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1. Asha Parekh to be honoured with Dadasaheb Phalke Award, 2020 (Sept. 27, 2022)

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has on 27 September announced that the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** for the **year 2020** will be accorded to legendary **actress Asha Parekh.**

Important facts

- The award will be presented at the **National Film Awards ceremony in New Delhi**.
- Asha Parekh is a renowned film actress, director and producer and an accomplished Indian classical dancer.
- Starting her career as a child artist, she started her career as the lead heroine in Dil Deke Dekho and acted in more than 95 films.
- She has acted in famous films like Kati Patang, Teesri Manzil, Love in Tokyo, Aaya Sawan Jhoom Ke, Aan Milo Sajna, Mera Gaon Mera Desh.
- She was awarded the Padma Shri in 1992.
- She has also served as the **head of the Central Board of Film Certification from 1998-2001.**

Five members from the film industry selected for 52nd Dadasaheb Phalke award

- 1. Asha Bhosle
- 2. Hema Malini
- 3. Poonam Dhillon
- 4. T. S. Nagabharana
- 5. Udit Narayan

About Dadasaheb Phalke Award

- Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest award in the field of cinema.
- Rajinikanth was honoured with this award in 2019.
- The award is given in the memory of **Dadasaheb Phalke**, who is regarded as the 'Father of Indian Cinema'.
- He made the first Hindi movie, Raja Harishchandra.

2. Uttar Pradesh gets Ayushman Utkrishta award 2022 for adding maximum various Health facilities (Sept. 26, 2022)

Uttar Pradesh has been awarded <u>Ayushman Utkrishta award 2022 f</u>or adding various health facilities to the health facility register.

The State was conferred this award by the Chief Executive officer (CEO) of the National Health Authority **R.S Sharma** at the closing ceremony of the <u>Aarogya Manthan</u> organised by the National Health Authority in New Delhi on 26 September 2022.

Achievements of the state

Uttar Pradesh is the best performing state in the country with 28728 Health facilities added to the **National health facility register** of the National Health Authority.

Also the state is the **second best State** in creating **Ayushman Bharat health account** (**ABHA**) with almost 2 crores Accounts.

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)

- The Prime Minister launched the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) via video conferencing on **27th September 2021.**
- It aims to provide a health ID (now called as ABHA) to every citizen that will also work as their health account, to which personal health records can be linked and viewed with the help of a mobile application.

3. Andhra Pradesh gets Ayushman Utkrishtata Puraskaar 2022 (Sept. 26, 2022)

Andhra Pradesh was awarded the Ayushman Utkrishtata Puraskaar as the top performing State/Union Territory at the two-day **Arogya Manthan 2022** held in New Delhi on 26 September 2022.

The <u>Arogya Manthan 2022</u> was organized by the National Health Authority to celebrate the completion of **4 years of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPM-JAY)** and **1 year of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).**

The award was given away by the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare **Mansukh Mandaviya**.

Ayushman Utkrishtata Puraskaar (Ayushman Excellence Awards) 2022

- Top Performing State/UT: Andhra Pradesh,
- Top Performing District: Parvathipuram Manyam, Andhra Pradesh,
- Top Performing Government Facility District Hospital Dharwad, Karnataka,
- Best Performing States : **Kerala, Meghalaya, Gujarat, Manipur, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh**
- Best Performing Union Territory: Chandigarh, Jammu and Kashmir,
- The winners of ABDM Hackathon Series Round 1:Bajaj Finserv Health Team Excalibur.

4. Hermann Kesten Award 2022 (Sept. 26, 2022)

Indian activist-writer-poet **Meena Kandasamy** has been declared the winner of the **Herman Keston Prize 2022.**

Important facts

- This Award is given by the **PEN Centre in Darmstadt, Germany.** The award will be given on 15 November 2022.
- Meena Kandasamy is a **Chennai-born anti-caste activist, novelist and poet.** The award recognizes her work on topics of race, gender and ethnic oppression.
- Ms Kandasamy joins a list of notable figures such as Günter Grass and Harold Pinter, whom Penn has seen as defenders of freedom of expression.
- Her books are "The Gypsy Goddess," (2014) and "When I Hit You: Or, A
 Portrait of the Writer as a Young Wife" (2017). She has also published
 anthologies of her poems, most notably "Ms Militancy" (2010) and This Poem Will
 Provoke You and Other Poems" (2015).

About Hermann Kesten Award

- Started in 1985, the award was initially given once in two years till 1993. It has been given on an annual basis since 1994.
- The award is given to individuals who stand up for the rights of persecuted writers and journalists.
- In 2008, it was renamed the Hermann Kesten Award.

5. President Draupadi Murmu confers NSS Awards 2020-21 at Rashtrapati Bhawan (Sept. 24, 2022)

President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Service Scheme (NSS) Awards for the year 2020-21 on September 24 at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- A total of **forty-two Awards** were given. Two Universities, ten NSS Units, their Programme Officers, and 30 NSS Volunteers received the awards.
- Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Nishith Pramanik and Youth Affairs Secretary Sanjay Kumar were present on the occasion.

About National Service Scheme (NSS) Award:

- The Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, awards the National Service Scheme every year.
- These Awards were instituted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in **1993-94** on the occasion of the **Silver Jubilee Year of National Service Scheme.**
- The awards are given to recognize and reward the outstanding contribution for voluntary community service made by Universities and Colleges, 2 Councils, Senior Secondary, NSS Units and Program Officers and NSS Volunteers for promotion of NSS in the country.

About National Service Scheme (NSS):

- It is a Centrally Sector Scheme that was launched in 1969.
- Its primary objective is to develop the personality and character of the student youth through voluntary community service.
- The ideological orientation of the NSS is inspired by the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi.

6. 2023 Breakthrough Prize winners announced (Sept. 23, 2022)

On September 22, the winners of the 2023 Breakthrough Prize, called the Oscars of Science, totaling more than \$15 million, were announced.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- This year three awards were given in the Life Science category while one award each for Mathematics and Physics.
- Daniel Spielman of Yale University was awarded the Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics for his many discoveries in theoretical computer science and mathematics.
- Clifford Brangwyn and Anthony Hyman (British scientist) won the Life Science Prize for their discovery of a new mechanism of cellular organisation.
- Other life science prizes were awarded to Demis Hassabis (British scientist) and John Jumper (USA) for developing AlphaFold, which predicts the structure of proteins, and Emmanuel Mignot (France) and Masashi Yanagisawa (USA) for discovering the causes of narcolepsy.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

About Breakthrough Prizes :

- The Breakthrough Prizes were started in 2010 by a group of Silicon Valley entrepreneurs.
- These Prizes were founded by Sergey Brin, Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg, Yuri and Julia Milner, and Anne Wojcicki.

- These prizes are the most richly endowed prizes in science, the prize money of which
- exceeds that of the Nobel Prizes.
- Breakthrough has an amount of \$3 million in each prize, which is more than \$1 million in prizes awarded to the winner of the Nobel Prize.
- The awards are presented in the fields of life sciences, fundamental physics and mathematics.

7. India wins UN awards for its "India Hypertension Control Initiative (Sept. 21, 2022)

The "India Hypertension Control Initiative" has won the United Nations" 2022 UN Interagency Task Force, and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award". This information was tweeted by Union Minister for Health and Family welfare Mansukh Mandaviya on 21 September 2022.

The award was announced in New York, United States on 21 September 2022.

The award recognizes outstanding commitment and action of India to: (i) prevent and control Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and (ii) deliver integrated people-centric primary care.

The India Hypertension Control Initiative was launched in 2017. It is a collaborative initiative of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), State Governments and World Health Organization-India.

Under the initiative, more than 34 lakh people with hypertension in 130 districts of 23 states are taking treatment in government health facilities.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Every year **17 May is observed as World Hypertension Day** to bring awareness and attention to this silent epidemic.
- The theme of the world hypertension day 2022 is "Measure your blood pressure, control it, live longer.
- Hypertension is a disease characterized by high blood pressure persistently being recorded in the range of 140/90 or more.
- The normal healthy human's ideal blood pressure shall be 120/80.

8. 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.

9. 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).

10. 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 Agarwa**l 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.