



Current Affairs - June 2021 to August 2021

Month

Type




- ▶ **36** Current Affairs were found in **Last Three Months** for Type - **Awards**

Awards

1. ▶ AIFF Player of the Year Awards 2020 -

 Men's Player of the Year - Sandesh Jhingan

 Women's Player of the Year - Bala Devi

 Emerging Player of the Year - Suresh Singh Wangjam (Men) AND Manisha Kalyan (Women)

2. ▶ As per 2021 Skytrax World Airport Awards -

 Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport is named among world's top 50 airports. Other Indian Airports in List - Hyderabad (64), Mumbai (65), Bengaluru (71)

 Top 5 Globally -

 Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar

 Haneda Airport in Tokyo

 Changi Airport in Singapore

 Incheon International Airport in Incheon, South Korea

 Narita International Airport (NRT) in Tokyo

3. ▶ Assam Government will institute its own series of annual awards similar to Padma awards at central level.

- Asom Ratna Award, which was earlier conferred only once every three years, will now be awarded every year to one person.
- Three new sets of awards on the lines of Padma Awards namely- Asom Bibhushan, Asom Bhushan, and Asom Shree will be conferred.

- Asom Bibhushan will be presented to 3, Asom Bhushan to 2 and Asom Shree will be presented to 10 individuals every year.
- 5 lakh award money will be given to Asom Ratna awardee, 3 lakh to Asom Bibhushan, 2 lakh to Asom Bhushan and 1 lakh to Asom Shree awardees.

- Awardees will also be given benefits such as Freemedical treatment and Travel.

Other Announcements -

- Assam will also confer a Literary pension in the name of litterateur Homen Borgohain on his birthday (December 7).
- Sports pension will be conferred in name of Arjun awardee Bogeswar Barua on his birthday (September 3).
- Will also confer the Artiste Award on January 17.

4. ▶ Awardees at Indian Film Festival of Melbourne Awards 2021 (Held Virtually)

- Best Feature Film: Soorarai Pottru
- Best Performance Male (Feature): Suriya Sivakumar (Soorarai Pottru)
- Best Performance Female (Feature): Vidya Balan (Sherni) & Honourable mention to Nimisha Sajayan (The Great Indian Kitchen)
- Best Director: Anurag Basu (Ludo) & Honorary Mention Prithvi Konanur (Pinki Elli?)
- Best Series: Mirzapur Season 2
- Best Indie Film: Fire in the Mountains
- Best Documentary Film: Shut Up Sona


5. ▶ Bangladeshi Nobel Peace Prize winner **Muhammad Yunus** will receive **Olympic Laurel** at Tokyo Olympic Games 2020, the second time the trophy will be awarded. Yunus founded the *Grameen Bank* in 1983 and was awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 2006.

- Olympic Laurel is a distinction awarded by International Olympic Committee, to honour those who have *made significant achievements in education, culture, development and peace through sport*. It was introduced in 2016.


6. ▶ Bhutan's India-assisted Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project has been conferred with **Brunel Medal** awarded by London-based Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), for being a hallmark of excellence in civil engineering.

7. ▶ Cannes Film Festival 2021 Awards -

- Palme d'Or: **Titane** by Julia Ducournau
- Grand Prix:
 - A Hero by Asghar Farhadi

 Compartment No. 6 by Juho Kuosmanen

 Jury Prize:

 Ahed's Knee by Nadav Lapid

 Memoria by Apichatpong Weerasethakul

 Best Director: Leos Carax for Annette


 Best Actress: Renate Reinsve for The Worst Person in the World

 Best Actor: Caleb Landry Jones for Nitram

 Honorary Palme d'Or: Jodie Foster and Marco Bellocchio

 L'Œil d'or (Golden Eye - Best Documentary): A Night of Knowing Nothing by **Payal Kapadia** (Indian filmmaker)

8. ▶ Chief Hydrographer of India **Vinay Badhwar** has been conferred **Alexander Dalrymple award** by British Government, for his work in areas of hydrography and nautical cartography.

 Badhwar was conferred with the award in 2019, however, the award ceremony was delayed because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.


 The Alexander Dalrymple Award has been named after first hydrographer of Admiralty, instituted in 2006.

9. ▶ Engineers India Limited (EIL) CMD RK Sabharwal has been honoured with highest civilian award of **Mongolia**, *The Order of Polar Star*, for outstanding contribution towards establishment of first-ever oil refinery in Mongolia.

 Earlier, PM Narendra Modi announced line of credit worth USD 1 billion to Mongolia, during his visit. It was later decided to use this Line of Credit for establishment of first Oil Refinery in Mongolia.


 EIL later secured contract for providing Project Management Consultancy (PMC) services for 1.5 MMTPA Grassroot refinery project.

10. ▶ European Patent Office (EPO) honoured Indian-American chemist **Sumita Mitra** with European Inventor Award 2021, in *Non-EPO countries* category.

 Mitra was first to successfully integrate nanotechnology into dental materials to produce stronger and more aesthetically pleasing fillings, now used globally.

11. ▶ Former Indian Footballer **Shibaji Banerjee** has been posthumously conferred with *Mohun Bagan Ratna* Title. Notably, He kept Brazil's legendary footballer Pele from scoring a goal in an exhibition match in 1977. Background -

 Mohun Bagan were declared champions in IFA Shield campaign in 1911. This marked first time a native club defeated British and British-Indian teams in a football tournament.

 Since 2001, July 29 is celebrated as Mohun Bagan Day, in honour of club's victory over East Yorkshire Regiment in 1911 IFA Shield Final.

12. ▶ Former Kerala Health Minister **KK Shailaja** has been honored with *Central European University (CEU) Open Society Prize 2021*, given to organizations /individuals whose achievements have contributed to the creation of an open society.
13. ▶ French novelist **David Diop** won **International Booker Prize 2021** for English Translation of his book *Frere d' ame*, translated into english as *At Night All Blood is Black*, by *Anna Moschovakis*.
 - ▶ He is first French winner of Booker prize, which is awarded for a book translated into English and published in UK or Ireland.
 - ▶ International Booker Prize (formerly *Man Booker International Prize*) is an international literary award hosted in UK, given Since 2016 to a single book translated into English and published in UK / Ireland, with £50,000 prize shared equally between author and translator.
 - ▶ It is sepeate from Booker Prize, Earlier Booker–McConnell Prize (1969–2001) and Man Booker Prize (2002–2019). It is a literary prize awarded each year for best novel written in English and published in UK / Ireland.
14. ▶ Govt renamed **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award** as **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award**, changing nomenclature of Highest Sporting Honour in India.
15. ▶ Hyderabad based hunger activist *Syed Osman Azhar Maqsusi*, who has been feeding thousands of people every day as part of his food drive 'Hunger Has No Religion', has been awarded UK's *Commonwealth Points of Light award*.
16. ▶ Indian Econometric Society (TIES) Trust named 2 noted economic scholars for **Prof. C.R. Rao Centenary Gold Medal award - Jagdish Bhagwati** (Columbia University) and **C Rangarajan** (Former chairman of Economic Advisory Council of PM and former RBI governor).
 - ▶ The medal was instituted by TIES Trust to mark 100th birthday celebration of renowned mathematician statistician CR Rao (on September 10, 2020).
17. ▶ Indian Graphic artist **Anand Radhakrishnan** won **Will Eisner Comic Industry Award**, considered the Oscars equivalent of the comics world.
 - ▶ He won in *Best Painter/Multimedia Artist (interior art)* category, sharing the award with UK-based colourist John Pearson. They won for their work on UK-based author Ram V's 145-page graphic novel *Blue In Green*, published in October 2020 by Image Comics.
18. ▶ Indian actress Tillotama Shome won Best Actor award at 2021 UK Asian Film Festival (UKAFF), for her role in *Raahgir*. Filmmaker Goutam Ghose also won Best Director award at UKAFF.
19. ▶ Indian-origin British author, Sunjeev Sahota is among 13 authors longlisted for 2021 Booker Prize for fiction for his novel 'China Room'.
20. ▶ Indian-origin entrepreneur **Ajay Dilwari** has been honoured with Canada's **Order of British Columbia** award, the province's highest form of recognition. Dilwari, owner of Canada's largest automotive group, *Dilawri Group*, is among 16 *exceptional people* to be appointed to *Order of British Columbia*.

21. ▶ Industrial / Misc. Awards (July 2021) -

- ✎ In 8th edition of National Community Radio Awards instituted by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting -
 - ✎ Radio Vishwas 90.8, a Community Radio Station (CRS) in Nashik (Maharashtra) won first prize in *Sustainability Model* category and 2nd prize in *Thematic* category, for its radio program 'Education for All' in times of COVID-19.
 - ✎ *Shikshan Sarvansathi* (Education for all) initiative won 1st Prize under Thematic Category, which was started in June 2020 to provide free education for students from 3rd to 10th grade, during times of COVID-19.
- ✎ India's *Invest India* has been awarded world's most innovative Investment Promotion Agency Award 2021 by OCO Global.
- ✎ Freelance filmmaker Deepti Pillay Sivan's documentary *Decoding Shankar*, about life of Noted musician Shankar Mahadevan, won *Best Film Award* (Documentary (Best Biographical)) at Toronto International Women Film Festival 2021.
- ✎ Delhi Metro won *Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award 2020* from *Japan Society of Civil Engineers*, for its high-quality infrastructure development projects under phases I-III.
- ✎ Korean Air has been named winner of *Air Transport World's (ATW) 2021 Airline of the Year* Title.
- ✎ 14 year old girl *Zaila Avant-garde* became first African American to win 50000 USD Scripps National Spelling Bee (US), after winning 2021 edition.
- ✎ Govt launched *National Logistics Excellence Awards*, with 2 categories - 1st includes logistics infrastructure/service providers and 2nd for various user industries. Winners for 1st edition of awards will be announced on Oct 31, 2021.
- ✎ *Pushti Nirbhor* backyard garden project in Cachar District of Assam won National Silver SKOCH Award, for enabling a village on Bangladesh border to consume nutritious plants and vegetables and earn by selling surplus produce.

22. ▶ Journalist *Omchery N N Pillai* has been selected for Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS)'s Literary Award for 2021.

23. ▶ Kajal Chakraborty (Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute) won **Norman Borlaug National Award for Excellence in Agricultural Research** instituted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), for his research related to development of nutraceutical products made from seaweeds to treat various lifestyle diseases.

- ✎ The award, which is announced once in five years, carries a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh. Also, he will be given research grant of 1.5 core to conduct a breakthrough research project for five years.

24. ▶ Karnataka Govt named Sri Basavalinga Pattaddevaru (senior seer of Bhalki Hiremath) for *Sri Basava International Award*.

25. ▶ Legendary playback singer **Asha Bhosle** has been named for Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2021, sponsored by Maharashtra Govt.

- ✎ Maharashtra Bhushan is highest civilian award presented by government of Maharashtra state, awarded since 1996.
- ✎ It was initially conferred in fields of Literature, Art, Sport, and Science. Later, Social Work, Journalism, Public Administration and Health Services were included.

- ✎ Award carries cash prize of 10 lakh.
26. ▶ Maharashtra Govt introduced Rajiv Gandhi Award for excellence in IT Sector, for firms excelling in Information Technology (IT) sector in state.
- ✎ It'll be conferred upon awardee firms on August 20 (birth anniversary of Former PM late Rajiv Gandhi).
27. ▶ Misc / Industrial Awards (August 2021) -
- ✎ Madhya Pradesh's Satpura Tiger Reserve has been awarded the NatWest Group Earth Heroes award in Earth Guardian category, for best management.
 - ✎ Telangana Government's use case *Crowd Monitoring using AI*, won AI Gamechanger Award by Nasscom.
 - ✎ State's Counter Intelligence Cell had used AI solution for managing crowds during India vs WI T20 match at Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in 2019 and during Medaram Jathara festival in 2020.
 - ✎ Nagaland State won 7 national awards on first Van Dhan Annual Awards 2020-21, during celebration of 34th foundation day of Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED).
 - ✎ Govt announced Winners for MeitY-NASSCOM Start-up Women Entrepreneur Awards 2020-21, in partnership with UN Women.
 - ✎ 12 women entrepreneurs have been named as winners, while 2 women entrepreneurs declared as Jury Choice Awardees and 1 woman entrepreneur felicitated as a special mention. Each winner and Jury Choice Awardees were rewarded Rs. 2 Lakh.
 - ✎ Also, MyGov and UN Women jointly launched *Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Innovation Challenge 2021*, to encourage technology solutions developed by Women Entrepreneurs that facilitate Women's Safety and Empowerment.
28. ▶ Misc. / Industrial Awards (June 2021) -
- ✎ Kerala-origin Canadian Photographer Thomas Vijayan won 2021 Nature TTL Photography Award, for his photo of an Orangutan clinging to a tree, titled *The World is Going Upside Down*.
 - ✎ Cochin International Airport won Airport Council International (ACI) Director General's Roll of Excellence honour in Airport Service Quality.
29. ▶ Noted Indian Economist **Kaushik Basu** is named among awardees of **Humboldt Research Award** for *Economics*, given by Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of Germany, to renowned scientists outside Germany, in recognition of their lifetime's research achievements.
30. ▶ Noted Indian Journalist **P. Sainath** is named among 3 recipients of **Japan's Fukuoka Grand Prize** 2021, in **Grand** Category.
- ✎ Other 2 winners are Japan's Kishimoto Mio (Academic Category) and Thailand's Prabda Yoon (Arts & Culture Category).
 - ✎ Fukuoka Prize is established by Fukuoka City International Foundation (formerly Yokatopia Foundation), to honor outstanding work of individuals or organizations in preserving or creating Asian culture.

 There are three prize categories: Grand Prize, Academic Prize, and Arts and Culture Prize.

31. ▶ Noted Odia poet **Rajendra Kishore Panda** has been awarded *Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar 2020*.

 It was instituted by Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Trust in 2013, in memory of late poet laureate Kuvempu.

32. ▶ Pulitzer Prize 2021 -

 Winners -

 Letters, Drama, and Music -

 Fiction - *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich

 Drama - *The Hot Wing King* by Katori Hall

 History - *Franchise: The Golden Arches in Black America* by Marcia Chatelain

 Biography or Autobiography - *The Dead Are Arising: The Life of Malcolm X* by Les Payne and Tamara Payne

 Poetry - *Postcolonial Love Poem* by Natalie Diaz

 Music - *Stride* by Tania León

 General Non-fiction - *Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy* by David Zucchino

 Journalism -

 Public Service - *The New York Times*


 Breaking News Reporting - Staff of *The Star Tribune*

 Investigative Reporting - Matt Rocheleau, Vernal Coleman, Laura Crimaldi, Evan Allen and Brendan McCarthy of *The Boston Globe*

 Local Reporting - Kathleen McGrory and Neil Bedi of *The Tampa Bay Times*

 National Reporting - Staffs of *The Marshall Project*, *AL.com*, *The Indianapolis Star*, and *the Invisible Institute*

 International Reporting - **Megha Rajagopalan**, Alison Killing and Christo Buschek of *BuzzFeed News*

 Feature Writing - Mitchell S. Jackson, freelance contributor for *Runner's World* AND Nadja Drost, freelance contributor for *The California Sunday Magazine*.

 Commentary - Michael Paul Williams of *the Richmond Times-Dispatch*

 Criticism - Wesley Morris of *The New York Times*,

 Editorial Writing - Robert Greene of *the Los Angeles Times*,


 Feature Photography - Emilio Morenatti of *Associated Press*

 Special Awards and Citations -

 A Special Citation was awarded to Darnella Frazier, For *courageously recording the murder of George Floyd*.

 About Pulitzer Prizes -

 Given for achievements in newspaper, magazine and online journalism, literature, and musical composition in USA.

 Established in 1917 by provisions in will of American (Hungarian-born) Joseph Pulitzer who had made his fortune as a newspaper publisher and is administered by Columbia University in New York City.

33. ▶ UN Development Programme named Indian Organizations **Snehakunja Trust** and **Aadhimalai Pazhangudiyinar Producer Company** among 10 awardees of **Equator Prize 2021**, for their work in field of biodiversity and conservation.

 Equator Prize is a biennial award by UNDP is given to recognize community efforts of reducing poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Winners receive prize money of US \$10000 .

34. ▶ United Nations Global Compact recognised India's Sumant Sinha (ReNew Power Chairman & MD) as one of ten 2021 SDG Pioneers, for exceptional work in advancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through implementation of UN Global Compact Ten Principles on human rights, environment, labor, and anti-corruption.

35. ▶ Vaccine maker Serum Institute of India (SII) Chairman Cyrus Poonawalla has been honoured with **Lokmanya Tilak National Award** for 2021, given by Lokmanya Tilak Smarak Trust, for his work during COVID-19 pandemic.

36. ▶ Zimbabwe Author **Tsitsi Dangarembga** won **PEN Pinter Prize 2021**, given annually *to a British writer or a writer resident in Britain of outstanding literary merit*.

 This award was launched in 2009 by English PEN in honour of late Nobel Literature Prize-winning playwright Harold Pinter.

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