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1. Bihari Puraskar to Madhu Kankaria and Dr. Madhav Hada (Nov. 10, 2022)

Bihari Puraskar

Famous litterateurs **Madhu Kankaria and Dr. Madhav Hada** were awarded the **31st and 32nd Bihari Puraskar** for 2021 and 2022 respectively in a program organised in Udaipur on 9 November.

Important facts

- Prof. Indravardhan Trivedi, Vice Chancellor of Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, the chief guest of the program presented two and a half lakh rupees, citation and emblem to the litterateurs.
- The award was presented to Madhu Kankaria for his novel '**Hum Yahan The**' and to Dr. Madhav Hada for his critical **work 'Pacharang Chola Pahar Sakhi Re'**.
- Kankaria, a recipient of Bihari Puraskar 2021, has written many prose, poems and books. His novel 'Hum Yahan The' is based on the struggle of tribals in Jharkhand.
- It also provides information about the culture, society and economic conditions of Kolkata.
- Literary critic and academic Madhav Hada was awarded the Bihari Puraskar 2022 for his extensive work in literature, media, culture and history.
- He has also been a member of the General Council of Sahitya Akademi and the Hindi Advisory Board.

About Bihari Puraskar

- Bihari Puraskar is one of the three literary awards instituted by the **KK Birla Foundation in 1991**.
- Named after the famous poet **Bihari**, the award for Rajasthani writers carries a cash prize of Rs 2.5 lakh, a plaque and a citation.
- It is given every year for an outstanding work published in Hindi or Rajasthani by a **Rajasthani writer**.
- The awardees are selected by a selection committee headed by Chairman **Hemant Shesh**.

2. National Florence Nightingale Awards 2021 (Nov. 9, 2022)

National Florence Nightingale Awards 2021

On 7 November, 2022, the President of India presented the **National Florence Nightingale Awards** for the year 2021 to the Nursing professionals.

Important facts

- The award was conferred by the **President** to two nurses **Shashikala Pandey** and **Ganga Joshi** from **Kumaon, Uttarakhand**.
- Shashikala Pandey, posted at BD Pandey Hospital in Nainital, has been given this honour for her dedication and selfless service towards patients.
- Ganga Joshi has been given this award for her awareness program, special contribution to Covid-19, training of ASHA workers, participation in several trainings at the state and national level.

About the National Florence Nightingale Awards

- These awards were instituted in the **year 1973** by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, Government of India.
- The award is given to outstanding nursing personnel working in the Central, State/Union Territories, Private, Missionary and Voluntary Organizations.
- The award carries a cash prize of Rs 50000/-, a certificate and a medal.

3. Former Indian captain 'Virat Kohli' named as the ICC player of the month for October 2022 (Nov. 7, 2022)

ICC Player of the Month for October 2022.

The International Cricket Council (ICC), on 7 November 2022 announced the winners of the 'Players of the Month Awards' for November 2022.

These awards rate the best performances in a particular month from both male and female cricketers across all forms of international cricket.

Male cricketer of the Month

Former Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli was named as the ICC Player of the Month for October 2022.

He beat Sikandar Raza of Zimbabwe's and South Africa's David Miller for the award.

According to the ICC the 33-year-old Kohli batted in only four innings in October but he played out three memorable knocks, including a magical 82* against Pakistan in the T20 World Cup.

Other ICC Awards for Virat Kohli

- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy (ICC Cricketer of the Year): 2017, 2018
- ICC ODI Player of the Year: 2012, 2017
- ICC Test Team of the Year: 2017 (captain)
- Padma Shri: 2017
- ICC ODI Team of the Year: 2012, 2014, 2016 (captain), 2017 (captain)
- Sir Garfield Sobers award for ICC Male Cricketer of the Decade (2010-2020)
- ICC Men's ODI Player of the Decade (2010- 2020)

Female cricketer of the Year

Pakistan's all-rounder Nida Dar has been named as the ICC Women's Player of the Month thanks to her sensational form in the [Women's Asia Cup 2022](#).

India's Jemimah Rodrigues and Deepti Sharma were also nominated for the award alongside Dar.

International Cricket Council (ICC)

It is an international body which governs the men's and women's international cricket.

It was founded as the Imperial Cricket Conference in 1909 and was later converted into the International Cricket Conference in 1965.

In 1987 it was renamed as the International Cricket Council.

Members: 106 members.

There are two categories of members in ICC.

Full members: There are 12 full member countries which are qualified to play test matches. They are India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Australia, New Zealand, West Indies, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Ireland and Afghanistan.

Ireland and Afghanistan were granted full membership in 2017.

Associate members: There are 94 Associate members. They are not authorized to play test cricket but they do participate in other tournaments of ICC or at the regional level recognised by ICC.

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Chairman of ICC: Greg Barclay of New Zealand

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ICC: Geoff Allardice of Australia

4. Novelist Sethu wins Ezhuthachan Puraskaram 2022 (Nov. 5, 2022)

Ezhuthachan Puraskaram 2022

Noted Malayalam novelist **Sethu (A. Sethumadhavan)** has been honoured with the prestigious **Ezhuthachan Award** for the year 2022.

Important facts

- It is the highest literary award of the **Kerala Sahitya Akademi** and is given for lifelong contribution to literature.
- Sethu was selected for the award by a committee headed by Kerala Sahitya Akademi president **K Satchidanandan**.

- M K Sanu, Vaishakhan, MV Narayanan and Rani George, Principal Secretary, Department of Cultural Affairs, were the other jury members.
- His writings cover innumerable streams of literature including **short stories, novels and children's literature.**
- He also held key positions in the banking and publishing sector such as the Chairman of South Indian Bank, Director of State Bank of Travancore and Chairman of National Book Trust of India.
- He has been honoured with **Kendra Sahitya Akademi** and **Kerala Sahitya Akademi Awards.**
- His famous works include **Pandavapuram, Kaimudrakal, Adayalangal, Kiratam, Aramathe Penkutty and Kilimozhikalkappuram.**

About Ezhuthachan Puraskaram

- It is the **Kerala** state government's **highest literary honour.**
- It has been named after **Thunchaththu Ramanujan Ezhuthachan**, a 16th century devotional poet, considered to be the **father of Malayalam language.**
- The award carries **Rs 5 lakh and a citation.**

5. Amit Dasgupta honoured with a member of the Order of Australia Award (Nov. 4, 2022)

member of the Order of Australia Award

Amit Dasgupta on 3 November 2022 was appointed as an Honorary Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) for his service to the Australia-India bilateral relationship by the Australian government. Amit Dasgupta is a former Indian diplomat, author and educator.

Order of Australia is an award and when it is conferred on a person the Australian government says that they have made the person its member.

Amit Dasgupta was the Consul-General of India to Australia from 2009 to 2012. Dasgupta was instrumental in establishing the Australia-India Youth Dialogue. Now in its second decade, the Dialogue is a permanent fixture of the bilateral relationship and fosters connections between Australian and Indian young people.

The Order of Australia

It was established in 1975 by Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia to honour Australians and others who have demonstrated outstanding service or exceptional achievement.

Within the Order of Australia award there are four categories of award. Rank wise (Highest to lowest) they are as follows ;

Companion of the Order of Australia; for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large

Officer of the Order of Australia; for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large

Member of the Order of Australia; for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group

Medal of the Order of Australia; is awarded for service worthy of particular recognition.

Commonwealth of Australia

Head of State: British Monarch, **King Charles III**

Prime Minister: **Anthony Albanese**

Currency: **Australian Dollar**

Capital: **Canberra**

6. Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina confers 'Friends of Liberation War' honour on Edward M Kennedy (Nov. 1, 2022)

'Friends of Liberation War'

Bangladesh Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina** posthumously awarded the prestigious '**Friends of Liberation War**' honour to former US Senator **Edward M Kennedy in Dhaka** on 31 October for his contribution to the liberation of Bangladesh.

Important facts

- The honour was handed over to his son **Edward M. Ted Kennedy Jr.**
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina remembered with gratitude the contribution of Edward Kennedy Sr.
- He said Kennedy Sr. took a bold step against the genocide committed by Pakistan on innocent Bengali people despite the role of the US government during the 1971 Liberation War.
- She said Kennedy Sr. had worked hard to suspend military and economic aid to Pakistan until the end of the war.

Liberation War of 1971

- In the **1950s**, Pakistan was ruled by a military-bureaucratic rule that ruled the entire country (East and West Pakistan) in an undemocratic manner.
- The Bengalis had no political representation in this system of governance.
- This dominance of West Pakistan was challenged by the Bengalis during the general elections of 1970.

- In the general election of 1970, the Awami League of East Pakistan's **Sheikh Mujibur Rahman** got a clear majority.
- West Pakistan was not ready for any leader of East Pakistan to rule the country.
- On **March 26, 1971**, West Pakistan launched **Operation Searchlight** in East Pakistan.
- As a result, lakhs of Bangladeshis had to take refuge in India.
- The Pakistani army had to face defeat due to the bravery of the '**Muktiwahini Sena**' and Indian soldiers who fought for the independence of Bangladesh.
- On **6 December 1971**, a new nation Bangladesh was born out of 13 days of war with the intervention of India.

7. HDFC gets best housing finance company award under the PMAY-CLSS scheme (Oct. 21, 2022)

best housing finance company award

India's leading housing finance company HDFC Ltd has been awarded as the best performing housing finance company under the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) of the government's flagship scheme - Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) at the [Indian Urban Housing Conclave 2022](#) in Rajkot, Gujarat.

Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs **Hardeep Singh Puri**, conferred the award on Sanjay Joshi, Senior General Manager and Head CLSS and Affordable Housing, HDFC Ltd.

Since the launch of the subsidy scheme under the PMAY in June 2016, HDFC has provided loans worth Rs 67,000 crore to over 3.13 lakh customers under the scheme .

This is the third time that HDFC has been given this award .

In July 2018, HDFC was awarded as the best performing primary lending institution in the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and Low-Income Group (LIG) segment .

In March 2019, HDFC was awarded the 'Best Private Sector Financial Institution' for PMAY-CLSS at the PMAY- Affordable Housing Awards 2019.

HDFC Limited was set up as NBFC (Non-Banking Finance Company) in 1977. It is the promoter of India's largest private sector bank HDFC Bank .

HDFC Ltd is based in **Mumbai** .

Chairman of the HDFC is **Deepak Parekh**.

8. Sri Lankan author Shehan Karunatilaka wins Booker Prize 2022 for his novel 'Seven Moons of Maali Almeida' (Oct. 18, 2022)

The "**Seven Moons of Maali Almeida**" by Sri Lankan author **Shehan Karunatilaka** has won the Booker prize 2022. He is the second Sri Lankan to win the prestigious literature award

.The Booker award was presented to Shehan Karunatilaka by **Camilla**, the United Kingdom's Queen Consort on 17 October 2022.

The 'Seven Moons of Maali Almeida; novel is about a photographer who wakes up within a week after death and asks his friends to find his photos and expose the brutality of the civil war.

The writer said he decided in 2009 to write "a ghost story where the dead could offer their perspective" after the end of the Sri Lankan civil war, "when there was a raging debate over how many civilians died and whose fault it was during the civil war".

The **winner gets £50,000(British Pound Sterling) as prize money** while the other five shortlisted writers are awarded prize money of £2,500 each.

Booker Prize

- The Booker Prize which was earlier called Man Booker was established by a British multinational company Booker McConnell in 1968.
- The first prize was given in 1969. **PH Newby** was the first winner of the prize in 1969 for his work "Something to Answer For".
- It is awarded to the best novel written in English and published in the United Kingdom or Ireland in the same year which is considered for the prize.
- **The first Indian to win this prize was Arundhati Roy** for her book: The God of Small Things, in 1997.
- Other Indian winners are; **Kiran Desai** for her book **The Inheritance of Loss** in 2006, and **Aravind Adiga** for his book **The White Tiger** in 2008.

International Booker Prize

- It is also given every year by the Booker foundation.
- But unlike the Booker prize it is given to a single book that is **translated into English** and published in the United Kingdom or Ireland in the same year which is considered for the prize.
- **Geetanjali Shree became the first Indian author to win the** International Booker Prize 2022. Her Hindi novel '**Tomb of Sand**' (**080924 0809312731**) won the prize for her.

9. Harmanpreet, Rizwan win ICC Player of the Month awards for September (Oct. 12, 2022)

India women's cricket team captain **Harmanpreet Kaur** and **Pakistan wicket-keeper batsman Mohammad Rizwan** won the **ICC Player of the Month awards** for September-2022 in the **women's and men's categories**.

Important facts

- Harmanpreet Kaur became **India's first** ever winner of the ICC Women's Player of the Month due to her leading role in her team's first ODI series win in England since 1999.
- She performed brilliantly during the ODI series, scoring 221 runs in three matches, maintaining a strike rate of 103.47 and getting dismissed only once.

- The women cricketers selected for the Women's Cricket Award included Bangladesh's
- **Nigar Sultana** and India's captains **Harmanpreet Kaur** and **Smriti Mandhana**.
 - The ICC Men's Player of the Month nominees included **Australia's Cameron Green** and **India's Axar Patel**, but Pakistan's **Mohammad Rizwan** managed to bag the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for the first time.
 - Rizwan was in terrific form in September, putting up some stellar performances in T20Is.

10. Praveen Giri wins silver medal in Water Technology at World Skill Competition 2022 (Oct. 11, 2022)

B.Tech final year student in Mechanical Engineering of C.V. Raman Global University Odisha, **Praveen Kumar Giri**, won the silver medal for India in Water Technology at the World Skills Competition 2022, held at **Stuttgart**, Germany on 10 October 2022.

He is the second Indian to win a medal in the world skill competition after Aswastha Narayana won the gold medal in water technology at the 2019 event in Kazan, Russia.

In water technology, a total of 7 countries participated this time including Singapore, Japan, South Africa, Germany, and Korea."

The Gold Medal was won by Singapore, Silver by India and Bronze was won by Japan.