

# **PEOPLE IN NEWS: DECEMBER 2020**

#### **HARSH VARDHAN**



- Harsh Vardhan, the Health and Family Welfare Minister, has been recently nominated to the board of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI).
- He will be the member of the GAVI board from 2021 to 2023.
- He will represent the South East Area Regional Office/Western Pacific Regional Office in the board.

### LEWIS HAMILTON



- Lewis Hamilton has been awarded a knighthood in the 2021 New Year Honours list of the UK.
- It is one of the highest honor of the United Kingdom.
- In 2020, Hamilton equaled the seven F1 world championships record of Michael Schumacher.

### **ARYA RAJENDRAN**



- 21-year old Arya Rajendran became the youngest Mayor in India.
- She sworn in as the Mayor of Thiruvananthapuram Corporation.
- She is a B.Sc 2nd year student at at Thiruvananthapuram's All Saints College.

### **HEMANT KUMAR PANDEY**



- Scientist Hemant Kumar Pandey has been awarded with the "Scientist of the Year Award" by DRDO.
- He has been awarded for his contribution in developing various medicines, the most popular being drug Lukoskin.
- Lukoskin is used for the treatment of leucoderma.

### **VIRAT KOHLI**



- Indian Captain Virat Kohli has won two ICC Awards of the Decade ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Decade and Sir Garfield Sobers Award for ICC Male Cricketer of the Decade.
- Kohli is the only player with more than 10,000 ODI runs in the ICC awards period.

#### **VINEET AGARWAL**



- Vineet Agarwal took over as the new president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).
- Vineet is the managing director of Transport Corporation of India Ltd (TCIL).
- He has replaced Niranjan Hiranandani.

## RATAN TATA



- The Federation of Indo-Israel Chambers of Commerce (FIICC) has conferred the industrialist Ratan Tata with the "Global Visionary of Sustainable Business and Peace" title.
- He has been given the title for promoting unity, sustainability and peace.
- Ratan Tata has also been awarded with the ASSOCHAM Enterprise of the Centenary Award by PM Modi for Tata Group.

#### NARENDRA MODI



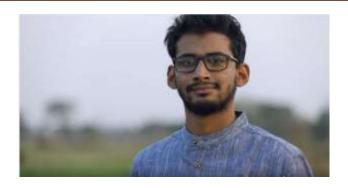
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been awarded with the 'Legion of Merit' by U.S.
- He has been awarded for strengthening the US-India relations.
- Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison were also awarded with the Legion of Merit Award.

#### SHASHI SHEKHAR VEMPATI



- Shashi Shekhar Vempati has been chosen as the new Vice-President of the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU).
- Vempati is the CEO of India's Public Broadcaster Prasar Bharti.
- His tenure is of 3 years.

#### **VIDYUT MOHAN**



• Indian Engineer Vidyut Mohan has won the 'Young Champions of the Earth' Award by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

- He is the co-founder of an enterprise "Takachar" which helps the farmers to convert their farm residues into value-added chemicals like activated carbon on-site and earn extra money.
- The enterprise also prevents the farmers from burning farm residue in open.

#### **ASHRAF PATEL**



- Ashraf Patel has won the Social Entrepreneur of the Year award.
- She is the co-founder of two organisations ComMutiny and Pravah which trains youth for leadership.

#### **CAROLINA ARAUJO**



- Carolina Araujo of Brazil has won the Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians 2020.
- After winning the award, she has become the first non-Indian to win the award.
- Carolina is a Mathematician from the Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics (IMPA), Brazil.

### **JOE BIDEN AND KAMALA HARRIS**



- Both Joe Biden and Kamala Harris have been named as the '2020 Person of the Year' by the TIME magazine.
- Joe Biden will take over as the new President of the US after stepping down of Donald Trump and Kamla Harris will be the Vice-President.

#### SHEIKH SABAH AL-KHALID



- Sheikh Sabah al-Khalid has been re-appointed as the prime minister of Kuwait.
- He has been appointed by Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

## RAJ KAMAL JHA



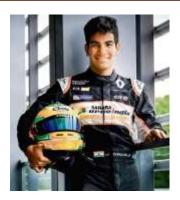
- Raj Kamal Jha has won the Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2020.
- He has been awarded with the prize for his novel-The City and The Sea.
- His book is based on the Nirbhaya rape and murder case.

### **ANIL SONI**



- Anil Soni, an Indian-origin health expert, has been appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer of The WHO Foundation.
- The WHO Foundation has been launched in May 2020 and is headquartered in Geneva.
- The foundation works alongside with the World Health Organisation.

#### **JEHAN DARUVALA**



• Jehan Daruvala became the first driver from the country to win an Formula 2 race.

# **UDAY SHANKAR**



- Entertainment and Media Executive Uday Shankar has been appointed as the president of FICCI for 2020-21.
- He has replaced Sangita Reddy.
- He is the outgoing Chairman of Star and Disney India and the President of The Walt Disney Company for Asia Pacific.