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## 1. 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 Kilimozhikalkapppuram.

#### **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.

## 2. 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.

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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

# 3. 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 Bengalites 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.

## 4. 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 2022in 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.** 

## 5. 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 Oueen 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 wok "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' (劉紹知 國際國際) won the prize for her.

## 6. 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 Pate**l, 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.

## 7. 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.

## 8. Three American gets Nobel Prize for Economics for their research in preventing bank collapse (Oct. 10, 2022)

The Royal Swedish Academy of Science has awarded three American economists **Ben Bernanke**, **Douglas Diamond** and **Philip Dybvig**, the <u>Nobel Prize</u> in economics 2022 for their pioneering work on "improving our understanding of the role of banks in the economy, particularly during financial crises and why avoiding bank collapses is vital." The **Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences for 2022** was announced 10th October 2022.

#### **Ben Bernanke**

According to the Nobel committee "Through statistical analysis and historical source research, Bernanke demonstrated how failing banks played a decisive role in the global depression of the 1930s, the worst economic crisis in modern history. The collapse of the banking system explains why the downturn was not only deep, but also long-lasting. It added the importance of well-functioning bank regulation is also understood thanks to this research.

Ben Bernanke was the chairman of the United States Central Bank, **Federal Reserve** in 2008 when the failure of Lehman Brothers sparked a worldwide financial crisis.

### **Douglas W Diamond and Philip H Dybvig**

Both Diamond and Dybvig worked together to develop theoretical models explaining why banks exist, how their role in society makes them vulnerable to rumours about their impending collapse, and how society can lessen this vulnerability. These insights "form the foundation of modern bank regulation," said the Academy.

### **Nobel Prize in Economics**

The economics prize is not one of the original five awards created in the 1895 will of industrialist and dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel.

It was established by Sweden's Central Bank, Sveriges Riksbank in 1968 and the first prize was given in **1969 to Ragnar Frisch of Norway and Jan Tinbergen of Netherlands**.

The prize money of 10 million Swedish crown (\$885,000) prize money will be distributed between them three.

The prize will be conferred in a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden on 10 December which is the death anniversary of Alfred Nobel.

### **Nobel Prize Winner 2022**

Field	Winner 2021	Winner 2022
Medicine or Physiology	David Julius (American) and Ardem Patapoutian(American)	Svante Paabo of Sweden
Chemistry	Benjamin List (Germany)and David W.C. MacMillan(United Kingdom)	Carolyn Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and Barry Sharpless
Physics	Syukuro Manabe(Japan), Klaus Hasselmann (Germany)and Giorgio Parisi(Italy)	Alain Aspect(France), John Clauser(American) and Anton Zeilinger(Austria)
Literature	Abdulrazak Gurnah(United Kingdom)	Annie Ernaux of France
Peace	Maria Ressa(Philippines ) and Dmitry Muratov(Russia)	Ales Byalyatski(Belarus),  Memorial Group(Russia) and Center for Civil Liberties (Ukraine)

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Economics	David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens (All are Americans)	Ben Bernanke,Douglas Diamond,Philip Dybvig ( All are American)
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## 9. Divyangana Sharma and Ritika Saxena have been honoured with the prestigious Victorian Premier Award. (Oct. 7, 2022)

Two Indian students, **Divyangana Sharma** and **Ritika Saxena** have won the prestigious **Victorian Premier's award**. Divyangana Sharma has won the coveted Victorian Premier's Award - International Student of the Year 2021-22, while Ritika Saxena won the International Student of the Year award in the Research category.

Divyangana has also won Victorian International Education Awards 2021-22 in the Higher Education category. Divyangana Sharma came to Melbourne to study nursing at Holmesglen Institute in February 2020.

Ritika moved to Melbourne as an 18-year-old and is now a PhD student involved in stem cell research.

#### Victoria

Victoria is one of the six states of Australia. It is the second largest state of Australia after New South Wales.

Like all states of Australia, it has a constitution of its own.

The head of the Victorian government is called Premier.

The current Premier is : Daniel Andrews

Capital of Victoria: **Melbourne** 

## 10. Harmanpreet singh wins consecutive FIH male player of the year award (Oct. 7, 2022)

India's men Hockey team player, Harmanpreet Singh was voted the men's **FIH Player of the Year 2021-22**. This was announced by the International hockey regulator, FIH on 7 October 2022 at **Lausanne**.

Harmanpreet Singh became the **fourth player** after Belgium's Teun De Nooijer and Arthur van Doren and Australia's Jamie Dwyer to win the award in the men's category in **two consecutive years**.

Harmanpreet Singh was the top goal scorer in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2021-22 with 18 goals .

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### Others Indian to win the 2021-22 award

Earlier, <u>Mumtaz Khan</u> was named the FIH **women rising star player** of the year 2021-22.

<u>PR Sreejesh</u> and **Savita Punia** were named as the FIH Men's and Women's **Goalkeeper** of the Year 2021-22 for the second year in a row.

### Female FIH player of the year 2021-22

Dutch player **Felice Albers**, was voted the female's FIH player of the year 2021-22.

#### FIH

FIH (Fédération Internationale de Hockey) is the governing body of men's and women's International hockey.

Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

Acting President: Seif El Dine Ahmed