weather stations on Mount Everest, including five other automated stations on other parts of the mountain.
- The other five weather stations that are located in the Mount Everest are in Balcony area (8,430 m), South Col (7,945m) Phortse (3,810 m), Everest Base Camp (5,315 m) and Camp II (6,464 m).

AN 8-YEAR OLD INDIAN GIRL HONOURED IN UAE'S WASTE RECYCLING CAMPAIGN

- Nia Tony, an eight-year-old Indian girl was honoured during the 22nd edition of the Emirates Recycling Awards in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) for her role in keeping the environment clean by collecting paper wastes.

SOCIAL ACTIVIST MAKARAND TILLOO CONFERRED WITH 'SAVE WATER HERO AWARD'

- Social activist Makarand Tiloo was conferred with 'Save Water Hero Award'. He received this award for his efforts to raise awareness about water conservation in the city.
- The award ceremony was held in Pune, Maharashtra. He was honoured by the HridayMitra Foundation

BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR & YUVA PURASKAR 2019 ANNOUNCED BY SAHITYA AKADEMI

- Sahitya Akademi, which is announced annually, has selected 22 writers for the Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2019 and 23 writers for Yuva Puraskar 2019.
- The approval for the selection of awardees was given by the Executive Board of the Akademi under the Chairmanship of its President, Dr. Chandrashekhar Kambar in Agartala, Tripura.
- The Award in the form of a casket will contain an engraved copper-plaque and a cheque of Rs.50,000.

SUMAN RAO CROWNED AS MISS INDIA 2019

- A 20-year-old model, Suman Rao, a resident of Rajsamand, Rajasthan was crowned Miss India 2019. The ceremony was held at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium, Mumbai, Maharashtra. She was crowned by Miss India 2018 Anukreethy Vas from Tamil Nadu.

AKSHAY PATRA'S SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM WINS BBC AWARD

- The Akshaya Patra Foundation (TAPF), a Non-governmental organizations (NGO) based on Bangalore that runs school lunch programme across India has been awarded the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) "World Service Global Champion Award" for the mid-day meal project.
- The award was presented at the BBC Food and Farming Awards in Bristol in London, UK.

44TH MATRI SHREE MEDIA AWARDS 2019 CONFERRED UPON 29 JOURNALISTS

- Twenty-nine journalists from print and electronic media were honoured with 44th Matri Shree Media Awards for the year 2019 for their contribution towards journalism.
- The award ceremony was held in New Delhi. The winners received the Matri Shree Bharat Mata shield and a pen. Badhai Ho' got the prize for best film.

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN AND S JAISHANKAR TO BE HONOURED WITH 'DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD'

- Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) will honour Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar with 'Distinguished Alumni Award'.
- This was decided by the Executive Council of JNU. They will be awarded on the third convocation ceremony of the university, which will be held in August 2019. They will be the first recipient of this award.

MAHARASHTRA TOPPED THE USGBC LIST OF TOP 10 STATES FOR LEED IN INDIA

- In the Second Edition of the United States Green Building Council's (USGBC) list of India's top 10 states which have the maximum number of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified green buildings, Maharashtra bagged the top slot with 334 LEED-certified green buildings.

Important Awards & Honors from Last 6 Months Current Affairs 2019

- It was followed by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu with 232 and 157 buildings respectively

MICROSOFT'S GITHUB TAKES OVER PULL PANDA FOR CODE-REVIEW COLLABORATION

- Microsoft owned GitHub announced that it has acquired US (United States)-based start-up Pull Panda, a firm that creates code review tools for the platform for an undisclosed sum. Pull Panda previously offered its products include Pull Reminders, Pull Analytics, and Pull Assigner as a subscription model.
- With this acquisition, all these products are now available for free at GitHub Marketplace. Microsoft acquired GitHub in June 2018 for \$7.5 billion, one of its largest acquisitions till date.

CCI PERMITTED FOR THE MERGER OF INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE AND LAKSHMI VILAS BANK

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed merger of the Indiabulls Housing Finance with Lakshmi Vilas Bank.
- In April 2018, the board of Lakshmi Vilas Bank had announced its merger with Indiabulls Housing Finance in a share-swap deal. The bank will get 14 shares of Indiabulls Housing Finance for every 100 shares they hold.



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