II. AWARDS

1) NATIONAL

June

1. 3 artists from Odisha - Ratikant Mohapatra, Satyabrata Raut and Laxmidhar Raut have been selected for prestigious Kendra Sangeet Natak Akademi 2016 Awards

2. Defence public sector BEML won Raksha Mantri’s Award for Excellence for design and development of 180-tonne electric hydraulic excavator BE1800E

3. Dr. Sunil Kothari has been selected for coveted Akademi Ratna award by Sangeet natak akademi

4. Haryana’s Mansushi Chhillar won 54th Femina Miss India World Title 2017

5. Kannada poet H S Shivaprakash has been honoured with Kusumagraga Rashtriya Puraskar and Menka Dhumale has been presented YCMOUS Baburao Bagul story writing award for 2016 for her book Korda Paus

6. Ministry of Rural Development selected Vizianagaram among 17 districts for MGNREGA annual award, for its effective implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act during 2015-16.

7. Odia artists Anand Neelakantan, Haraprasad Das and Paramita Satpathy have been chosen for Kalinga Literary Awards.
   - Anand Neelakantan - Kalinga International Literary Award.
   - Haraprasad Das - Kalinga Literary Youth Award
   - Paramita Saptathy - Kalinga Karubaki Award.

8. Odisha Government conferred Biju Patnaik Award for Scientific Excellence to Lalit Mohan Das for his outstanding contribution to science and research.

9. President Pranab Mukherjee presented CII President’s Award for Lifetime Achievement to Rahul Bajaj. CII foundation Woman Exemplar Awards were also presented.

10. Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2017
    - English - Manu S. Pillai
    - Hindi - Taru Sindik
    - Tamil - J. Jayabharathi (Manushi)
    - Sanskrit - Hemchandra Belwal

11. Vijaya Bank received Skoch Awards in 9 categories Including Best Bank in Public Secto, Inclusive Wallet – VPAYQWIK etc

12. ‘Project Jal Sanchay’, a water conservation model which is successfully adopted in Nalanda district of south-central Bihar, has been chosen for national award for excellence in the Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee programme (MGNREGP) by the Ministry of Rural Development.

July

1. BJP leader L.K. Advani received Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions as a parliamentarian in Lok Sabha while JDU leader Sharad Yadav also received Lifetime Achievement Award as a Rajya Sabha representative. Awards were selected by a jury headed by Shivraj Patil. Additionally, N.K. Premachandran was named Best Parliamentarian in lok sabha and Sitaram Yechury is named Best Parliamentarian in Rajya Sabha

2. Climate and energy efficiency solutions company Danfoss India has been conferred with Golden Peacock Award for Environment Management at 19th World Congress on Environment Management in Hyderabad (Telangana)


4. Kishore Sansi (Vijaya Bank chief) has been named as Personality of the Year by Skoch Consultancy Services

5. V.O. Chidambaraman Port won National Award for Excellence in Cost Management for 2016 from The Institute of Cost Accountants of India under Transportation and Logistics.

6. West Bengal Government conferred 2017’s Mahanayak Samman 2017 to noted actress Shakuntala Barua. While, Posenjiatter Chatterjee and Nusrat Jahan received Best Actor and Best Actress awards respectively.

August

1. Indian Medical Personality Nanda Kumar Jairam has been awarded Healthcare Personality of the Year award by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

2. NITI Aayog (in partnership with MyGov and United Nations) announced 12 winners of Women Transforming India Awards 2017.Winners are - laxmi Agarwal (UP), Subasini Mistry (WB), Safeena Hussain (MH), Arunima Sinha (UP), Kamal Kumbhar (MH), Jamuna Tudu (JH), Rajlakshmi Borthakur (KN), Kiran Kanoji (HR), Harshini Kanhekar (MH), Shima Modak (Meghalaya), Sunita Kamble (MH), Kanika Tekriwal (MP)

3. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) conferred best performance award for 2015-16 and 2016-17 to Karnataka Vikas Gramene Bank (KVGB) for its work in credit-linking joint liability groups (JLGs)

4. Noted Konkani writer Mahabaleshwar Sail has been honored by Sarasat Samman 2016 for his novel Hawthan, that captures cultural lives of traditional potter community in Goa

5. Odisha Government granted Biju Patnaik Award for Scientific Excellence for the year 2016 to Digambar Behera of PGIMER (Chandigarh)

6. Sports Ministry announced National Sports Awards 2017 have been announced. Selection Committee for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award an Arjuna Awards was headed by Justice C. K. Thakkar. Selection Committee for Dronacharya Awards and Dhyan Chand Awards was headed by Pullela Gopichand. Winners -
   - Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna - Winners receive a statuette, certificate and cash prize of Rs 7.5 lakh. 2017 winners are -
     - Para Athlete Devendra Singh Jhajharia
     - Hockey Player Sardar Singh
   - Dronacharya Awards - winners receive a statuette, certificate and cash prize of Rs 5 lakh. 2017 winners -
     - Athlete Late Dr. R. Gandhi
     - Kabaddi Player Heera Nand Kataria
     - Badminton Player G.S.S.V. Prasad (Lifetime)
     - Boxing Player Brij Bhushan Mohanty (Lifetime)
     - Hockey Player P.A. Raphel (Lifetime)
     - Shooter Sanjiv Chakraverty (Lifetime)
     - Wrestler Roshan Lal (Lifetime)
   - Arjuna Awards - Winners receive a statuette, certificate and cash prize of Rs 5 Lakh. 2017 winners are -
     - Archer V.J. Surekhga
June to September-2017

- Athlete Khushbir Kaur
- Basketball Player Prasanthi Singh
- Boxer Sub. Laishram Debendro Singh
- Cricketer Harmanpreet Kaur
- Footballer Onam Bembem Devi
- Golfer S.S.P. Chawrasia
- Hockey Player S.V. Sunil
- Kabaddi Player Jasvir Singh
- Shooter P.N. Prakash
- Table Tennis Player Amalraj
- Tennis Player Saketh Myneni
- Wrestler Satyawart Kadian
- Para Athlete Marityapann
- Para Athlete Varun Singh Bhati

4. Dhyanchand Award - Winners receive a statuette, certificate and cash prize of Rs. 5 lakhs. 2017 winners are -

- Athlete Bhupendra Singh
- Football Player Syed Shahid Hakim
- Hockey Player Sumairai Tete

7. Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao has been selected for coveted Agriculture Leadership Award 2017, by a Committee headed by agriculture scientist MS Swaminathan

September

1. Badminton Player Prakash Padukone conferred with first Lifetime Achievement Award instituted by Badminton Association of India (BAI).
2. India’s first operational Smart City and IFSC, Gujarat International Finance-Tec City (GIFT City) won Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) Services Excellence Award
3. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPT) has been awarded Container Terminal of the Year Award at 10th The Gateway Awards 2017 at Mumbai.
4. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) won Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar for 2016-17 for its excellent implementation of Official Language. This is 11th consecutive year that JNPT has won this award.
6. Karnataka Cop D Roopa has been conferred President’s Medal for her meritorious service
7. Raghuvaran Industries Private Limited has been awarded with Krishi Pragati Award 2017 by National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX)
8. Vijaya Bank bagged first prize under Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (Region C) for year 2016-17. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has also been awarded National level Rajbhasha Keerti Award for 3rd consecutive year.

2) INTERNATIONAL

June

1. Indian agricultural microbiologist Shrihari Chandraghantgi has been conferred Ministry of Environment Award for 2017 in Japan for developing cutting edge technologies to address burning environmental problems.
2. 12-year-old Indian Girl Padmalaya Nanda from Odisha became youngest girl to win Little Miss Universe Internet 2017 and Little Miss Actress titles at Little Miss Universe Pageant 2017 held in Georgia. She will now participate in Little Miss World 2017 competition to be held at Greece in Sept - Oct 2017.
3. 2017 Orwell Prize (Britain’s most prestigious prize for political writing) has been bestowed upon John Bew for his extraordinary biography Citizen Clem, which is about Clement Attlee (founder of NHS (National Health Service)).
4. David Grossman became first Israeli author to win Man Booker International Prize for his novel A Horse Walks Into a Bar. He will share the £50,000 award money with his translator Jessica Cohen
5. Bengali actor, Soumitra Chatterjee will be conferred by France’s highest civilian honour - Legion of Honour
6. Health Ministry’s mobile application for digitising vaccine logistics - eVIN has won GSMA Asia Mobile Award 2017 (AMO) in Shanghai (China) for outstanding contribution to UoN sustainable development goals in Asia
7. Hyderabad Based T S Vineeth Bhatt has been conferred with Best astrologer award at Russian-Indian economic dialogue round-table meet held in Moscow.
8. India’s National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) received International Award of Asia Pacific Quality Network’s APQN Quality Award 2017 for International Co-operation in Quality Assurance, in Moscow (Russia)
9. Indian Anti-hunger activist Ankit Kawatra will be among 60 receivers of UK’s prestigious Queen’s Young Leaders Award from 53 Commonwealth countries
10. International Dublin Literary Award 2017 conferred upon Angolan writer Jose Eduardo Agualusa for his 14th novel - A General Theory of Oblivion. It is translated into English by Daniel Hahn.
11. Uttarakhand received award of excellence at the 2nd Global Skill Development Summit held in Paris for innovations and extensive use of IT for skilling state’s youth
12. West Bengal received highest prize by United Nations Public Service Award for state government’s Kanyakshree Prakalpa (Girl Child) scheme, held in The Hague (Netherlands)
July

1. 2017 Magsaysay Awards -
   1. Winners -
      1. Lilia De Lima (PHILIPPINES) - For harnessing sustained, non-stop and credible public service.
      2. Yoshiaki Ishizawa (JAPAN): For restoring Cambodia’s treasured gift to world culture.
      3. Abdon Nababan (INDONESIA): For giving compelling face and voice to Adat communities and their rights.
      4. Philippine Educational Theater Association (PHILIPPINES): For empowering communities for development action through theater arts.
      5. Gethsie Shanmugam (SRI LANKA): For rebuilding lives from the psychosocial wounds of war and violence.
      6. Tony Tay (SINGAPORE): For mobilizing collective goodwill to address hidden hunger.
   2. About Magsaysay Award -
      1. Ramon Magsaysay Awards’ is an annual award established to perpetuate former Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay’s example of integrity in governance, courageous service to the people, and pragmatic idealism within a democratic society.
      2. It is a reputed honor and termed as Nobel Prize of Asia.
   2. A group of seven Indian students won 2 awards at first Global Robotics Olympiad in US. Indian Students won gold for Zhang Heng Engineering Design Award and bronze for Global Challenge Match at international robotics challenge organised by FIRST Global in Washington (USA)
   3. Former Union Minister Ashwani Kumar has been conferred with Japan’s imperial decoration ‘Order of the Rising Sun’ award for his contribution to fostering Japan-India ties.
   4. Indian Origin Person Guruswamy Jayaram has been awarded Order of Australia for community work, highest civilian award in Australia.
   5. Pune Based Swayam Shikshan Prayog has been awarded United Nations Development Programme’s Equator Prize for devising an ecologically sustainable agriculture model to combat the adverse impacts of drought.

August

1. Portuguese Footballer Cristiano Ronaldo became first to be named Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Men’s Player of the Year for consecutive 3 seasons - 2014, 2015 and 2016.
2. Hugo Award for Best Novel 2017 was given to Nora K. Jemisin (USA) for her work The Obelisk Gate. It was presented at 75th World Science Fiction Convention in Helsinki (Finland).
3. Indian-origin actor Dev Patel chosen for Asia Society 2017 Asia Game Changers Award, for making a “transformative and positive” difference for future of Asia and world. He will be honored at UN Headquarters in New York in November 2017.
4. National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) won 2 awards - Assocham Services Excellence Award 2017 and its Chairman and Managing Director H Purushotham won international recognition by International Association of Advanced Materials (Sweden).

September

1. Ghana-based Indian entrepreneur Birendra Sasmal won International Business Person of the Year at Asian Achievers Awards in London, for turning his company Subah Group into a thriving success through West Africa and employs around 350 people.
2. Indian Scientist Mahat Bami has been selected for Living Legend Award of International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS), to be presented at its General Assembly to be held in Buenos Aires (Argentina).
3. Pune-based NGO Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) that works for women farmers, won 2017 UN Equator Prize.
4. Sikkim CM Pawan Chamling has been honoured by Grand Prix Award for his work in field of organic farming. During a ceremony at Germany’s Lagou on the occasion of the One World Festival.
5. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) announced winners of 2017 International Literacy Prizes. These Prizes are divided into 2 categories - Confucius Prize (sponsored by China) and King Sejong Literacy Prize (sponsored by South Korea). All winners will each receive a medal, a certificate and USD 20,000, on International Literacy Day on 8 September 2017.
   - Confucius Prize 2017 (recognises projects that benefit rural populations and out-of-school youth, particularly girls and women). Winners are -
      1. AdultiGo Program - Initiative of Secretariat of Information and Communications Technologies of Armenia (Colombia) for teaching digital competencies to seniors.
      2. Citizens Foundation (Pakistan) - For its Aagahi Literacy Programme for Women and Out-of-School Girls.
      3. FunDza (South Africa) - It launched a project to develop a culture of reading and writing for pleasure through an online platform.
   - King Sejong Literacy Prize 2017 - Dedicated to mother-tongue literacy education. Winners are -
      1. Centre for the Study of Learning & Performance (Concordia University (Canada)) - For its ‘Using Educational Technology to Develop Essential Educational Competencies in Sub-Saharan African projects’.
      2. We Love Reading (Jordan) - It offers online read-aloud trainings for parents, mobilizes volunteers to read aloud in community spaces for children.
6. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization (UNESCO) announced winners of 2017 UNESCO Prize for Girl’s and Women’s Education. Each of 2 winner organisations received prize money of USD 50000. Winners are -
   - Development and Education Programme for Daughters and Communities Centre in Greater Mekong Sub-Region (DEPDC/GMS) in Thailand - For its project Education and Life Skills Training Programme to Help Stateless Children and Women Migrating from Shan State to Thailand.
   - Mini Academy of Science and Technology (MaTec Peru) - For its program Mobile MaTec Bus Labs/Mini Academy of Science and Technology.
7. Zannah Mustapha won annual Nansen Refugee Award for his crucial mediating role and efforts to help children affected by insurgency in Nigeria. His Future Prowess Islamic Foundation School provides free Islamic education to orphaned children.