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APRIL MONTH

AWARD

2026



DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAY
PANCHAYAT SATAT
VIKAS PURASKAR 2025



NANAJI DESHMUKH
SARVOTTAM PANCHAYAT
SATAT VIKAS PURASKAR 2025



INTERNATIONAL
BOOKER PRIZE
2026



INDIA'S MOST
EXPENSIVE ARTWORK



CHETAK SCREEN
AWARDS 2026



EXCELLENCE
RECOGNITION

April Month Award 2026

International Booker Prize 2026 Shortlist Announced Featuring Six Translated Novels from Around the World

- The International Booker Prize 2026 shortlist has been announced featuring six translated novels from across the world, highlighting themes such as human struggle, identity, exile, political unrest, and resilience.
- The award recognises outstanding fiction translated into English and published in the United Kingdom or Ireland, promoting global storytelling and cross-cultural literary exchange.
- According to judging panel chair Natasha Brown, the shortlisted works collectively reflect hope, emotional depth, insight, and the “burning humanity” of contemporary global literature.
- The six shortlisted books for International Booker Prize 2026 are:
 - **The Nights Are Quiet in Tehran** by Shida Bazayr, which narrates the story of an Iranian family from the 1979 Revolution to exile, highlighting political upheaval and generational trauma
 - **She Who Remains** by Rene Karabash, which explores identity and survival through the life of a woman living as a man in the Albanian mountains
 - **The Director** by Daniel Kehlmann, which depicts the life of filmmaker G. W. Pabst during Hollywood and Nazi-era Austria
 - **On Earth As It Is Beneath** by Ana Paula Maia, which presents a dark narrative set in a harsh penal colony exploring morality and survival
 - **The Witch** by Marie NDiaye, which tells a dreamlike story of a sorceress and her daughters
 - **Taiwan Travelogue** by Yang Shuang-zi, which portrays a historical journey of culture and identity in 1930s Taiwan
- The shortlisted books explore important themes such as:
 - life in exile
 - cultural belonging
 - political resistance
 - human resilience amid hardship
 - hope, endurance, emotional strength, and human connection
- The International Booker Prize, since 2016 in its present format, awards £50,000 prize money, which is equally shared between the author and translator, recognising the importance of translated literature in global literary exchange.
- The winner of the International Booker Prize 2026 will be announced on 19 May 2026 at a ceremony to be held at Tate Modern, and the winning book will join the list of globally recognised literary works with enhanced international readership and influence.

Tripura Panchayats Won Top Honours at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025 and Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025

- Tripura achieved a major milestone as three Panchayats secured top honours at the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025 and Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025, presented by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- Sepahijala District Panchayat secured 1st rank in the Best District Panchayat category under the Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025.



- **Kanchanbari Gram Panchayat** of Unakoti district secured **1st rank under the Healthy Panchayat category** of the **Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025**.
- **Baikunthapur Gram Panchayat** of West Tripura district secured **3rd rank under the Women Friendly Panchayat category** of the **Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar 2025**.
- **Financial incentives announced:**
 - **Sepahijala District Panchayat** will receive **Rs 5 crore**
 - **Kanchanbari Gram Panchayat** will receive **Rs 1 crore**
 - **Baikunthapur Gram Panchayat** will receive **Rs 50 lakh**
- These awards recognise **excellence in Panchayat level governance, sustainable development practices, health initiatives, and women friendly local administration** under the Panchayat Sustainable Development Goals framework.

'Yashoda and Krishna' by Raja Ravi Varma Became India's Most Expensive Artwork After Selling for ₹167.20 Crore

- The painting **Yashoda and Krishna** by **Raja Ravi Varma** became the **most expensive artwork ever sold in India**, after being auctioned for **₹167.20 crore (approximately United States Dollar 17.98 million)** in **Mumbai**.
- The painting was created in the **1890s** and the sale has **set a new benchmark** for Indian artworks at global auction markets, highlighting the growing international recognition of India's artistic heritage.
- The record **surpassed the previous benchmark set by artworks of Maqbool Fida Husain**, whose paintings earlier dominated high-value auctions in India.
- The artwork depicts a mythological scene of Yashoda milking a cow while Lord Krishna playfully reaches for a goblet of milk, reflecting emotional depth, realism, and devotional storytelling.
- The painting was purchased by **Cyrus S. Poonawalla**, Chairman of **Serum Institute of India**, who described the painting as a **national treasure** and expressed commitment to **preserve it and make it available periodically for public viewing**.
- **Raja Ravi Varma** is regarded as **one of India's greatest painters**, known for introducing **European oil painting techniques into Indian art** and blending them with **Indian mythological themes**.
- He played a transformational role in shaping modern Indian art by making mythological depictions more realistic and relatable to the public.
- In 1894, he established a lithographic press, which enabled mass production of affordable prints of his paintings, allowing his artworks to reach households across India.
- Born in **1848 in Travancore, Kerala**, **Raja Ravi Varma's works continue to inspire artists and remain highly valued by collectors worldwide**.

Chetak Screen Awards 2026 Honoured Excellence in Indian Cinema; Dhurandhar Won 14 Awards and Homebound Won Best Film

- The **Chetak Screen Awards 2026** celebrated outstanding achievements in **Indian cinema** at a grand ceremony held in **New Delhi**.
- The film **Dhurandhar** emerged as the **biggest winner of the night**, winning **14 awards across major performance and technical categories**.
- The **Best Film award** was won by **Homebound**, which was also **nominated for the Academy Awards 2026**, highlighting its **strong storytelling and global recognition**.
- **Ranveer Singh** won the **Best Actor (Male)** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Yami Gautam** won the **Best Actor (Female)** award for **Haq**.
- **Aditya Dhar** won the **Best Director** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Akshaye Khanna** won the **Best Supporting Actor (Male)** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Shalini Vatsa** won the **Best Supporting Actor (Female)** award for **Homebound**.
- **Ahaan Panday** won the **Breakthrough Actor (Male)** award for **Saiyaara**.



- **Aneet Padda** won the **Breakthrough Actor (Female)** award for **Saiyaara**.
- **Shazia Iqbal** won the **Breakthrough Director** award for **Dhadak 2**.
- **Vikash Nowlakha** won the **Best Cinematography** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Shivkumar V. Panicker** won the **Best Editing** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Saini S. Johray** won the **Best Production Design** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Bishwadeep Chatterjee** won the **Best Sound Design** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Dhurandhar** also won the **Best Special Effects (Visual Effects)** award.
- **Homebound** won the **Best Story and Screenplay** award.
- **Aditya Dhar** won the **Best Dialogue** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- The **Best Song** award was won by the **title track of Saiyaara**.
- **Gulzar** won the **Best Lyrics** award for **Gustaakh Ishq**.
- **Faheem Abdullah** won the **Best Playback Singer (Male)** award for **Saiyaara**.
- **Shreya Ghoshal** won the **Best Playback Singer (Female)** award for **Saiyaara**.
- **Shashwat Sachdev** won the **Best Background Score** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Shararat** won the **Best Choreography** award for **Dhurandhar**.
- **Chhaava** and **Dhurandhar** jointly received the **Best Costume Design** award.
- **Dhurandhar** also won awards for **Best Makeup and Hairstyling** and **Best Action**.
- **Haq** received the **Best Film for Gender Sensitivity** award.
- In the **Over The Top platform category**, **Stolen** won the **Best Over The Top Film** award.
- **Abhishek Banerjee** won the **Best Over The Top Actor (Male)** award for **Stolen**.
- **Sanya Malhotra** won the **Best Over The Top Actor (Female)** award for **Mrs**.
- **Karan Tejpal** won the **Best Over The Top Director** award for **Stolen**, which also received the **Best Over The Top Script** award.
- The performance of **Dhurandhar** across acting and technical categories highlighted its **excellence in both cinematic storytelling and production quality**, while **Homebound's Best Film award reflected the importance of strong narrative depth and audience connection**.

Anita Chaudhary Honoured with World Wide Fund for Nature Machchli National Award for Wildlife Conservation

- **Anita Chaudhary**, posted at **Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary**, has rescued nearly **500 wild animals** since **2021** and taken strong action against poachers, smugglers, and illegal mining activities.
- In recognition of her conservation efforts, she was honoured with the **World Wide Fund for Nature Machchli National Award** by the **World Wide Fund for Nature**.

Key Highlights

- **Anita Chaudhary**, aged **30**, has emerged as a symbol of courage and commitment to wildlife conservation
- She has rescued **more than 500 wild animals**, including high-risk species such as crocodiles
- She has been serving in **Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary** for nearly **10 years**
- The sanctuary spans about **9,880 hectares** and is home to species such as **leopards, sloth bears, hyenas, wild boars, chinkaras, and sambar deer**
- The sanctuary lies between **Rajasthan** and **Madhya Pradesh**, making it ecologically significant
- She registered **more than 50 First Information Reports** against poachers and illegal activities
- Her efforts helped reduce **illegal mining, hunting, grazing, and forest produce smuggling including tendu leaves**
- She contributed to creating **water sources such as check dams and ponds** to prevent animals from leaving the sanctuary
- The **World Wide Fund for Nature Machchli National Award** is named after the famous tigress **Machli of Ranthambore National Park**
- Her work highlights the importance of grassroots-level conservation and has inspired young forest personnel to protect forest ecosystems

Banaras Hindu University Wins Association of Indian Universities National Moot Court Competition 2026

- **Banaras Hindu University** won the **Association of Indian Universities National Moot Court Competition 2026** held at **Integral University**, securing the **first position along with a cash prize of ₹25,000**, trophies, and medals while Chandigarh University secured the runner-up position with Rs 11,000.
- The competition witnessed participation from around **40 teams across India**, making it a prestigious national-level legal event organized by the **Association of Indian Universities**.

Key Highlights

Position	University	Prize
Winner	Banaras Hindu University	₹25,000
Runner-up	Chandigarh University	₹11,000

- The competition was conducted from **9 to 11 April 2026**
- Around **40 teams from across India** participated in the competition
- **Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia National Law University** received the **Best Researcher Award**
- **Army Institute of Law** received a **special recognition award**
- **Mallika Chadha** from **Lovely Professional University** received the **Best Speaker Award**
- **Aligarh Muslim University** received the **Inspiring Excellence Award**
- **Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University** and **University of Lucknow** were recognized as **Best Regional Teams**
- The competition included **preliminary rounds, quarter-final rounds, and final courtroom simulation rounds**
- A cultural evening featuring **ghazal performances by Shailly Kapoor** was organized during the event
- Moot court competitions help develop **advocacy skills, legal reasoning ability, public speaking confidence, and practical exposure to judicial procedures** among law students

Sayani Gupta Named Harvard South Asian “Person of the Year” 2026

- **Sayani Gupta** has been honoured with the **Harvard South Asian “Person of the Year” Award 2026** by the **Harvard South Asian Association** for her impactful contribution to storytelling and representation of South Asian identities at the global level.

Key Highlights

- The award recognises individuals making significant contributions to **South Asian culture, identity, and representation globally**.
- Sayani Gupta was honoured for promoting **inclusive and socially relevant storytelling** through her performances.
- She joins **Vikas Khanna**, who received the award in **2025**.
- Her notable works include:
 - **Four More Shots Please!**
 - **Article 15**
 - **Delhi Crime**
 - **Inside Edge**
 - **Axone**
- Her role as **Damini Rizvi Roy** in *Four More Shots Please!* received wide appreciation for portraying a modern urban woman’s challenges.
- She is also making her **directorial debut** with the short film *Aasmani*.
- The film is scheduled to premiere at:
 - **WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival** (April 25, 2026)
 - **Indie Meme Film Festival** (April 26, 2026)
- The **Harvard South Asian Association** is a student-led body at **Harvard University** that promotes South Asian culture, leadership, and global dialogue on identity and representation.

Nishita Yogesh Antarkar Crowned Miss Sake India 2026

- Nishita Yogesh Antarkar was crowned **Miss Sake India 2026** at an event held in **Mumbai**.
- The event was organised by **Hirohama India Pvt. Ltd.** to promote **Japanese sake culture** and strengthen **India–Japan cultural ties**.

Key Highlights

- Nishita Yogesh Antarkar, a **business owner and trained Kathak dancer with over 16 years of experience**, was crowned **Miss Sake India 2026**.
- The event was held at **Robata Kuuraku** and recognised her as a **cultural ambassador of Japanese sake in India**.
- She was crowned by the outgoing titleholder **Akansha Shrivastava**.
- The ceremony highlighted **growing cultural cooperation between India and Japan** through promotion of traditional sake culture.
- Key dignitaries present included **Toshihiro Kaneko, Chisato Tateno, Mika Onishii, and Mika Eoka**.
- During the event, Toshihiro Kaneko emphasised **strong cultural similarities and ongoing cooperation between India and Japan**, especially in regional and sustainable development initiatives.
- The initiative has been organised in India for the **third consecutive year** to promote **Japanese sake traditions and people-to-people cultural exchange**.
- **Priyanka Sarkar** from **Bengaluru** and **Sakshi Khari** from **Delhi** were named runners-up among the seven finalists in the competition.

Kerala Botanist N. Alim Yusuf Receives World Wide Fund for Nature National Award at ECHO Youth Innovation Summit 2026

- **N. Alim Yusuf**, a botanist from **Kerala**, was honoured with the **World-Wide Fund for Nature National Award** at the **National ECHO Youth Innovation Summit 2026**, organised as part of the **International Youth Biodiversity Conference** in **Hyderabad, Telangana**.
- He received the award for developing an **Artificial Intelligence-powered mobile application “NeophyteID”** designed to **identify invasive plant species in Kerala**.
- During the summit, he was granted **Rs 1.5 lakh as a seed fund** by the **World Wide Fund for Nature** to support the **further development and expansion** of the application.
- The **NeophyteID** application was developed by researchers at the **Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant Sciences (MGBIPS)** located at **Olavanna, Kozhikode, Kerala**, and is capable of identifying around **100 invasive plant species** in the State.
- The application uses the **Machine Learning-based YOLOv11 model** and currently supports **two languages: Malayalam and English**.

Samridh Gram Initiative Nominated for WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) Prizes 2026

- India’s **Samridh Gram Initiative**, led by the **Department of Telecommunications**, has been **nominated for the WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) Prizes 2026** under the **Enabling Environment** category, recognising efforts to strengthen digital infrastructure in rural areas.
- The initiative is built on the **BharatNet** network, one of the **world’s largest rural broadband connectivity projects**, aimed at expanding **high-speed internet access across villages**.



- The programme adopts a **'phygital' approach** by integrating **physical service delivery infrastructure with digital technology** to improve **accessibility of services and rural livelihoods**.
- A key component of the initiative is the establishment of **Samriddhi Kendras**, which function as one-stop rural service centres providing access to telemedicine, online education, government schemes, banking services, and electronic commerce platforms.
- The initiative uses **Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) connectivity** and **public Wi-Fi infrastructure** to extend digital services to remote rural locations, reducing the need for long-distance travel and improving service delivery efficiency.
- The **World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Prizes** recognise impactful **Information and Communication Technology** initiatives globally.
- The nomination highlights India's role in creating a **supportive ecosystem for digital development in rural regions**.
- The results of the **WSIS Prizes 2026** will be announced during the **WSIS Forum 2026** in **Geneva, Switzerland**.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao Conferred with 9th Prof. M. S. Swaminathan Award 2026

- **Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director and Vice-Chancellor** of the **Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)**, was honoured with the **9th Prof. M. S. Swaminathan Award** in **Hyderabad**.
- He received the award for his contributions to climate-resilient agriculture and natural resource management, supporting **sustainable agricultural development in India**.
- The **Prof. M. S. Swaminathan Award** is instituted by the **Retired ICAR Employees Association** in collaboration with **Nuziveedu Seeds Limited**, recognising **excellence in agricultural research, food security, and sustainability**.
- The **2026 edition** of the award holds special significance as it coincides with the **birth centenary year of M. S. Swaminathan**, widely regarded as the **architect of India's Green Revolution**.
- **Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao** has played a key role in promoting **resource conservation technologies**, development of **district-level contingency plans for climate risks**, and improving **soil health and water management practices** across agricultural regions.
- His initiatives supported the **adoption of sustainable farming practices across millions of hectares**, strengthening India's capacity to manage **climate variability, droughts, and extreme weather conditions**.
- The award presentation ceremony was attended by eminent personalities including **M. Venkaiah Naidu, Tummala Nageswara Rao, Mandava Prabhakar Rao, and C. Vidyasagar Rao**.

Sadhvi Satish Sail Crowned Femina Miss India World 2026 in Bhubaneswar

- **Sadhvi Satish Sail** from **Goa** was crowned **Femina Miss India World 2026** at the **61st edition of the Femina Miss India pageant** held in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.
- She was crowned by the outgoing titleholder **Nikita Porwal**, marking a significant milestone in her **beauty pageant journey**.
- **Rajnandini Pawar** from **Maharashtra** secured the position of **first runner-up** in the competition.
- Following her victory, **Sadhvi Satish Sail** will represent **India** at the **Miss World 2027**.
- **Sadhvi Satish Sail** is a **model and entrepreneur**, and has participated in **multiple fashion shows and promotional campaigns**, along with co-founding a company in the **construction and development sector**.
- **Rajnandini Pawar** is known for her achievements as a **state-level dancer and squash player**, highlighting a blend of **sports and artistic excellence**.
- The **Femina Miss India pageant** serves as a major platform to promote **confident, socially aware, and purpose-driven women**, with participants evaluated on **personality, communication skills, social awareness, talent, and stage presence**.



Goldman Environmental Prize 2026 Awarded to First All-Women Cohort

- The **Goldman Environmental Prize 2026** was awarded to **six women environmental leaders**, marking the **first all-women cohort** since the award's inception.
- Known as the "**Green Nobel Prize**", the award recognises **grassroots environmental activists** from six global regions for contributions to **environmental protection and climate action**.
- The prize was established in **1989** by philanthropists Richard Goldman and Rhoda Goldman.
- Each recipient receives a **United States Dollar 200,000 award** for contributions to **biodiversity conservation, climate justice, and environmental protection**.

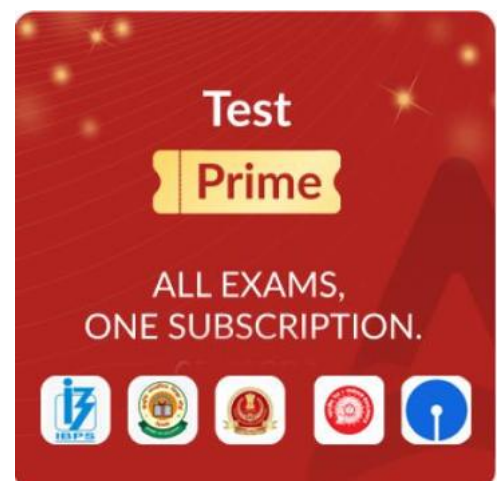
Winners of Goldman Environmental Prize 2026

Region	Awardee
Africa	Iroro Tanshi (Nigeria)
Asia	Borim Kim (Republic of Korea)
Europe	Sarah Finch (United Kingdom)
Islands and Island Nations	Theonila Roka Matbob (Papua New Guinea)
North America	Alannah Acaq Hurley (United States)
South and Central America	Yuvelis Morales Blanco (Colombia)

- Yuvelis Morales Blanco opposed **hydraulic fracturing projects** in Colombia to protect ecosystems and local communities.
- Borim Kim led a **youth climate litigation case** that strengthened climate accountability in the Republic of Korea.
- Sarah Finch contributed to a landmark legal decision requiring authorities to consider **climate impacts before approving oil extraction projects** in the United Kingdom.
- Iroro Tanshi rediscovered an **endangered bat species** and worked to protect its habitat from environmental threats.
- Theonila Roka Matbob led efforts to hold a mining company accountable for **environmental damage in Papua New Guinea**.
- Alannah Acaq Hurley helped prevent a major **mining project affecting ecosystems in Alaska**.
- The 2026 edition highlights the **growing role of women in environmental leadership**, the strength of **grassroots movements**, and the importance of **legal and community-driven climate action globally**.

Sur Jyotsna National Music Awards 2026 Honour Sumitra Guha and Laxman Krishnarao Pandit

- The **13th edition of the Sur Jyotsna National Music Awards** was held in New Delhi, where veteran **Hindustani vocalists Sumitra Guha and Pandit Laxman Krishnarao Pandit were honoured for their contribution to Indian classical music**.
- The awards aim to **promote, preserve, and encourage Indian musical heritage**, while supporting both **veteran and emerging artists**.
- The ceremony was held at Dr Ambedkar International Centre in the presence of dignitaries including Ramdas Athawale, Shripad Naik, S. P. Singh Baghel, and Ghulam Nabi Azad.
- The event featured performances by Kailash Kher and his band **Kailasa**, showcasing a blend of classical, folk, and contemporary music.
- Instituted in memory of **Jyotsna Darda**, the awards highlight efforts to **preserve India's intangible cultural heritage**.
- In 2026, the awards expanded to multiple cities including **Nagpur, Nashik, Pune, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and New Delhi**, increasing outreach and accessibility.



Test Prime

ALL EXAMS, ONE SUBSCRIPTION.

Logos of various educational institutions and exams are shown at the bottom.