

# AWARDS & PRIZES

## G. D. Birla Award for Scientific Research

Professor Subhasis Chaudhuri of Indian Institute of Technology-Mumbai was selected for the prestigious G. D. Birla Award for Scientific Research. Prof. Chaudhuri who works in the Department of Electrical Engineering was chosen for the award for his important contributions in the area of electronic communications. He made original and substantive contributions in the specific areas of depth recovery from defocused observations and generation of super resolution images. Prof. Chaudhuri joined IIT-Mumbai in 1990 and is currently serving as an Institute Chair Professor and Dean of International Relations. He also works in the area of computer vision and image processing. The award, constituted by the K. K. Birla Foundation, carries a cash prize of Rs.1.50 lakh and is given to scientists below the age of 50.

## Dadasaheb Phalke Award

Director K. Balachander was declared the winner of Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2010 by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. K. Balachander born in July 1930 is one of the influential filmmakers and trendsetters in Indian cinema. Most of his movies are directed in Tamil though he has directed movies in other languages like Hindi and Kannada languages as well. He came to prominence in 1960 as an amateur playwright with his dynamic plays like Major Chandrakanth, Server Sundaram, Neerkumizhi, Mezhuguvarthi, Naanal and Navagraham.

## Anuvrat Ahimsa International Peace Award

Rajasthan Chief Minister, Ashok Gehlot gave away the Anuvrat Ahimsa international peace award to noted Gandhian philosophy exponent Thomas Clough Daffern. The award consisted of a memento, a cheque for Rs.1 lakh and a certificate of merit. Dr. Daffern is a Director of London-based International Institute of Peace Studies and Global Philosophy. The institute works across several academic fields for study and application of peace and philosophy to various spheres of life.

## Crans Montana Forum Award

Art of Living founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar became the first Indian to receive the Crans Montana Forum Award. The Crans Montana Forum Award was conferred upon him at a ceremony in Brussels on 24 June 2011. Ravi Shankar usually known as Sri Sri Ravi Shankar was born asborn Ravi Shankar Ratnam on 13 May 1956. He is a spiritual leader and founder of the Art of Living Foundation (1982) which aims at relieving both individual stress and societal problems and violence, and which is an NGO with UNESCO consultative status. He also established in 1997 a Geneva-based charity, International Association for Human Values along with the 14th Dalai Lama. International Association for Human Values is an NGO that engages in relief work and rural development and aims to foster shared global values. According to him, science and spirituality are linked and compatible, both springing from the urge to know.

**Winners of the Past:** The award has been mainly conferred on politicians in the past. The recipients in the past include Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany, Shimon Peres, President of Israel, Yasser Arafat, former leader of Palestine Liberation Organisation, Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission and Mikhail Gorbachev, Former President of the Soviet Union.

## Meghdoot Awards

Minster of Communications & Information Technology and Human Resource Development conferred the Meghdoot Awards on postal employees for 2009 and 2010. Fifteen individuals including five women bagged the award. The Best Post Office award was given to Chandragiri Head Post Office, Andhra Pradesh. The scheme of National awards known as Meghdoot Awards was instituted in the year 1984 to provide encouragement to the postal employees by recognizing performance of high standard.

The awards given for outstanding contribution in the sphere of official work were earlier given in six individual categories. In order to motivate the personnel in the field of technology, a new category namely, For Technology Excellence was introduced for the year 2006. For the years 2009 and 2010 another category, Best Woman Employee was introduced for the first time. Meghdoot awardees in individual category were given a medal, a scroll and cash award of Rs. 11000 (Rupees eleven thousand). The awards are given every year to the officials selected from amongst the nominations received from various postal circles.

## Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for 2009

German Chancellor Angela Merkel was chosen for the prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for 2009 for her enormous efforts toward sustainable and equitable development. The External Affairs Ministry release revealed that the jury chaired by Vice-President

Mohammad Hamid Ansari, has decided to confer the award for 2009 on Dr. Merkel.

Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding founded in 1965 is an international award presented by the Government of India. The award is administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) to people for their outstanding contribution to the promotion of international understanding, goodwill and friendship among people of the world. The award carries prize money of Rs.1 crore besides a trophy and citation. Olafur Ragnar Grimsson was the winner of Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for 2007. Martin Luther King, Jr., Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, Mother Teresa, Kenneth Kaunda, Aung San Suu Kyi, Hosni Mubarak, Josip Broz Tito and Nelson Mandela are some of past recipients of the award.

## Hindi Academy Shalaka Samman

Eminent Hindi litterateur Arvind Kumar was presented the Hindi Academy Shalaka Samman by well known poet and former bureaucrat Dr. Sita Kant Mahapatra at Delhi Secretariat on 24 June 2011. The award carried a citation, shawl, memento and a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh. Arvind Kumar started his career as a child labour in a publishing house in Delhi in 1945 but with his dedication and work he became editor of magazines like Madhuri, Sarvottam. He has also created several dictionaries and thesaurus in Hindi-English and Hindi-Sanskrit. Shalaka Samman is the highest honour of Delhi state in the field of Hindi literature.

Novelist Aminatta Forna won 2011 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for The Memory of Love. British-born Sierra Leonean novelist Aminatta Forna won the 2011 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for her novel, The Memory of Love. Aminatta Forna's The Memory of Love was praised by the judges for its powerful portrayal of human resilience. Forna won a prize of £10,000 for the award. First published in April 2010, Memory of Love was shortlisted for The Orange Prize for Fiction.

2011. The prize for the Best First Book was given to Craig Cliff of New Zealand for A Man Melting, a collection of short stories. The prize money for the Best First Book is £5,000.

## 12th IIFA Awards

12th International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards ceremony was organised in Toronto on 25 June 2011. Salman Khan starrer Dabangg directed by Abhinav Kashyap bagged seven major awards at the IIFA including the Best Film. Maneesh Sharma's Band Baaja Baaraat won three IIFA awards. My Name is Khan starring Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol also won accolades. Shah Rukh Khan won the Best Actor Award for his performance in the film. The hottest pair award went to Anushka Sharma and Ranvir Singh. The first ever Green IIFA Award by Panasonic went to actress Priyanka Chopra. Special honours were conferred on veteran actor Dharmendra and singer Asha Bhosle. Veteran actor Dharmendra was presented with a lifetime achievement award for his 50 years of acting in Bollywood. Sharmila Tagore, who has won several Indian National Film Awards, was also presented an award for outstanding achievement.

**The list of winners in the different categories is as follows:**

- » **Best Film:** Dabangg
- » **Best Direction:** Karan Johar for My Name is Khan
- » **Best Actor:** Shah Rukh Khan for My Name is Khan
- » **Best Actress:** Anushka Sharma for Band Baaja Baaraat
- » **Best Supporting Actor:** Arjun Rampal for Rajneeti
- » **Best Supporting Actress:** Prachi Desai for Once upon a time in Mumbai
- » **Outstanding achievement in international cinema:** Irrfan Khan
- » **Best performance in a Negative role:** Sonu Sood for Dabangg
- » **Best comic role:** Riteish Deshmukh for Housefull

- » **Best Debut (female):** Sonakshi Sinha
- » **Best Debut (male):** Ranveer Singh

Debuting in 2000 in London, the IIFA's have been held on four continents in cities including Dubai, Bangkok, Colombo, Singapore, Macau and Johannesburg but never in India.

## Education in Excellence Award-2011

Super 30 founder Anand Kumar, whose initiative helped several students from underprivileged families make it to the IIT-JEE was chosen for the Education in Excellence Award-2011 to be awarded on Doha on 13 May 2011. Anand Kumar consistently worked to raise a ray of hope in the underprivileged lot and helping them join India's premiere institutions. On the occasion of Bihar's 100th year of foundation the award will be given by the Bihar Foundation, Doha chapter and the Indian Association for Bihar and Jharkhand at a function Ek Shaam Bihar ke Naam. Bihar Foundation is a Bihar government initiative set up in 2008. It has seven chapters across the world.

## International Merlin Award

India's ace magician Gopinath Muthukad received the International Merlin Award also known as the magicians' Oscar for the year 2011 from Tony Hassini, President of the US based International Magicians Society. Gopinath Muthukad is the second Indian to be chosen to receive the Merlin Award after PC Sorkar Jr. Muthukad held that the award will definitely add to the popularity of the art and attract more young people to pick it up. Muthukad had ventured into the world of magic at the age of 10. Muthukad's motto is Magic with a mission. His aim is to use magic as a tool for social upliftment. He mentioned that he conducts shows to promote national integration and fight against social evils like alcoholism, tobacco and terrorism.

## INSEAD Honoured Sunil Bharti Mittal

Leading international business school INSEAD honoured Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder, Chairman and Group CEO of Bharti Enterprises, with its Business Leader for the World Award. Sunil Bharti Mittal was given the award for his success in having grown Bharti Enterprises from a manufacturer of push button phones to India's leading business conglomerate. He was recognised for his vision of developing businesses that have a transformational impact on the regions in which Bharti is present. The award is given to business leaders who have set new standards in building successful, sustainable, global enterprises that span multiple cultures, embrace diversity, and contribute to economic and social prosperity.

## Man Booker International Prize

Philip Roth was announced as the winner of the fourth Man Booker International Prize at a press conference at the Sydney Opera House. Roth was chosen from a list of 13 eminent contenders. American novelist Philip Roth is a literary giant and one of the world's most prolific, celebrated - and controversial - writers. Born in March 1933 in New Jersey, Roth is best known for his 1969 novel *Portnoy's Complaint*, and for his late-1990s trilogy comprising the Pulitzer Prize-winning *American Pastoral* (1997), *I Married a Communist* (1998), and *The Human Stain* (2000). The Man Booker International Prize, worth £60,000, is awarded for an achievement in fiction on the world stage. The prize is once every two years to a living author for a body of work published either originally in English or widely available in translation in the English language. It has previously been awarded to Ismail Kadaré in 2005, Chinua Achebe in 2007 and Alice Munro in 2009.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry announced the list of awardees for the 58th National Film Awards. Feature Films jury was headed by

J.P. Dutta, Non-Feature Films jury was headed by A.K. Bir and Best Writing on Cinema jury was headed by Ashok Vajpeyi. The movie *Adaminte Makan Abu* directed by Salim Ahamed was adjudged best Feature Film. *Adaminte Makan Abu* shows humanist values freeing matters of faith from the constrictions of narrow parochialism.

**The film bagged four awards. The list of the awarders is as follows:**

- » **Best Feature Film:** *Adaminte Makan Abu* directed by Salim Ahamed
- » **Best Direction:** Vetrimaran for *Aadukalam* (Tamil)
- » **Best Actor:** Dhanush for *Aadukalam* (Tamil) & Salim Kumar for *Adaminte makan Abu* (Malayalam)
- » **Best Actress:** Mitalee Jagtap Varadkar for *Baboo Band Baaja* (Marathi) & Saranya Ponvannan for *Thenmerkku Paruvakkatru* (Tamil)
- » **Best Supporting Actor:** J Thambi Ramaiah for *Mynaa* (Tamil)
- » **Best Supporting Actress:** Sukumari for *Namma Gramam* (Tamil)
- » **Best Cinematography:** Madhu Ambat for *Adaminte Makan Abu*
- » **Best Screenplay Original:** etrimaran for *Aadukalam*
- » **Best Screenplay Adapted:** Anant Mahadevan & Sanjay for *Mee Sindhutai Sapkal* (Marathi)
- » **Best Editing:** T E Kishore for *Aadukalam*
- » **Best Music direction:** Vishal Bhardwaj for *Ishqiya* & Issak Thomas Kottakapally for *Adaminte Makan Abu*
- » **Best Lyrics:** Vairamuthu for *Thenmerkku Paruvakkatru*

- » **Best Male Playback Singer:** Suresh Wadkar for Mee Sindhutai Sapkal
- » **Best Playback Singer Female:** Rekha Bhardwaj: Ishqiya
- » **Best Special Effects:** V. Srinivas & M Mohan for Enthiran (Tamil)
- » **Special Jury Award:** Mee Sindhutai Sapkal (Marathi) directed by Anant Narayan Mahadevan

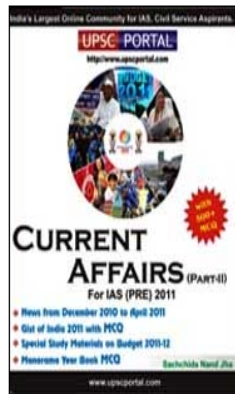
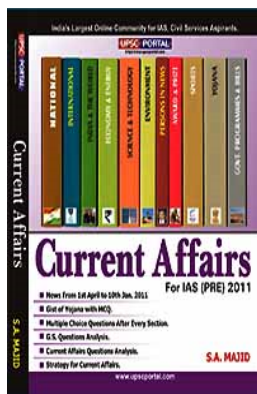
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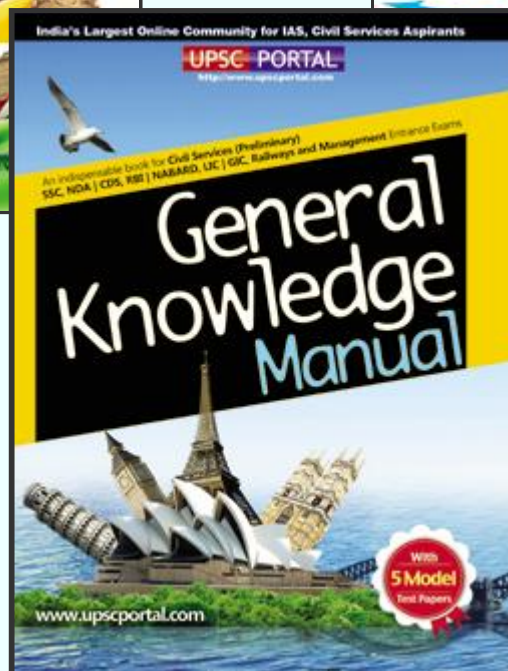
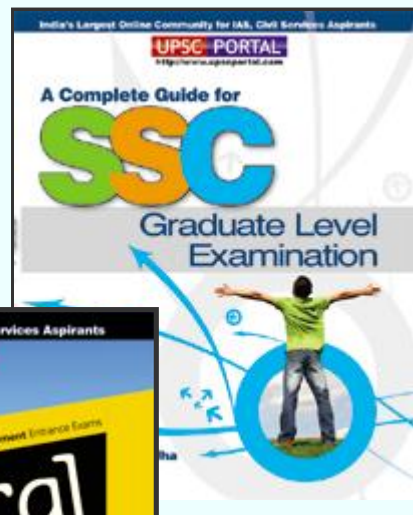


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