

**CURRENT AFFAIRS DIGEST JANUARY TO MARCH 2014**

**Awards**

The activists who were chosen for the National Communal Harmony Award 2013 in the individual category – **Dr. Mohinder Singh and Dr. Radhakrishnan**

The Mumbai based organization working to promote peace, secularism and communal harmony, which was chosen for the National Communal Harmony Award 2013 in the organisation category – **Centre for Study of Society and Secularism (CSSS)**

The Indian author who was awarded the fourth DSC Prize for South Asian Literature for the year 2014 for his book Chronicle of a Corpse Bearer (at the Jaipur Literature Festival) – **Cyrus Mistry**

The Union Minister of Petroleum, Natural Gas and Environment who was presented with Pandit Haridutt Sharma Award – **Shri Veerappa Moily**

The social activists who were awarded the International Gandhi Award 2013 instituted by Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation for making outstanding contributions in the field of leprosy to eradicate the disease through treatment, training and research. – **Dr. Vijaykumar Vinayak Dongre and Professor Zhang Guocheng**

The first female amputee in the world to scale Mt. Everest and also the first Indian amputee to climb Mt Everest who was awarded the **Amazing Indian Award** instituted by Times Now channel – **Ms. Arunima Sinha**

The contemporary poet and thinker in Odia Literature who was awarded the 26th Moorti Devi Award by the Vice President Mr. Hamid Ansari – **Shri Haraprasad Das**

The noted string-theorist of the Department of Physics, Harish-Chandra Research Institute (HRI), Allahabad, who was chosen for the 23rd G.D. Birla Award for Scientific Research for 2013. – Prof. **Rajesh Gopakumar**

The noted Hindi writer who was chosen for the prestigious Saraswati Samman 2013 by KK Birla Foundation for his book Dhool Paudho Par – **Govind Mishra**

CNN-IBN senior editor and anchor who was awarded the prestigious Chameli Devi award for outstanding journalism – **Anubha Bhonsle**

The Czech priest who was chosen for the Templeton Prize 2014, instituted by the Templeton Foundation to honour a living person who has made an exceptional contribution to affirming life's spiritual dimension – **Tomas Halik**

The Indian writer who was awarded the Windham Campbell Literature Prize in the non-fiction category – **Pankaj Mishra**

The eminent Gandhian and environmentalist who was chosen for the Gandhi Peace Prize 2013 – **Chandi Prasad Bhatt**

The acid attack victim from India who was honoured with the International Women of Courage Award by the United States – **Laxmi**

## **Sports**

The Indian badminton player who won the Syed Modi International India Grand Prix title 2014 defeating PV Sindhu in the finals – **Saina Nehwal**

The Russian martial art which was recognised by the Olympic Council of Asia and included in the Asian Games, 2019 – **Sambo**

The former Indian athlete who was awarded the gold medal for her performance at the 2005 Monaco World Athletics Final following disqualification of the original winner Tatyana Kotova of Russia – **Anju Bobby George**

The Real Madrid and Portugal football star who was awarded the 2013 FIFA Ballon d'Or award – **Cristiano Ronaldo**

The table tennis player from PSPB who won the 75th Senior National Table Tennis Womens Championship held in Patna defeating Krittwika Sinha Roy in the finals – **Ankita Das**

The table tennis player from PSPB (Petroleum Sports Promotion Board) who won the 75th Senior National Table Tennis Mens Championship held in Patna defeating Harmeet Desai in the finals – **Sanil Shetty**

The country India defeated in the finals at Sharjah to win the U-19 Asia Cricket Cup title (Indian captain: Vijay Zol) – **Pakistan**

The New Zealand cricketer who hit the fastest century in one-day internationals in 36 deliveries overtaking Shahid Afridi's century off 37 deliveries – **Corey Anderson**

The Indian captain and wicket-keeper who became the first Indian to effect 300 dismissals in one-day internationals [He has also become the 4th in the world after Adam Gilchrist (472), Kumar Sangakkara (424) and Mark Boucher (424).] – **M.S. Dhoni**

The venue of the Third Lusofonia Games being held from Jan 18 to Jan 29 (The event involves athletes coming from Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) countries, namely those belonging to the CPLP (Community of Portuguese Language Countries), but also others where there are significant Portuguese communities or that have a common past with Portugal) – **Goa**

The Swiss professional tennis player who won the Chennai Open tennis tournament defeating Édouard Roger-Vasselin of France in the finals at SDAT Tennis Stadium in Chennai – **Stanislas Wawrinka**

The Indian cricketer who became the fastest person in the world to score 19 ODI centuries by doing it in 124 innings (thus breaking Chris Gayle's record of 19 ODI centuries in 189 innings) – **Virat Kohli**

The winner of Ranji Trophy which defeated the Rest of India team to win the Irani Trophy – **Karnataka**

The athlete from France who established a new pole vault indoor record by clearing 6.16 meters and breaking Sergei Bubka's record made in 1993 – **Renaud Lavillenie**

The Indian badminton player who having entered the finals of Malaysia Grand Prix Gold 2014, lost to Indonesian player Simon Santoso – **Saurabh Varma**

The former Indian skipper who was appointed by the Supreme Court as the interim president of the BCCI to discharge the functions of the Indian Premier League 2014 – **Sunil Gavaskar**

The country which won the Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey Tournament 2014, defeating Malaysia in the finals (this was the 8th time that the country has won the tournament) – **Australia**

The team which won the Vijay Hazare Cricket Trophy defeating Railways in the finals at Eden Gardens, Kolkata – **Karnataka**

The team which won the 68th Santosh Trophy Football Tournament (for the first time) by defeating Railways in the finals held at Kanchanjunga Stadium, Siliguri – **Mizoram**

The team which won the Asia Cup 2014 Cricket Tournament by defeating Pakistan in the finals held at Shere Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur (India stood third. Man of the Series – Lahiru Thirimanne of Sri Lanka.) – **Sri Lanka**

The team which won (for the first time) the Under 19 Cricket World Cup tournament held in Dubai, defeating Pakistan in the finals (India, the winner of the cup in 2012 finished 5th this time) – **South Africa**

The venue of XI Winter Paralympic Games being held from 07 March to 16 March – **Sochi, Russia**

### **Places - International**

The African nation which adopted a new constitution on 26 January 2013, three years after the ouster of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali at the beginning of Arab Spring – **Tunisia**

The African nation which has added the Indian Rupee to its basket of currencies to be circulated in the country (Note: The country does not have its own currency) – **Zimbabwe**

The South Asian nation which has declared a state of emergency in its capital and surrounding areas to deal with mass street protests aimed at overthrowing the government – **Thailand**

The middle-east country where people approved new Constitution by 98.1 percent in a nation-wide referendum recently – **Egypt**

Fragile Five, a term coined by a research analyst at Morgan Stanley lists five economies due to their dependence on foreign investment to finance their growth ambitions. The five nations are – **Turkey, Brazil, India, South Africa and Indonesia**

The air base in Bahrain at which an International Airshow was held from 16 to 18 Jan 14, with Indian showcasing models of Light Combat Aircraft, Tejas and multi-mission UAV, Nishant etc. – **Sakhir Airbase**

The capital city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan which has been termed as largest reservoir of endemic polio virus in the world by World Health Organisation – **Peshawar**

The country which has become the 18th member of the Eurozone i.e. countries using the Euro as their currency – **Latvia**

The European nation whose Parliament passed a bill allowing euthanasia for terminally ill children without any age limit becoming the first country in the world to do so – **Belgium**

The autonomous republic in the south-western region of Ukraine where the residents have voted in favour of secession from Ukraine in a referendum held recently – **Crimea**

The venue of third BIMSTEC summit (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) held from 01 Mar to 04 Mar 2014, India represented by Dr. Manmohan Singh – **Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar**

### **Places - National**

The place in Maharashtra where **Krishi Vasant**, a national level agriculture fair-cum-exhibition, is being organized jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and Government of Maharashtra from February 9 to 13, 2014 – **Nagpur**

The State which has been selected as the Best State for providing self employment to urban poor under SJGRY ( Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rajgar Yojana) 2012-13, by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation – **Odisha**

The place in Bihar where the remains of an ancient Tiladhak University set up in 5th Century have been discovered – **Telhara, Nalanda**

The place in Fatehabad district of Haryana where foundation stone of India's largest 2800 mw nuclear power plant was laid by the PM Dr. Manmohan Singh – **Gorakhpur**

The railway station at which Platform No. 1 entered the Limca Book of Records as being the world's longest platform with a length of 1355.40 m surpassing the platform at Kharagpur with a length of 1072.5 m – **Gorakhpur**

The place at which a LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) Terminal of Petronet LNG was dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh on January 4, 2014 – **Puthuvype, Kochi**

The venue of 12th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas was held from 07 to 09 Jan 2014 – **Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi**

The city in which TCS has decided to set the world's largest corporate learning and development centre, the foundation stone of which was laid by PM Dr. Manmohan Singh on 04.01.13 – **Thiruvananthapuram**

The place in Uttar Pradesh parliamentary approval was accorded for setting up a Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University – **Jhansi**

The place in Chennai where country's first Post Office Savings Bank ATM was inaugurated by Union Finance Minister P Chidambaram – **T Nagar**

The place in Odisha where All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) was dedicated to the people of Odisha by the Union Health Minister Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad – **Bhubaneshwar**

The place in Andhra Pradesh where Atomic Minerals Directorate found deposits of lanthanite, a rare mineral of uranium containing two types of uranium (U6+ and U4+), for the first time in India – **Akkavaram village in Mahbubnagar district**

The city in Andhra Pradesh which was selected for the Best Heritage City for 2012-13 by the Union Tourism Ministry – **Tirupati**

The Indian state which became the first to achieve 100% sanitation in rural and urban households, schools, sanitary complexes and Aanganwadi centres – **Sikkim**

The venue of 101st Indian Science Congress held from 03 to 07 February and inaugurated by the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh – **Jammu**

The north-eastern states which became the first in the country to issue Plastic Photo Identity Card for elections in 2014 – **Assam and Nagaland**

The venue of 4th International Exhibition and Conference on Civil Aviation, India Aviation-2014, organised jointly by Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) from March 12-16. – **Hyderabad**

## **Defence**

The Indian Navy submarine on which a fire erupted killing two officers and injuring several others (Navy Chief Admiral DK Joshi resigned accepting moral responsibility for Naval accidents) – **INS Sindhuratna**

The largest exercise launched by the Indian Navy for the first time under the gaze of India's first dedicated military satellite GSAT-7 or "Rukmini" involving INS Viraat, INS Chakra (Nuclear Submarine) and over 50 warships is named – **Tropex**

The six-day multi-nation Naval exercise involving navies from 17 nations held from 04 Feb to 09 Feb was named (Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Thailand.) – **Milan 2014**

The lead ship of Kolkata class guided missile destroyers aboard which a gas leakage claimed the life of Commander Kunal Wadhwa at Mazagaon Dock Limited – **INS Kolkata**

The two-week long joint exercise between the armies of Nepal and India being at the Integrated Army Training Centre (IATC) at Saljhandi in Rupandehi district of southern Nepal is named – **Surya Kiran VI**

The Multilateral Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HA/DR) Exercise, which was conducted from 28 Mar to 03 Apr 14 at Indonesia with Indian Navy being represented by INS Sukanya with integral Chetak is named – **KOMODO**

### **Technology**

The SD card sized computer 'a full Pentium-class PC' powered by a dual-core Quark SOC with built-in Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity launched by Intel is named – **Edison**

The internet spy system developed by Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), a lab under Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to be deployed by security agencies in India is named – **Netra**

The power grid which has been synchronously connected to the rest of the Grid in the country thus accomplishing the mission of **One Nation – One Grid – One Frequency** through commissioning of Raichur-Solapur 765 kV single circuit transmission line by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited – **Southern Grid**

The cloud computing initiative of the Government of India launched by the Shri. Kapil Sibal, Minister of Communications and Information Technology on 04 Feb 14 has been given the name – **Meghraj**

The system developed by Jonah Brucker-Cohen to track the distance travelled by an e-mail is named – **Email Miles**

The ticketing scheme launched by IRCTC to make payment of fare during online ticket booking faster and to avoid transaction failure is named – **E-wallet scheme**

### **Persons**

Noted Hindi litterateur and Jnanpith award winner of 2009 who breathed his last on 17 February – **Amarkant**

The creator of Flappy Bird game who has decided to remove the game from App Store is – **Dong Nguyen**

The well-known filmmaker, screenwriter, editor and cinematographer (director of Hindi film Sadma) who died on 13 February – **Balu Mahendra**

The leader of Nepali Congress who has been elected to be the new Prime Minister of Nepal – **Sushil Koirala**

The Ghazal singer and musician in whose memory commemorative stamps were released by the PM Dr. Manmohan Singh – **Shri Jagjit Singh**

The former Supreme Court Judge who has been appointed as chairman of the 7th Central Pay Commission – **Justice Ashok Kumar Mathur**

The executive vice president of Microsoft's Cloud and Enterprise group who has been appointed the CEO of Microsoft succeeding Steve Ballmer – **Satya Nadella**

The Union Minister of Water Resources who has taken over as the new Chief Minister of Uttarakhand from Shri Vijay Chauhan – **Shri Harish Rawat**

The Indian doctor in Mount Sinai Hospital of United States who has implanted the first miniature-sized, leadless cardiac pacemaker directly inside a patient's heart without surgery – **Dr. Vivek Reddy**

The seniormost judge of the Supreme Court who has been recommended to be the 41st Chief Justice of India to succeed CJI P. Sathasivam retiring on April 26 – **Justice R.M. Lodha**

The environment engineer of the Puducherry Pollution Control Committee who has been awarded the Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puraskar (IGPP) for his efforts to improve the environment in and around his village of Pillayarkuppam in Cuddalore – **N. Ramesh**

The Princeton University (US) professor of mathematics, who has been awarded the 2014 Abel Prize (also known as Mathematician's Nobel, by the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters for his influential 50-year career in mathematics – **Yakov Sinai**

The person who has become the first woman to head a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking by becoming the CMD of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited – **Nishi Vasudeva**

The former Chief Minister of Delhi, who has been appointed the Governor of Kerala – **Mrs Sheila Dixit**

The present Governor of Uttar Pradesh who has been sworn in as its Governor for the second time – **Shri BL Joshi**

### **Govt Schemes/Progs**

The city in which the Union Health Minister, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad launched the National Urban Health Mission, a nationwide scheme, expected to cover 779 urban areas with over 50,000 population by March 2015 – **Bangalore**

The anti-corruption helpline number launched by Delhi government is – **1031**

The health programme for adolescents (10 to 19 years of age) launched by Health Minister, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad on 07 Jan 2014 is named – **Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram**

The minimum monthly pension under the Employment Pension Scheme 95 run by Employees Provident Fund Organisation has been revised to – **Rs. 1000**

Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Boys which was launched by Union Minister of Woman and Child Development, Krishna Tirath is named – **Saksham**

### **Banks**

The public sector bank which has launched its channel on Youtube in order to strengthen its social media presence – **State Bank of India**

Reserve Bank of India has decided to withdraw with effect from 01 April 2014 all currency notes printed prior to – **2005**

The public sector bank which has become the first in the country to launch a domestic remittance service called 'Instant money transfer (IMT)' that allows cardless cash withdrawal from its select ATMs which are tuned for this facility – **Bank Of India**

### **World Indices**

The rank of India in the Global Food Index compiled by Oxfam, an international aid and charity organisation, in a ranking of 125 countries – **97**

The rank of India in the World Press Freedom Index 2013 released by the organization Reporter without Borders – **140**

### **Miscellaneous**

The new portal launched for the benefit of children on the 66th death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi by Sam Pitroda, Advisor to the Prime Minister is named – **www.searchforgandhi.in**

The national park from which famous tigress Machli was reported missing in January but found after about a month in February – **Ranthambore National Park**

The Geological Survey version of Advanced Light Helicopter equipped with Heliborne Geophysical Survey System (HGSS) and dedicated to the nation by Shri Dinsha Patel, Minister of Mines is named – **Garuda Vasudha**

The British teenager who at the age of 16, has become the youngest person to reach the South Pole – **Lewis Clarke**



The National Dance & Music Competition for Specially Talented Artists with Disabilities organised by Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, at Sirifort Auditorium, New Delhi on 15-16 January 2014 is named – **SAMARTH 2014**

The political party led by Mrs. Sheikh Hasina which has won the elections held in Bangladesh – **Awami League**

The world's largest dairy player based in France which has entered Indian market by acquiring Indian dairy products company Tirumala Milk Products Private Limited – **Groupe Lactalis SA**

The oceanographic research ship which was trapped by ice sheets on its way to Antarctica with the members of Australasian Antarctic Expedition on board was named (The expedition members were finally rescued using a helicopter from Chinese ice-breaker Xue Long on 02 Jan 2013) – **Akademik Shokalskiy**

The price at which Facebook has acquired Whatsapp a cross-platform instant messaging subscription service for smartphones – **\$19 billion**

The language which was granted the status of sixth classical language of the country (other classical languages are Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam) – **Odia**

The constitutional amendment relating to introduction of Panchayati Raj which has been extended to Jammu and Kashmir – **73rd Amendment**

The volcano on the Indonesian island of Sumatra which erupted just a day after thousands of villagers living nearby were allowed to return to their homes – **Mt. Sinabung**

The monorail service inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Prithviraj Chavan is scheduled to run initially between – **Wadala and Chembur**

The State which has been chosen as the theme state at the 28th Surajkund Crafts Mela in Faridabad district of Haryana – **Goa**

The country which has been chosen as the partner nation at the 28th Surajkund Crafts Mela in Faridabad district of Haryana – **Sri Lanka**

The race course in Mumbai, which completed 130 years of its establishment recently – **Mahalaxmi Race Course**

The non-profit organisation which has started the first of its kind water vending machine, **AQUATM**, in Mumbai – **Vandana Foundation**

The pain-killer and anti-pyretic drug on which the Government has revoked a ban allowing its sale and manufacture but with a warning (the ban was imposed in June 2013) – **Analgin**

MH370, a Malaysian Air Service passenger plane which disappeared en route from Kuala Lumpur International Airport to Beijing Capital International Airport was a – **Boeing 777-200ER**

## **Republic Day Celebrations 2014**

Best Marching Contingent at the Republic Day celebrations 2014 among the services – **Territorial Army (Sikh LI)**

Chief Guest at the Republic Day celebrations 2014 – **Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan**

### **Themes of Republic Tableaus – 2014**

The following are the themes of various tableaus on the occasion of Republic Day Celebrations 2014.

#	Tableu	Theme	Award
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Subhah-e-Banaras	
2.	Meghalaya	Areca Nut	
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Aji Lhamu Dance	
4.	Uttarakhand	Jadi Buti	
5.	Maharashtra	Coconut Festival	
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nomads of Jammu and Kashmir	
7.	Rajasthan	Kavad Kala and Terah Taali Dance	
8.	Karnataka	Tipu Sultan-The Valiant Warrior	
9.	Chhattisgarh	Bhumkal Freedom Movement of Bastar	
10.	West Bengal	Purulia Chhau - The Choreographic Jewel of West Bengal	Best Tableau
11.	Tamil Nadu	Pongal Festival	Second Best Tableau
12.	Assam	Dr. Bhupen Hazarika - The Golden Voice of Assam	Third Best Tableau
13.	Chandigarh	Rock Garden of Chandigarh	

### **Australian Open 2014**

Event	Winner	Nationality	Runner-up	Nationality
Men's Singles	Stanislas Wawrinka	Switzerland	Rafal Nadal	Spain
Women's Singles	Li Na	China	Dominika Cibulkova	Slovakia
Men's Doubles	L Kubot R Lindstedt	Poland Sweden	E Butorac R. Klaasen	USA RSA
Women's Doubles	S Errani R Vinci	Italy	E. Makarova E. Vesnina	Russia
Mixed Doubles	K Mladenovic D Nestor	France Canada	Sania Mirza H. Tecau	India Romania

### **BCCI Awards – 2012-13**

Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award : **Kapil Dev**

Polly Umrigar Award, for being India's best international cricketer of 2012-13 : **Ravichandran Ashwin**

Lala Amarnath Award for the best all-rounder in the Ranji Trophy, 2012-13 : **Abhishek Nayar**

Best Umpire in domestic cricket in 2012-13 : **C. Shamshuddin**

Dilip Sardesai Award for being India's best cricketer in 2013-14 test series against West Indies : **Rohit Sharma**

### **Launch of GSLV – D5**

Launch Station : **Sriharikota**

Launch Date : **05 January 2014**

Satellite put into orbit : **GSAT-14**

Powered by indigenous cryogenic engine

India became the **6th nation** after US, Russia, Japan, France and China to indigenously manufacture cryogenic engines.

**History in brief** : ISRO had tested its first indigenous cryogenic engine in April 2010. The engine failed shortly after the cryogenic stage ignited. India tried to relaunch the GSLV-D5 in August 2013 but a leak in the liquid fuel tank aborted the mission 2 hours before take off.

### **59th Filmfare Awards – 2014**

Best Film - **Bhaag Milkha Bhaag**

Best Director - **Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra** (Bhaag Milkha Bhaag)

Best Actor - **Farhan Akhtar** (Bhaag Milkha Bhaag)

Best Actress - **Deepika Padukone** – Goliyon Ki Rasleela RamLeela

Best Debut (Director) - **Ritesh Batra** – The Lunchbox

Lifetime Achievement Award - **Tanuja**

### **New Criteria for selection of sportspersons for Arjuna Awards**

The criteria would be applicable for selection of sportspersons for Arjuna Awards for the year 2014 onwards.

Points for winning medals will be given to each eligible sportsperson for his/her performance during the last **4 years** as per marks given in the table below:

S.No.	Event	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
1.	World Championship/World Cup (once in 4 years)	40	30	20
2.	Asian Games	30	25	20
3.	Commonwealth Games	25	20	15
4.	World Championship/World Cup (biennial/annual)	25	20	15
5.	Asian Championship	15	10	7
6.	Commonwealth Championship	15	10	7

Winners of medals in Olympics and Paralympics will automatically be considered for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna or Arjuna Awards, depending on the type of medal won, if they have already not been conferred with either of the two Awards.

**90 % weightage** will be given for the medals won in various International championships and sports events of the disciplines covered in Olympic Games (Summer, Winter and Paralympics), Asian Games and Commonwealth Games.

For cricket and indigenous games, not included in Olympic / Asian Games / Commonwealth Games disciplines, the Selection Committee will recommend the number of awards, (not exceeding two), to be given for Cricket/Indigenous Games and recommend the sportspersons taking into consideration their individuals performances and qualities of sportsman spirit, leadership, sense of discipline etc.

Ordinarily, **not more than one award** will be given in each discipline in a particular year subject to deserving sportspersons being available. Adequate representation would be insured for physically challenged and women.

The principle of one award per discipline will not be applicable in case of team sports and across gender. That is to say that, the Selection Committee may recommend, in deserving cases with proper justification, more than one sportsperson in respect of team sports and sportspersons of both the genders.

Normally **not more than 15 awards** could be given in any calendar year. However, keeping in view the performance of Indian sportspersons in the Commonwealth, Asian Games and Olympic Games during a particular year and for the reasons given in para 7 above, Selection Committee may recommend more than 15 sportspersons for Arjuna Award.

In a particular sports discipline, names of **not more than 4 sportspersons** (2 male and 2 female) with the highest marks as per the criteria brought out in the table above will be considered by the Selection Committee.

Selection Committee will recommend the final list of sportspersons for Arjuna Awards as per the marks obtained in terms of the criteria indicated above and place it before the Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports for the final decision.

## **FICCI Sports Awards - 2014**

Sportsperson of the Year - **Deepika Kumari (Archery)**

Breakthrough Sportsperson of the Year - **PV Sindhu (Badminton)**

Most Inspiring Sportsperson of the Year - **Yuvraj Singh**

Para-Sportsman of the Year - **Devendra Jhajharia**

Lifetime Achievement Award - **Rahul Dravid**

## **Launch of 3 Medical Detection Kits by Union Health Minister Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad on 20.02.14.**

1. A water-borne pathogen detection kit indigenously manufactured by National Institute of Nutrition, to detect five pathogens — Salmonella, Staphylococcus aureus, Listeria, Vibrio cholerae, Vibrio parahaemolyticus (main causes of food poisoning and food-borne infections).
2. A kit to estimate the quantity of ferritin and diagnose iron deficiency anaemia individually as well as for mass level screening.
3. A kit based on dried blood spot collection system for Plasma Vitamin-A estimation for diagnosing Vitamin-A deficiency.

## **Sochi Winter Olympics - 2014**

Host Country - Russia

Dates held - 07 Feb to 23 Feb 2014

Participating nations : 88

Mascots - Polar bear, a Snow hare, and a Snow leopard

### **Medals Tally**

#	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	Russia	13	11	9	33
2.	Norway	11	5	10	26
3.	Canada	10	10	5	25
4.	United States	9	7	12	28
5.	The Netherlands	8	7	9	24

### **Indian Participants at the Games**

1. Shri Shiva Keshavan - Luge
2. Shri Himanshu Thakur – Alpine Skiing

3. Shri Nadeem Iqbal – Alpine Skiing

### **KRISHI KARMAN AWARDS**

The President presented Krishi Karman Awards to Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Bihar, Meghalaya and agriculture Ministers of other nine States for excellence in foodgrain production.

For total foodgrain production, **Madhya Pradesh** got the award in large category (foodgrain production more than 10 million tonnes), **Odisha** in medium category (foodgrain production 1 to 10 million tonnes) and **Manipur** in small category (foodgrain production less than 1 million tonnes).

In individual foodgrain crops, **Chhattisgarh** received the award for rice, **Bihar** for wheat, **Jharkhand** for pulses and **Andhra Pradesh** for coarse cereals.

### **Khushwant Singh - Important Facts**

Born : 02 February 1915

Died: **20 March 2014**

Career - Lawyer (1938), Indian Foreign Service (1947), All India Radio (1951)

Former Editor: Yojana, The Illustrated Weekly, The National Herald and The Hindustan Times

Famous Column: **With Malice Towards One and All**

Padma Vibhushan - 2007

Some Well-known Books Written by Khushwant Singh: Train to Pakistan, A History of Sikhs, Delhi - A Novel, The Sunset Club and The Good, The Bad and The Ridiculous

### **Fortune magazine's list of World's Greatest Leaders**

1. Pope Francis
2. Angela Merkel, German Chancellor
3. Alan Mulally, CEO of Ford Motor Co.
4. Warren Buffett, CEO of Berkshire Hathaway
5. Bill Clinton
6. Aung San Suu Kyi
7. Gen. Joe Dunford, Commander of U.S. Force, Afghanistan
8. Bono, lead singer of U2

9. Dalai Lama

10. Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon.com

34. Malala Yousafzai

40. Anand Mahindra, Chairman, Mahindra and Mahindra

48. Lakshmi Mittal, CEO, Arcelor Mittal

### **ESPN-Cricinfo 2013 Awards**

Cricketer of the Generation : **Sachin Tendulkar**

Contribution to Cricket : **Tarak Sinha**

Debut of the Year : **Mohammed Shami**

ODI Batting Performance of the Year : **Rohit Sharma**

ODI Bowling Performance of the Year : **Shahid Afridi**

Test Batting Performance of the Year : **Shikhar Dhawan**

Test Bowling Performance of the Year : **Mitchell Johnson**

### **Stree Shakti Puraskar for 2013**

The President of India conferred the Stree Shakti Puraskar for the year 2013 on the occasion of International Women's Day. Each award carries a cash prize of Rs. 3 lakh and citation.

#	Person	State	Award	Remarks
1.	Smt. Manasi Pradhan	Odisha	Rani Lakshmibai Award	For her work in the field of women's empowerment
2.	Dr. M Venkaiah	Andhra Pradesh	Rani Rudamma Devi Award	For his contribution in the field of women's health.
3	Mrs. Bina Sheth Lashkari	Maharashtra	Mata Jijabai Award	For her achievement in the field of education and training.
4.	Mrs. T. Radha K. Prashanti	Andhra Pradesh	Kannagi Award	For her achievement in the field of providing support to orphans, visually impaired, handicapped and destitute women.
5.	Dr. Vartika Nanda	Delhi	Rani Gaidinliu Zeliang Award	For her creating awareness on women's issues through media.
6.	Dr. Seema Sakhare	Maharashtra	Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Award	For her contribution in the field of women's rights, gender issues, legal counselling and institutional support to women and girls.

## **86<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards 2014 (Oscars)**

1. - Best Picture - **12 Years a Slave**
2. - Best Director - **Alfonso Cuaron** for Gravity
3. - Best Actor - **Matthew McConaughey** for Dallas Buyers Club
4. - Best Actress - **Cate Blanchett** for Blue Jasmine
5. - Best Animated Film - **Frozen**
6. - Best Foreign Language Film - **The Great Beauty** (Italy)

Note: Gravity won the maximum (7) Academy Awards

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