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1. Gujarati Film 'Chhello Show' is India's entry for Oscars Award 2023 (Sept. 20, 2022)

The Gujarati film Chhello Show (Last Film Show) has been chosen as India's entry for the 'Best Feature Film Category' at the 95th Academy awards (popularly known as Oscar awards).

The film has been directed by Pan **Nalin** and it features Bhavin Rabari, Bhavesh Shrimali, Richa Meena, Dipen Raval and Paresh Mehta as the actors.

The film premiered in the Tribeca Film Festival, New York in 2021.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Last year, **Tamil drama Koozhangal (Pebbles)**, directed by filmmaker Vinothraj PS, was selected as India's official entry in the Best International Feature Film category.
- Till date **no Indian film** has won any Oscar awards .Only three films from India have made it to the final five in the International film category.
- These films are **Mother India (1958), Salaam Bombay (1989) and Lagaan (2001)**.
- The first film from India to be **nominated for an Oscar was Mother India in 1957**.
- The 95th Academy Awards ceremony will be held in Los Angeles, United States of America on March 12, 2023.

2. Scientist and Entrepreneur Swati Piramal conferred France's highest civilian award (Sept. 17, 2022)

The visiting French Minister for Europe & Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna conferred the highest civilian award of France Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour) on scientist and entrepreneur Swati Piramal in Mumbai on 16 September 2022.

Earlier in August, 2022 the French government had announced that senior congressman and Lok Sabha MP from Thiruvananthapuram **Shashi Tharoor** has been chosen for the Knight of the Legion of Honour award.

Dr. Swati Piramal who is the Vice Chairperson of the Piramal group was awarded France's second Highest civilian award Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Merite (Knight of the Order of Merit) in 2006.

She was earlier honoured with Padma Shri by the government of India in 2012.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur :

- The Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur (Knight of the National Order of the French Legion of Honour), was started by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802.
- It is the highest civilian award given by the French Government to a French national or any country's national for outstanding contribution to the recipient's field of expertise.
- The Legion has five classes, listed in descending rank: grand cross, grand officer, commander, officer, and knight, or chevalier (unlimited).

Which other Indians have received it :

- The first Indian to be awarded with the Legion of Honour was **Maharaja Pratap Singh of Idar in 1918.**
- Since then, more than 40 Indians have been honoured with the award.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Some of the famous recipients are :

- JRD Tata (1983), Satyajit Ray (1987), Pandit Ravi Shankar (2000), Zubin Mehta (2001), E Sreedharan (2005), Amitabh Bachchan (2007), Lata Mangeshkar (2007), Shah Rukh Khan (2014), Kamal Haasan (2016), Ratan Tata (2016), Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (2016), and Azim Premji (2018).

3. Science Magazine 'Vigyan Pragati' receives 'Rajbhasha Kirti Award' (Sept. 17, 2022)

CSIR's popular science magazine "Vigyan Pragati" has received the National Rajbhasha Kirti Award (First position).

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The award was given at the **2nd All India Official Language Conference** held during 14-15 September 2022 at Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, **Surat.**
- The Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs organized the event which was attended by about 9000 spectators.
- Director of CSIR-National Institute for Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), **Prof. Ranjana Agarwal** received this prestigious Kirti Award.
- **Article 51A (h)** of the Indian Constitution states that it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to develop scientific temper, spirit of inquiry, humanism and reform.

Magazine 'Vigyan Pragati' :

- **'Vigyan Pragati'** (a popular science magazine in Hindi) is one of India's best popular science magazines.

- It is popular among children, teachers, researchers and the public in India as well as in other countries.
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) started publication of this journal in **1952**.
- The aim of Vigyan Pragati is to make science and technology accessible to the common man in simple language.

4. Rajbhasha Kirti Award to Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (Sept. 15, 2022)

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)-Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has been awarded the country's best Rajbhasha Kirti Samman by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India at the National Hindi Day celebrations held on 14th September in Surat, Gujarat.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- RINL has been awarded the first prize in the **category 'C'** for the fourth time in a row.
- The Chief Minister of the state presented the award to Atul Bhatt, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, in the presence of the Home and Cooperation Minister at the Second All India Official Language Conference held in Surat.
- RINL's Hindi magazine **Sugandh** also got the first prize in Hindi Griha Patrika category.
- The **City Official Language Implementation Committee (Undertaking), Visakhapatnam** was also awarded the second prize in the 'C' category at the function.

5. Emmy Awards - 2022, Lee Jung-jae won the title of Best Actor (Sept. 14, 2022)

The 74th Emmy Awards - 2022, held in Los Angeles, USA, were announced on 13 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Actor **Lee Jung-jae** won an Emmy for **Best Actor** in a Drama for his performance in Netflix's hit South Korean series "**Squid Game**".
- "**Squid Game**" producer **Hwang Dong-hyuk** became the first Asian director to win the Drama Series category and also the first director to win for a non-English language series.
- Lee took the title, beating veterans Jason Bateman (Ozark), Brian Cox (Succession), Bob Odenkirk (Better Call Saul), Adam Scott (Severance) and Jeremy (Succession).

- He has also won the SAG Award for 'Squid Game' earlier this year as well.
- The series revolves around a competition where 456 players, all of whom are facing a deep financial crunch.

About Emmy Award :

- It annually recognizes excellence in leading television programming produced outside the US.
- It is also called the American Television Award.
- The Emmy Awards are created by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.
- The National Academy was formed in 1946 and the Emmy Award was presented for the first time in 1949.

6. Kalinga Institute of Social Science (KISS) has won the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2022 (Sept. 8, 2022)

The Kalinga Institute of Social Science (KISS) has won the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2022 for its Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education. It was awarded this prize on 8 September 2022 at the international Literacy convention of UNESCO in the African country of Côte d'Ivoire.

It was awarded a diploma, a medal & an endowment of US\$20,000.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

2021 prize winner :

- In **2021** it was awarded to the **National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)**, under the Union Ministry of Education.
- Every year 8 September is observed as [International Literacy day](#).

Kalinga Institute of Social Science (KISS) :

- Kalinga Institute of Social Science (KISS) is an NGO based in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.
- KISS was set up in 1993 with an aim to promote inclusive education, women empowerment, tribal uplift and sustainable development.
- It is now the world's **largest residential education institution for tribal children**.
- KISS is the **first exclusive tribal University** in the World.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize :

- It was set up in 1989 with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea.
- The literary prize honours King Sejong, who made significant contributions to the development of 'Hangul', the Korean alphabet, over 500 years ago.
- The prize is awarded to governments, governmental agencies or nongovernmental organizations displaying merit and achieving effective results in the fight for universal literacy.
- The award comprises a silver medal, a diploma and a cheque for USD 20,000.

7. Pragma Kapoor's 'Maali' film selected for Chicago South Asian Film Festival (Sept. 7, 2022)

Film Producer Pragma Kapoor's film 'Maali' has been selected for the Chicago South Asian Film Festival.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Film producer **Pragma Kapoor** has a great inclination toward the environment.
- His environment-based film 'Maali' was screened at the Indian Film Festival - **Melbourne** on August 18 and is now officially a part of the Chicago South Asian Film Festival.
- The film 'Maali' is based on the journey of a 16-year-old girl, **Tulsi**, from the serene mountains to the concrete jungle.
- Seeing the life of the city, she falls into a state of depression and struggles feeling alone.
- The film also portrays the state of mental health deprivation due to increasing urbanisation and endless destruction of nature.
- The film, directed by Shiva C Shetty, was highly praised at IFFM for its realistic portrayal of ever-increasing deforestation.

8. Harmanpreet Singh nominated for FIH Player of the Year Award -2021-22 (Sept. 7, 2022)

Indian hockey player Harmanpreet Singh has been selected among the five players nominated for the Men's Player of the Year award for the 'FIH Hockey Stars Awards 2021-22' on 6 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- PR Sreejesh and Savita Poonia were nominated for the best men's and women's goalkeepers respectively.

- Indian team vice-captain Harmanpreet was named along with Arthur de Sloover and Tom Boon (Belgium), Niklas Wellen (Germany) and Thierry Brinkman (Netherlands) for the FIH Men's Player of the Year award.
- There is no Indian in the list of players nominated for the FIH Women's Player of the Year award.
- Harmanpreet had won the award last year as well when Indian players and coaches won all the awards after a historic performance at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***List of Awards :******FIH Player of the Year Award :-***

- Women** - Felice Albers (Netherland), María José Granatto (Argentina), Frédérique Matla (Netherland), Agustina Gorzelany (Argentina), Georgina Oliva (Spain).
- Men** - Arthur de Sloover (Belgium), Harmanpreet Singh (India), Niklas Wellen (Germany), Thierry Brinkman (Netherland), Tom Boon (Belgium).

FIH Goalkeeper of the Year Award :

- Women** - Savita (India), Josine Koning (Netherland), Belén Succi (Argentina), Jocelyn Bartram (Australia), Phumelela Mbande (South Africa).
- Men** - Loïc van Doren (Belgium), PR Sreejesh (India), Pirmin Blaak (Netherland), Arthur Thierry (France), Alexander Stadler (Germany).

FIH Rising Star of the Year Award :

- Women** - Charlotte Englebert (Belgium), Luna Fokke (Netherland), Mumtaz Khan (India), Jip Dicke (Netherland), Amy Lawton (Australia).
- Men** - Miles Bukkens (Netherland), Timothée Clément (France), Sanjay (India), Pau Cunill (Spain), Rizwan Ali (Pakistan)

FIH Coach of the Year Award :

- Women** - Janneke Schopman (India), Jamilon Mülders (Netherlands), Katrina Powell (Australia), Raoul Ehren (Belgium), Adrian Lock (Spain).
- Men** - Jeroen Delmee (Netherlands), Michel van den Heuvel (Belgium), Graham Reid (India), Garreth Ewing (South Africa), Frederic Soye (France).

9. Indian Army Chief Manoj Pande conferred honorary rank of Nepal Army General (Sept. 6, 2022)

Indian Army chief General Manoj Pande was conferred the title of Honorary General of the Nepali Army by Nepal President Bidya Devi Bhandari in Kathmandu on 5 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

General Pandey was honoured during his visit to the Himalayan countries at a special ceremony at the President's official residence '**Sheetal Niwas**' in the Nepalese capital.

- He was also presented with a sword and scroll during the official function.
- The practice follows a seven-decade-old tradition of conferring honorary titles on the army chiefs of both countries.
- Commander-in-Chief General **KM Cariappa** was the first Indian Army Chief to be conferred with this title in the year **1950**.
- In November 2021, the Chief of the Nepalese Army, **General Prabhu Ram Sharma** was also made an Honorary General of the Indian Army by President Ram Nath Kovind at a ceremony in New Delhi.
- On behalf of the Government of India, General Manoj Pandey provided training equipment to the Nepalese Army along with light vehicles which will help in enhancing the capability of the Nepalese Army personnel.
- General Manoj Pandey arrived in Kathmandu on 4 September for a five-day official visit to Nepal.

10. Kerala Health Minister rejected the Ramon Magsaysay Award as it was against the communists (Sept. 4, 2022)

Former Kerala Health Minister **KK Shailaja** has rejected the [Ramon Magsaysay award](#) for her commitment and service towards ensuring an accessible public health system and effectively leading from the front to manage the Nipah and Covid-19 outbreaks in the state. However after she declined it the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation decided not to announce her name in the final list.

- Her handling of the health crisis was praised nationally and internationally.
- KK Shailaja who is a central committee member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) said that the party decided not to accept the award.
- She said that cannot accept the award as it was given to an individual while her work as a health minister was a collective work.
- Also the award which is given in the name of the former Philippines President, was anti-communist and ruthlessly crushed the communist guerrilla movement in the country.
- If she had accepted the award she would be the fifth Keralite to get the honour after Verghese Kurien, M S Swaminathan, B G Verghese and T N Seshan.
- Till date 55 Indians have won the award. First being **Vinoba Bhave in 1958** and the last being **Ravish Kumar 2019**.