



GENERAL STUDIES PRELIM 2011: CURRENT AFFAIRS

PART I: PRIZES / AWARDS

World Famous

Nobel Prizes

<p>Peace Prize</p>	<p>Liu Xiaobo(China)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chinese literary critic, writer, professor, and human rights activist. He was sentenced to eleven years' imprisonment on suspicion of "inciting subversion of state power" in 2009. He is the first Chinese citizen to be awarded a Nobel Prize of any kind while residing in China. He is the fourth person to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize while in prison or detention, after Germany's Carl von Ossietzky (1935), the Soviet Union's Andrei Sakharov (1975), and Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi (1991). Liu is also the second person first being Ossietzky to be denied the right to have a representative collect the Nobel prize for him. The peace prize was placed on an empty chair in Oslo's city hall in a symbolic act to mark its award to Liu Xiaobo. "I have no enemies: My final Statement" was an essay written by Liu Xiaobo intended to be read at his trial in December 2009 but never heard. It became the laureate's speech delivered by Norwegian actor Liv Ullmann at the award ceremony. China termed it a western interference in its sovereignty and requested many countries not to attend the ceremony. He is one of the authors of Charter '08, a manifesto initially signed by over 350 Chinese intellectuals and human rights activists.
<p>Physics</p>	<p>Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov (University of Manchester, UK)</p>	<p>"for groundbreaking experiments regarding the two-dimensional material graphene"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geim and Novoselov extracted the graphene from a piece of graphite such as is found in ordinary pencils. Using regular adhesive tape they managed to obtain a flake of carbon with a thickness of just one atom. This at a time when many believed it was impossible for such thin crystalline materials to be stable.
<p>Chemistry</p>	<p>Richard F. Heck University of Delaware, Newark, DE, USA, Ei-ichi Negishi</p>	<p>"for palladium-catalyzed cross couplings in organic synthesis".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This chemical tool has vastly improved the possibilities for chemists to create sophisticated chemicals, for example carbon-based molecules as complex as those created by nature itself. Carbon-based (organic) chemistry is the basis of life and is

	<p>Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA</p> <p>and</p> <p>Akira Suzuki Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan</p>	<p>responsible for numerous fascinating natural phenomena: colour in flowers, snake poison and bacteria killing substances such as penicillin. Organic chemistry has allowed man to build on nature's chemistry; making use of carbon's ability to provide a stable skeleton for functional molecules. This has given mankind new medicines and revolutionary materials such as plastics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to create these complex chemicals, chemists need to be able to join carbon atoms together. However, carbon is stable and carbon atoms do not easily react with one another. The first methods used by chemists to bind carbon atoms together were therefore based upon various techniques for rendering carbon more reactive. Such methods worked when creating simple molecules, but when synthesizing more complex molecules chemists ended up with too many unwanted by-products in their test tubes. • Palladium-catalyzed cross coupling solved that problem and provided chemists with a more precise and efficient tool to work with. In the Heck reaction, Negishi reaction and Suzuki reaction, carbon atoms meet on a palladium atom, whereupon their proximity to one another kick-starts the chemical reaction. • Palladium-catalyzed cross coupling is used in research worldwide, as well as in the commercial production of for example pharmaceuticals and molecules used in the electronics industry.
Physiology or Medicine	<p>Robert G. Edwards(UK)</p>	<p>"for the development of in vitro fertilization "</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His achievements have made it possible to treat infertility, a medical condition afflicting a large proportion of humanity including more than 10% of all couples worldwide. • In 1977, Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards successfully carried out a pioneering conception which resulted in the birth of the world's first baby to be conceived by IVF, Louise Brown on 25 July 1978. • Indian Physician Dr. Subhash Mukhopadhyay created history when he became the first physician in India (and second in the world after British physicians Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards) to perform the In vitro fertilization differently resulting in a test tube baby "Durga" (alias Kanupriya Agarwal) on October 3, 1978.
Literature	<p>Mario Vargas Llosa (Peru)</p>	<p>"for his cartography of structures of power and histrenchant images of the individual's resistance, revolt, and defeat".</p>
Economy	<p>Peter A. Diamond(USA) Dale T. Mortensen(USA) and Christopher A. Pissarides(UK)</p>	<p>"for their analysis of markets with search frictions"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The laureates have applied their theory to a wide range of markets. However the most important application of the theory has been on the labor markets. The theory explains why matching jobs and workers can be insufficient to reducing unemployment.

Literary

2010 Booker Prize

British writer and journalist Howard Jacobson's novel **The Finkler Question**, a semi-autobiographical comic take on Jewish identity, is the winner of this year's **Man Booker Prize**.

Background:

- The Man Booker Prize for Fiction is a literary prize awarded each year for the best original full-length novel, written in the **English** language, by a **citizen of the Commonwealth of Nations, Ireland, or Zimbabwe**.
- Prize money-**£50,000**.
- In 1971, the nature of the Prize was changed so that it was awarded to novels published in that year instead of in the previous year; therefore, no novel published in 1970 could win the Booker Prize. This was rectified in 2010 by the awarding of the "**Lost Man Booker Prize**" to J. G. Farrell's *Troubles*.
- In 1993, the **Booker of Bookers** Prize was awarded to **Salman Rushdie** for **Midnight's Children** (the 1981 winner), as the best novel to win the award in the first 25 years of its existence. A similar prize known as **The Best of the Booker** was awarded in 2008 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the prize – this was also won by *Midnight's Children*

DSC Prize for South Asian Literature

DSC Prize for South Asian Literature is a new literary prize to be awarded annually to writers of **any ethnicity** or nationality writing about South Asia. It is for an original full-length novel written in **English**, or translated into English. The prize is sponsored by DSC Limited, an **Indian infrastructure and construction company**.

Winner

2011- **H. M. Naqvi**, Karachi-based novelist for his debut novel **Home Boy**.

[note: Writer and academic **Amit Chaudhuri's** novel **The Immortals** was among the six books shortlisted .]

Nationally Acclaimed

Social activist Aruna Roy gets **Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award** for Excellence in Public Administration, Academia and Management for her "arduous journey and dedication towards the issue of the common man."

Background:

The Award:

Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Delhi instituted the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration, Academics and Management in 1998, with a view to upholding the vision of the late Prime Minister, each year the award honours an Indian, residing either in the country or abroad.

The honour carries a cash award of Rs. Five lakh, a Citation and a Plaque. The awardees are designated as Lal Bahadur Shastri Fellows and their names are inscribed on the roll of honours of the Institute.

Previous awardees:

2009- Dr. E. Sreedharan, the Metro Man of India,

2008- Shri Sunil Mittal, Chairman and Group CEO, Bharti Enterprises.

Aruna Roy :

- Aruna Roy, a former IAS officer is a political and social activist who founded and heads the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan ("Workers and Peasants Strength Union"). She is best known as a prominent leader of the Right to Information movement, which led to the enactment of the Right to Information Act in 2005 and, and, more recently, the right to work campaign. Ms. Roy is a member of the second National Advisory Council, set up by the Central government to advise it on social policies, and the Central Employment Guarantee Council, an advisory body to oversee the implementation of the MGNREGA.
- In 2000, she received the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership.

Sahitya Akademi Fellow

The Sahitya Akademi has elected **Khushwant Singh**(novelist), Kedarnath Singh(**Hindi writer**) and Chandra Nath Mishra 'Amar' (**Maithili writer**)its Fellows.

Background:

The highest honour conferred by the Akademi on a writer is by electing him its Fellow. This honour is reserved for the 'Immortals of Literature' and limited to **21 at any given time**.

Sahitya Akademi Award

- M. P. Veerendra Kumar, former Union Minister, won 2010 Sahitya Akademi awards for his travelogue 'Haimavathabhuvil' in Malayalam.
- 22 persons won this years award

Background:

- The award is given to recognize and promote excellence in Indian writing and also acknowledge new trends
- second-highest literary honor next to a Sahitya Akademi Fellowship.
- Established in 1954, the award comprises a plaque and a cash prize of Rs. 100,000

Sahitya Akademi

- meant to promote the cause of Indian literature
- founded in March 1954 as an autonomous body
- registered as a Society in 1956
- recognizes 24 languages
- Head Office in New Delhi
- Highest honour conferred "Fellow"(limited to 21 at any given time.)

Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration

Oscar-winning composer A.R. Rahman and the Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, located in Chhattisgarh's Narainpur, have jointly won the 25th Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration for the year 2009 for their services in promoting and preserving national integration.

Background:

The award, which consists of a **citation** and Rs. **2.5 lakh** is presented on **October 31, the death anniversary of the former Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi**. It was instituted by the **Congress** in **1985** to recognise distinguished persons for outstanding contributions to the cause of national integration.

Previous awardees:

2006: Dr. J.S. Bandukwala and Ram Puniyani (jointly)

2009: Balraj Puri

(note: It is different from The Indira Gandhi Prize or the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development)

Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development to Lula Da Silva

- Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva was selected for the prestigious Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2010.
- Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development is the prestigious award accorded annually by India to individuals or organizations in recognition of creative efforts toward promoting international peace, development and a new international economic order; ensuring that scientific discoveries are used for the larger good of humanity, and enlarging the scope of freedom. The prize carries a cash award of 25 lakh Indian rupees and a citation.
- Rajiv Gandhi in 1991 and M S Swaminathan, an Indian Agricultural Scientist in 1999 are only indian who have been awarded this prize

Jamnalal Bajaj Awards

The Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation has instituted **four awards** which are given annually. The objective of these awards is to recognise and suitably reward the efforts of the men and women who have dedicated their life to **Gandhian Constructive Work and the ideals which Jamnalal Bajaj had cherished all his life**. The award carries five lakhs in cash, a trophy and citation.

	2010 winner
Award for Outstanding Contribution in the field of Constructive Work	Chunibhai Vaidya, an oldest living Gandhian, nonagenarian from Ahmedabad, was given the award for outstanding contribution in the field of constructive work.
Award for Application of Science and Technology for Rural Development	Chewang Norphel, a 74-year-old civil engineer from Ladakh. His 'artificial glacier' has helped farmers in the dry and difficult region of Ladakh get water supply in April and May — the most crucial period of sowing.
Award for Outstanding Contribution to Uplift and Welfare of Women and Children	Shakuntala Choudhary, a nonagenarian from Assam. She has trained thousands of gram sevikas through Kasturba Centres throughout the State, and also worked for maintaining peaceful and harmonious relations among various social groups.
International Award for Promoting Gandhian Values Outside India	Lia Diskin from Brazil. Ms. Diskin has formed a non-governmental organisation for community-oriented programmes in education, healthcare, human rights, environmental preservation, social welfare and cultural peace.

Jamnalal Bajaj Birth Centenary - Special Award

On the occasion of the Jamnalal Bajaj Birth Centenary, the foundation conferred on **Dr. Nelson Mandela**, a Special Award of Rs. 500,000, a citation and a specially sculptured trophy. It was presented on 18 October 1990.

Scientific, Academic and related..

The coveted Bhatnagar prize was given to 20 scientists — 11 for 2009 and nine for 2010.

Background:

The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology

- Named after the founder Director of **CSIR**, the prize is awarded annually notable and outstanding research, applied or fundamental to recognize outstanding Indian work in **science and technology**. First awarded in 1958, it is the **highest award for science in India**.
- Any citizen of India engaged in research in any field of science and technology up to the age of 45 years is eligible for the Prize. The Prize is awarded on the basis of contributions made through work done primarily in India during the five years preceding the year of the Prize. The Prize comprises a citation, a plaque, and a cash award of Rs. 500,000. In addition recipients also get Rs 15,000 per month up to the age of 65 years.

CSIR's award for S&T Innovations for Rural Development

for 2009 to the Indian Oil Corporation's Research and Development Centre at Faridabad for its '**Servo AgroSpray Oil**' for pest control in crops. "Servo AgroSpray Oil" is environment friendly, non-toxic, bio-degradable and highly beneficial in diverse agricultural crops such as cotton, pulses, grains, mustard, groundnut, sugarcane, potato, tea, grapes, mango, apple, citrus fruits, etc.

Background:

- This CSIR Award for S&T Innovations for Rural Development (CAIRD) was instituted by Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in the year 2006 to recognise and honour outstanding Science & Technology innovations that have helped transform the lives of rural people.
- The prestigious award carries a shield, citation and cash prize of Rs. 10 lakh

SASTRA-Ramanuja award

Wei Zhang, Maths Professor of Harvard University.

SCOPE Awards

Individual Excellence Award: SAIL chairman S.K. Roongta

Institutional Excellence Award: Coal India

'Special Award of the Jury'.: Coal India Limited (CIL) Chairman P. S. Bhattacharyya

Other Winners: HEC (Turnaround); ECIL (Medium PSE)

& WAPCOS (Smaller PSE)

Background:

- Standing Conference of Public Sector Enterprises (SCOPE) excellence awards have been conceptualised and instituted to recognise the contribution of public enterprises and to encourage outstanding persons for their hard work and leadership qualities.
- Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) is an apex professional organization representing the Central Government Public Enterprises. It has also some State Enterprises, Banks, and other Institutions as its Members.
- Starting as a Society "New Horizon" in 1970 SCOPE came into existence in April 1973. It was formally recognized by the Government of India in November 1976.
- SCOPE's objective is to promote excellence in organizations where public investment is involved, in order to enable them to be globally competitive.

The Indian Science Award

- Declared in connection with the 97th Indian Science Congress has gone to **C.R. Rao, statistician**.
- The award, instituted by the Department of Science and Technology of the Union government, carries Rs.25 lakh in cash. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh gave away the award during the inaugural ceremony of the congress.

India Science Prize

- To eminent statistician Prof. C.R. Rao.
- India Science Prize, which carries a reward of Rs.25 lakh and a 200-gram gold medal, was presented on behalf of the Indian National Science Academy.

The Lasker Awards

The Lasker Awards, given in **four categories**, have been awarded annually since 1946 to living persons who have made major contributions to **medical science** or who have performed public service on behalf of medicine. They are administered by the **Lasker Foundation**, founded by advertising pioneer **Albert Lasker and his wife Mary Woodard Lasker** (later an influential medical research activist). The awards are sometimes referred to as "**America's Nobels**". It is generally believed that if one gets the Lasker, the Nobel usually follows. (Seventy-six Lasker laureates have received the Nobel Prize, including 28 in the last two decades).

Finance Minister of Asia Award to Shri Pranab Mukherjee

- India's Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee has won this year's award for Finance Minister of the Year for Asia. This year's award is based on **nominations from public and private sector** economists, analysts, bankers, investors and other experts.
- This award is from daily newspaper "**Emerging Markets**", part of Euromoney Institutional investor plc. one of the largest and most respected providers of financial information worldwide.
- It may be recalled that Shri Pranab Mukherjee was rated one of the best Finance Minister in the World in 1984 as well.

Aga Khan Award for 2008-2010

The 5 projects were awarded 11th The Aga Khan Award for Architecture; the recipients were:

Wadi Hanifa Wetlands, Riyadh, **Saudi Arabia**

Revitalisation of the Hypercentre of Tunis, **Tunisia**

Madinat Al-Zahra Museum, Cordoba, **Spain**

Ipekyol Textile Factory, Edirne, **Turkey**

Bridge School, Xiashi, Fujian, **China**

Background:

The Aga Khan Award for Architecture (AKAA) is **an architectural prize** established by Aga Khan IV in 1977. It aims to identify and reward architectural concepts that successfully address the needs and aspirations of Islamic societies in the fields of contemporary design, social housing, community development and improvement, restoration, reuse and area conservation, as well as landscape design and improvement of the environment. It is presented in three-year cycles to multiple projects and has a monetary award, with prizes totalling up to US\$ 500,000. Uniquely among architectural awards, it recognizes projects, teams, and stakeholders in addition to buildings and people.

Ernesto Illy Trieste Science Prize

- To renowned **energy expert Jose Goldemberg of Brazil**. The award was presented in the 21st general meeting of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) held at Hyderabad.
- **Ernesto Illy Trieste Science Prize**, co-sponsored by **illycaffè, TWAS** and the **Ernesto Illy Foundation**, is an annual prize given to a renowned researcher in a developing country or country with an emerging economy who has made significant contributions to science and scientific innovation. The prize, now in its sixth year, **includes a cash award of USD100,000**.

The academy of sciences for the developing world (TWAS)

TWAS, headquartered in Trieste, Italy, until 2004 named Third World Academy of Sciences is a merit-based science academy uniting 1,000 scientists in some 70 countries. Its principal aim is to promote scientific capacity and excellence for sustainable development in the South.

TWAS was founded in 1983 under the leadership of the late **Nobel Laureate Abdus Salam of Pakistan** by a group of distinguished scientists who were determined to do something about the dismal state of scientific research in developing countries.

Infosys Prize 2010

Category(5)	Winner	Comment
Mathematical Sciences	Professor Chandrashekhar Khare, Mathematics Department, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles	for his "fundamental contribution" to number theory
Physical Sciences	Professor Sandip Trivedi, Theoretical Physics Department, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai	what is the origin of dark energy and why there is no mass-less scalar particle (superstring theory)
Engineering and Computer Science	Professor Ashutosh Sharma, Chemical Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur	for his "fundamental contributions" in materials science.

Life Sciences	Dr. Chetan E. Chitnis, Principal Leader, Malaria Group, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), Delhi	his work had provided the basis for development of a viable malarial vaccine.
Social Sciences	Sociology Professor Amita Baviskar, Sociology Unit, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), Delhi Social Anthropology Professor Nandini Sundar, Sociology Department, Delhi School of Economics (DSE), Delhi	While Professor Baviskar won the prize for her work on social movements in contemporary India, Professor Sundar was awarded the prize for her contribution to the understanding of social identities

Award: Cash prize of 50 lakh (non taxed to recipient), a citation certificate and a gold medallion.

Background:

The Infosys Prize endeavors to **elevate the prestige of scientific research in India and inspire young Indians** to choose a vocation in scientific research.

The Infosys Science Foundation, a not-for-profit trust, was set up in February 2009 by the management of Infosys. The Foundation instituted the Infosys Prize, an **annual award**, to honor outstanding achievements of researchers and scientists across **five categories** : **Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Engineering and Computer Sciences, Mathematical Sciences and Life Sciences**, each carrying a prize of rupees 50 Lakh.

Environment

The Vasudha Award

Short films on environmental issues 'Niyamgiri You Are Still Alive,' directed by Suma Josson, and 'Kaippad,' directed by Babu Kambrath, were declared joint winners of 'The Vasudha Award,' **the country's only government award for an environmental film.**

The award instituted by the Short Film Centre (SFC) at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) carried a cash prize of Rs. 3 lakh.

Other Winners of Short Film Center awards- 2010

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION AWARDS			
Name of Award	Name of the Film	Award Money	Award Winner
"Golden Lamp Tree Award"	Extinction II	5 Lakhs	Mr. Fernando Uson Fornies, Spain
"Silver Lamp Tree Award"	The Flower Bud	3 Lakhs	Ms. Shumona Bannerjee
"Special Jury Mention Award"	Charulata...A Sequel of the Life Untold	2 Lakhs	Ms. Sangeeta Padhanabhan
"Certificate of Appreciation by the Jury"	Incurable India	No Money Award	Mr. Umesh Aggarwal

NDTV environment awards, "The Eco Greenies"

The Best Green Ambassador award - John Abraham.

The Lifetime Achievement Award -Veer Bhadra Mishra for creating awareness of the threats posed to the Ganga.
Special jury award-RTI activist **Amit Jethwa (posthumously) for exposing illegal mining in the Gir forest in Gujarat.**

There were winners from different fields in other categories.

Urban Mobility Award-2010

The **Jaipur City Transport Service** Limited, established in the Rajasthan Capital recently under the Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) scheme, has bagged the prestigious **Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM)** Urban Mobility Award-2010 for new technological applications and innovations.

Film and Television, Beauty contest etc

57th National Film Awards for the Year 2009

(The Directorate of Film Festivals today announced)

S. No.	Name of Award	Name of Film & Awardee	Comment	Medal & Cash Prize
1	BEST FEATURE FILM	Kutty Srank (Malayalam) Director : Shaji N. Karun	For its vision and cinematic craft that express the different perspectives of three women about the truth of the man in their lives.	Swarna Kamal Rs 2,50,000/- Each
2	INDIRA GANDHI AWARD FOR BEST DEBUT FILM OF A DIRECTOR	Lahore (Hindi) Director : Sanjay Puri Chauhan	For excellent control over the medium and using sports as the metaphor to tell a compelling story.	Swarna Kamal Rs 1,25,000/- Each
3	AWARD FOR BEST POPULAR FILM PROVIDING WHOLESOME ENTERTAINMENT	3 Idiots (Hindi) Producer: Vidhu Vinod Chopra Director : Raj Kumar Hirani	For an intelligent entertainer that touches upon the contemporary concerns of society with great humour and engaging performances.	Swarna Kamal Rs 2,00,000/- Each
4	NARGIS DUTT AWARD FOR BEST FEATURE FILM ON NATIONAL INTEGRATION	Delhi 6 (Hindi) Director & Producer : Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra	For its uncompromising stance towards communal divide and offering a humanistic solution of taking individual responsibility	Rajat Kamal Rs 1,50,000/- Each
5	BEST FILM ON SOCIAL ISSUES	Well Done Abba (Hindi) Director : Shyam Benegal	A socio-political satire about a common man's fight for justice against an all-pervasive corrupt system.	Rajat Kamal Rs 1,50,000/- Each

6	BEST CHILDREN'S FILM	Putaan Party (Kannada) Director : Ramchandra P.N. (Putaan Party) & Keshu (Malayalam) Director :Sivan (Keshu) Producer: Children's Film Society, India (for both films)	For the novel idea of empowering children to work as a Panchayat to combat alcoholism that destroys their future. For the sensitivity that explores the lonely world of a differently-abled child and the inability of the adults to recognise the genius in him.	Swarna Kamal Rs 1,50,000/-
7	BEST DIRECTION	Abohoman (Bengali) Rituparno Ghosh		Swarna Kamal Rs 2,50,000/-
8	BEST ACTOR	Paa (Hindi) Amitabh Bachchan	his third award for best actor.	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-
9	BEST ACTRESS	Abohoman (Bengali) Ananya Chatterjee		Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-
10	BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR	Lahore (Hindi) Farooque Sheikh		Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-
11	BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS	Paa (Hindi) Arundhati Naag		Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-

- The best film award in the **non-feature category** was shared by **The Postman** and **Bilal**.
- Oscar winner **Resul Pookutty** won an award for **best audiography in Kerala**
- The Awards returned to a two-tier format this year, regional juries making a shortlist considered by a central team with "recall" clause(reconsider the left out).

Background:

DIRECTORATE OF FILM FESTIVALS

- The Directorate of Film Festivals was set up under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in 1973 with the prime objective of promoting good cinema. This is undertaken by organising a range of activities under these broad categories.
- Throughout the years, it organises various film festivals, retrospectives, and film related events that help in introducing the general public to the idea of good cinema.

Asian Television award

- The Asian Television award for the **Best Current Affairs Presenter** was presented to **Karan Thapar** of the **CNN-IBN**.
- This is the **fifth time** that Mr. Thapar is winning the Best Current Affairs Presenter Award in the 15-year history of the Asian Television awards. He won the award in 1999, 2003, 2005 and 2007.
- This year Mr. Thapar won the award for his "**Devil's Advocate**" interview programme.

41st International Film Festival of India 2010 Awards

Golden Peacock award for Best Film	Gautam Ghosh	Moner Manush(THE QUEST) (Indo-Bangladesh joint production)
The Silver Peacock Award for the Best Director	Susanne Bier of Denmark	'In a Better World.'
Special Jury Award		'Just Another Love Story' from India and 'The Boy' from New Zealand

Gulzar, Oscar winning lyricist, poet and filmmaker received the **South Asian Cinema Foundation's life-time achievement award** .

The **London based** Foundation, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, has previously honoured Adoor Gopalakrishnan, M.S. Sathyu, Saeed Akhtar Mirza and Girish Kasaravalli.

Miss World 2010

Alexandria Mills from the **United States**.

India's Manasvi Mamgai failed to make it to top 20.

India's Nicole Faria is Miss Earth 2010

Sports

ICC awards 2010

- * **Cricketer of the Year: Sachin Tendulkar (India)**
- * **Test player of the year: Virender Sehwag (India)**
- * **Test team of the year: India**
- * ODI player of the year: AB de Villiers (South Africa)
- * ODI team of the year: Australia
- * ICC Emerging player of the year: Steven Finn (England)
- * Best T20 performance of the year: Brendon McCullum (New Zealand)
- * Spirit of Cricket award: New Zealand
- * ICC Associate player of the year: Ryan ten Doeschate
- * Umpire of the year: Aleem Dar (Pakistan)
- * Women's Cricketer of the Year: Shelley Nitschke (Australia)
- * **LG people's choice award: Sachin Tendulkar (India)**

Miscellaneous

Legion d' Honneur

HDFC Chairman Deepak Parekh was conferred the **Knight** in the order of **Legion d' Honneur**, the **France's highest honour**, for his work in "**bringing the businesses of the two countries together.**"

[note: M. Devendra Bharna, executive vice-president of Hotel Oberoi-Trident and M. Karambir Kang, former director-general of Hotel Taj Mahal were honoured with 'd'Officier de l'Ordre national du Merite' by France for being "efficient, attentive, courageous and taking decisions by risking their lives to save hundreds of lives" during 26/11 terror attack.]

Background

- The Legion of Honour, or in full the National Order of the Legion of Honour (French: Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur) is a French order established by Napoleon Bonaparte, First Consul of the First Republic, on 19 May 1802. The Order is the highest decoration in France and is divided into **five various degrees**: Chevalier (**Knight**), Officier (**Officer**), Commandeur (**Commander**), Grand Officier (**Grand Officer**) and Grand Croix (**Grand Cross**).
- Amitabh Bachchan, Lata Mangeshkar, IndiaSatyajit Ray, Ravi Shankar and some other Indians have received this honor previously.

CNN-IBN INDIAN OF THE YEAR 2010

Life Time Achievement: **M.S. Swaminathan**

Category	winner	for
Politics	NITISH KUMAR	For pulling off the most stunning electoral result in India by focusing on development in an underdeveloped state, triggering hope amongst millions.
Sports	SUSHIL KUMAR	For becoming the first Indian wrestler to win a world championship and following it with a gold at the Commonwealth Games.
Business	KUMAR MANGALAM BIRLA	For being an outstanding, no nonsense entrepreneur who has made a success out of most businesses he has entered into, including sunrise sectors.
Entertainment	SHANKAR	For being a filmmaker with an unbeatable track record of 100% hits in Tamil....the latest being the costliest Indian film ever produced 'Robot'.
Public Service	LADAKH ECOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP & SEEDS INDIA	For building environment friendly, flood and quake resistant housing involving community participation and local materials in Leh.

Special Achievement awards

- Special Achievement awards went to the Shillong Chamber Choir and the Indian Women's Relay Team of Manjeet Kaur, Sini Jose, Ashwini Akkunji, Mandeep Kaur.
- J. Gopikrishnan, journalist, who was instrumental in exposing the 2G spectrum scam, was honoured with the CNN-IBN Indian of the Year 2010 – Special Achievement Award.

Officer of the Order of St. Charles

DLF Chairman K.P. Singh being conferred with the decoration of Officer of the Order of St. Charles by Prince Albert II of Monaco. The award was presented in recognition of his contributions as Honorary Consul General of Monaco for the last 20 years.

CSAT (CIVIL SERVICES APTITUDE TEST 2011)

- **INTERACTIVE IAS PRELIM MOCK TESTS 2011: GENERAL STUDIES**
+ Current Affairs Notes

- **INTERACTIVE IAS APTITUDE TEST 2011**

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