

# GLOBAL INDIAN PHYSICIANS IN THE NEWS (JANUARY 2025)

## DR. D. NAGESHWAR REDDY BECOMES FIRST INDIAN DOCTOR TO RECEIVE ALL THREE PADMA AWARDS

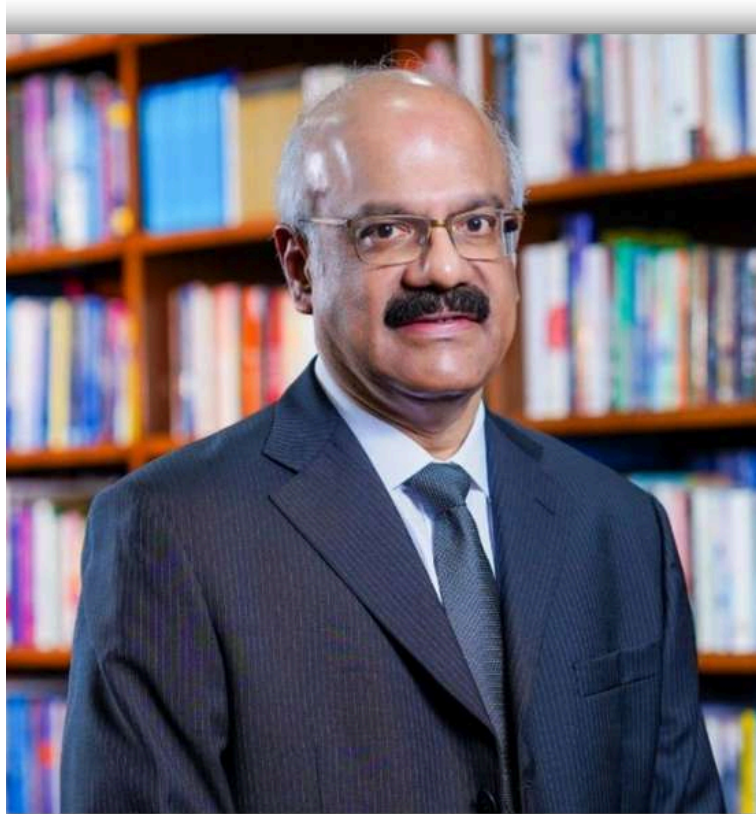
*Dr. D. Nageshwar Reddy, Chairman of AIG Hospitals in Hyderabad, has made history by becoming the first Indian doctor to earn all three of India's top civilian awards—Padma Shri (2002), Padma Bhushan (2016), and now the prestigious Padma Vibhushan for 2025. Dr. Reddy is among just seven individuals recognized with the Padma Vibhushan this year, a testament to his extraordinary contributions to gastroenterology and his pioneering work in endoscopic procedures.*

*Upon receiving the news, Dr. Reddy expressed his gratitude and dedication to the field: "Compassionate patient care has always been the cornerstone of my journey, and I dedicate this honor to every individual who places their trust in us during their most vulnerable moments." He also extended thanks to his team at AIG Hospitals and reiterated his commitment to strengthening healthcare in India, adding, "This recognition is a celebration of our nation's potential in medical innovation and serves as a reminder of the impact that empathy and excellence can have on patient outcomes."*

*The Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honor, is conferred by the President of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan, typically in March or April. This accolade underscores Dr. Reddy's lifelong commitment to advancing medical science, improving access to quality care, and inspiring the next generation of healthcare professionals.*

**Source:** Newsx, 26/01/2025

**Link:** <https://www.newsx.com/india/padma-vibhushan-2025-dr-d-nageshwar-reddy-becomes-first-indian-doctor-to-receive-all-three-padma-awards/>



## DR. MAYA TANDON AWARDED PADMA SHRI FOR ROAD SAFETY ADVOCACY

*Dr. Maya Tandon, an 87-year-old former anesthesiologist at Jaipur's Sawai Man Singh Hospital and founder of NGO 'Sahayata', has been conferred the Padma Shri for her decades-long dedication to preventing road accidents and saving lives. Since retiring in 1994, she has trained traffic police, healthcare workers, and other first responders in critical techniques—such as CPR, bleeding control, and safe extrication—ensuring immediate assistance for accident victims. Under her guidance, policy reforms were introduced in Rajasthan, allowing victims to be admitted without initial payment or legal hurdles, ultimately inspiring more people to help those in need.*

*Emphasizing that “No honor is bigger than saving lives,” Dr. Tandon credits her team's unwavering efforts and hopes to expand road safety awareness further. Over three decades, 'Sahayata' has conducted workshops, awareness drives, and innovative campaigns, earning widespread recognition for its impact. Despite having received multiple accolades, Dr. Tandon insists that every life saved is her greatest reward.*

**Source:** ETV Bharat 25/01/2025

**Link:** <https://www.etvbharat.com/en/lifestyle/sadak-suraksha-abhiyan-and-dr-maya-tandon-from-jaipur-who-receives-padma-shri-for-road-safety-awareness-campaigns-enn25012502572>



## KARNATAKA DOCTOR DR. SYED ANWAR KHURSHEED HONORED WITH PRAVASI BHARATIYA SAMMAN AWARD

*Dr. Syed Anwar Khursheed, a distinguished physician from Karnataka, has been awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, India's highest honor for overseas Indians. Dr. Khursheed, who has served in Saudi Arabia for over 40 years, received the award from President Droupadi Murmu at a ceremony in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. He is among 27 global recipients of the prestigious award this year and the only honoree from Saudi Arabia.*

*Originally from Gulbarga, Karnataka, Dr. Khursheed has had an illustrious career in Saudi Arabia, including three decades at King Faisal Hospital in Taif and nearly a decade as a Royal Protocol physician in Riyadh. His contributions to public health extend beyond hospital walls—he played a crucial role in the COVID-19 response efforts, supervised critical care operations during Hajj, and helped establish medical assistance programs for Indian pilgrims.*

*Beyond his medical contributions, Dr. Khursheed has been actively involved in educational initiatives, founding the International Indian School in Taif and advising on the establishment of schools for the Indian community in Saudi Arabia. His dedication to healthcare and community welfare has made him a well-respected figure among the 2.65 million Indians living and working in Saudi Arabia.*

*Expressing his gratitude, Dr. Khursheed shared that receiving the award was an overwhelming experience. "I was not expecting this honor, but it is truly humbling. It recognizes not just my journey but also the impact of Indian professionals in global healthcare," he said. Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Suhel Ajaz Khan, lauded Dr. Khursheed's contributions, stating that his achievements are a matter of great pride for the Indian diaspora in Saudi Arabia.*

*The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, established in 2003, is conferred annually to overseas Indians for their exceptional service in fields like medicine, community service, business, and public affairs. Dr. Khursheed now joins an elite list of previous Saudi Arabia-based recipients, including Dr. Majid Kazi (2006), Dr. M.S. Karimuddin (2011), and Zeenat Jafri (2017), further strengthening India's legacy of medical excellence abroad.*

**Source:** Varthabharati, 12/01/2025

**Link:** <https://english.varthabharati.in/gulf/karnataka-doctor-receives-highest-award-for-overseas-indians>



## DR. ALEXANDER THOMAS HONORED WITH PROFESSOR EMERITUS TITLE BY INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

*Dr. Alexander Thomas, a distinguished healthcare leader, has been conferred the Professor Emeritus title by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to healthcare quality, accreditation, and medical education in India.*

*With a career spanning over four decades, Dr. Thomas has played a pivotal role in shaping healthcare policies and fostering accreditation standards. He is a Founding Member and Patron of the Association of Healthcare Providers India (AHPI), the Association of National Board Accredited Institutions (ANBAI), and the Consortium of Accredited Healthcare Organizations (CAHO). His efforts have led to far-reaching policy changes that have improved the healthcare landscape in India.*

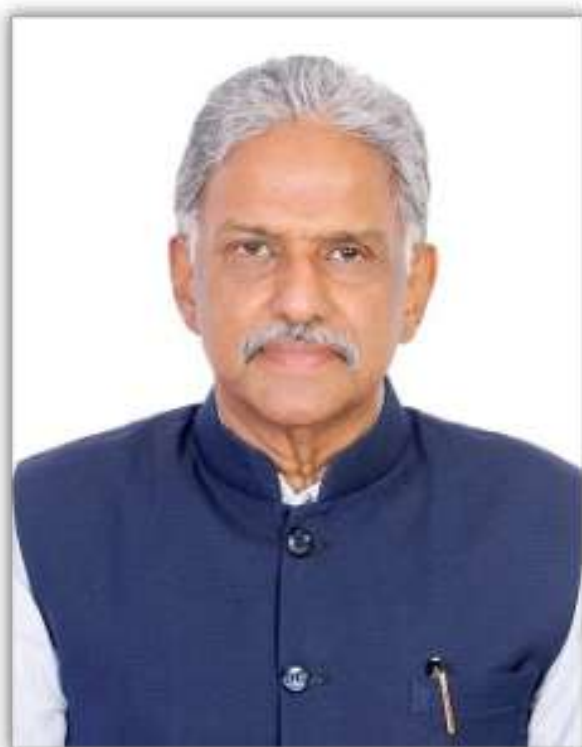
*Dr. Thomas was instrumental in integrating healthcare communication into the NABH Accreditation Standards for Hospitals (4th Edition) and introducing medical communication skills into MBBS and postgraduate curricula. His advocacy contributed to removing service tax on healthcare and decriminalizing medical errors. He also played a key role in making entry-level accreditation mandatory for hospital empanelment, leading to over 33,000 hospitals across India gaining accreditation.*

*At the state level, he has contributed significantly to Karnataka's Public Health Policy, served as the Member-Secretary of its Task Force, and led initiatives for hospital accreditation and tobacco-free policies. As CEO of Bangalore Baptist Hospital (BBH) from 2006-2014, he transformed it from a secondary-care facility into a nationally recognized 300-bed multi-specialty hospital, earning multiple prestigious awards.*

*Dr. Thomas has received numerous accolades, including the IMA Dr. M. G. Garg All-Time Achievement Award (2022), the Lifetime Achievement Award (2018) by CAHO, and the Suvarna Mahotsav Award from the Government of Karnataka for excellence in medicine. His dedication to improving healthcare standards continues to serve as an inspiration for the medical community.*

**Source:** Medical Dialogues , 01/01/2025

**Link:** <https://medicaldialogues.in/state-news/delhi/dr-alexander-thomas-honoured-with-professor-emeritus-title-by-indian-medical-association-140705>



## DR. PARAMDEEP SINGH HONORED WITH NATIONAL BEST MEDICAL TEACHER AWARD

**Dr. Paramdeep Singh**, Additional Professor in the Department of Radiology at AIIMS Bathinda, has been recognized with the prestigious National Best Medical Teacher Award by the Indian Medical Association (IMA). The award was conferred during the IMA National Conference, NATCON 2024, held in Hyderabad in December 2024.

A distinguished educator and practitioner in the field of Radiology, Dr. Singh has been instrumental in shaping the next generation of healthcare professionals. The honor celebrates his dedication to medical education, research, and academic excellence. During the award ceremony, Dr. Singh expressed gratitude to his mentors, colleagues, and students, dedicating the accolade to their collective pursuit of excellence in medicine.

Dr. Singh completed his Doctor of Medicine (MD) in Radiology from Dayanand Medical College and Hospital, Ludhiana (2007-2010) and earned his MBBS from Government Medical College, Patiala (2001-2007). Furthering his expertise, he completed a Fellowship in Neuroradiology at the European Society of Radiology (ESR) Research and Clinical Fellowship, Department of Neuroradiology, University of Freiburg, Germany, in 2012.

With this recognition, Dr. Singh joins the league of esteemed educators contributing to the advancement of medical knowledge and innovation in India.

**Source:** Medical Dialogues, 03/01/2025

**Link:** <https://medicaldialogues.in/news/health/doctors/aiims-bathindas-dr-paramdeep-singh-honoured-with-national-best-medical-teacher-award-140845>



## PROF. AJAY RANE RECEIVES PRAVASI BHARATIYA SAMMAN AWARD FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO WOMEN'S HEALTH

*Dr. Ajay Rane, a renowned urogynaecologist and advocate for women's health, has been honored with the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) 2025, India's highest recognition for overseas Indians.*

*Dr. Rane, Professor and Head of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at James Cook University, Australia, has dedicated his career to treating pelvic floor disorders, obstetric fistulas, and genital trauma in women across India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Africa.*

*A pioneer in reconstructive vaginal surgery and fistula treatment, he established the Dr. Paula Rane Fistula Ward in Chennai and trained over 400 surgeons to help women suffering from childbirth injuries. His advocacy against female foeticide and genital mutilation has played a key role in policy changes and awareness campaigns.*

*Dr. Rane described the award as "a blessing from my motherland", recognizing his lifelong efforts to improve women's healthcare and dignity. He was among 27 recipients honored by the President of India at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2025 celebrations in Odisha.*

**Source:** Indian Link, 20/01/2025

**Link:** <https://www.indianlink.com.au/prof-ajay-rane-receives-the-pravasi-bharatiya-samman-award/>



## DR. J. NARESH BABU WINS BEST SPINE CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARD AND ELECTED ASSI SECRETARY

*Dr. J. Naresh Babu, a renowned spine surgeon from Guntur, has been honored with the Best Spine Clinical Research Award 2024 by the Association of Spine Surgeons of India (ASSI) for his pioneering study on cervical spondylitis. His research, conducted at Mallika Spine Centre, Guntur, examines how neck movements influence the progression of symptoms in patients with cervical spondylitis and nerve compression using dynamic MRI analysis. In another milestone, Dr. Naresh Babu has been elected as the Secretary of ASSI, becoming the first spine surgeon from the Telugu states to hold this position. He will serve as Joint Secretary and Treasurer (2025-2027) before assuming the role of Secretary for the term 2027-2029.*



*His achievements mark a historic recognition of Telugu state research in spine surgery, reinforcing his contributions to diagnosis, treatment, and global advancements in spine care.*

**Source:** Startup News, 16/01/2025

**Link:** <https://startupnews.fyi/2025/01/16/prestigious-bharat-medical-excellence-award-bestowed-upon-implantologist-dr-bharat-agravat-at-top-doctors-meet/>

## BRIGADIER SANJAY KUMAR MISHRA AWARDED PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL



*Brigadier Sanjay Kumar Mishra, head of ophthalmology at Army Hospital (R&R), Delhi, has been honored with the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) for his exceptional contributions to military healthcare.*

*A renowned cataract, refractive, and vitreoretinal surgeon, he has performed over 1,000 surgeries, including on Presidents Ram Nath Kovind and Droupadi Murmu. An AFMC Pune alumnus, he pioneered minimally invasive glaucoma surgery in the Armed Forces and led a cataract surgical camp for ex-servicemen in Uttarakhand.*

**Source:** Times of India, 26/01/2025

**Link:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/brig-sk-mishra-awarded-pvsm/articleshow/117563690.cms>

**PADMA SHRI DR. M. WALI HONORED WITH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR  
EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTION TO INDIAN HEALTHCARE**

*Dr. M. Wali, an esteemed physician and Padma Shri awardee, has been conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Exemplary Contribution to Indian Healthcare at the 6th edition of India's Best Doctors Award Ceremony, organized by Brands Impact at Vivanta by Taj, New Delhi.*

*With a distinguished career spanning over three decades, Dr. Wali has played a pivotal role in government healthcare services, medical education, and research. He has served at prestigious institutions, including Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College, and G.B. Pant Institute of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Sciences. Notably, he served as the personal physician to three Presidents of India—R. Venkataraman, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, and Bharat Ratna Pranab Mukherjee—a rare and exceptional achievement.*

*Dr. Wali's contributions extend beyond clinical practice. With over 120 published research papers, his work on lipid metabolism has been widely recognized. He has also supervised over 20 theses in Unani medicine and served on the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), championing holistic healthcare solutions that integrate modern and traditional medicine.*

*Recognized both nationally and internationally, Dr. Wali has received numerous accolades, including the Indian Red Cross Medal, Hakim Ajmal Khan Global Award, and a Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) from Germany. Twice honored as Best Physician by the Union Health Minister, he continues to be an inspiration in the medical field. His dedication to community service, mentorship, and humanitarian efforts has made him a revered figure in Indian healthcare.*

**Source:** Mid Day , 20/01/2025

**Link:** <https://www.mid-day.com/buzz/article/padma-shri-professor-dr-m-wali-bags-lifetime-achievement-award-for-exemplary-contribution-to-indian-healthcare-3992>



## DR. ASHOK KUMAR MAHAPATRA HONORED WITH PADMA SHRI FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICINE

*Dr. Ashok Kumar Mahapatra, a renowned neurosurgeon from Odisha, has been awarded the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest civilian honor, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to medicine. At 74 years old, Dr. Mahapatra has dedicated his life to serving patients and advancing neurosurgical practices.*

*Dr. Mahapatra gained national recognition after leading a historic craniopagus surgery at AIIMS New Delhi in 2017, where he and his team successfully separated conjoined twins Jaga and Kalia. This rare and complex surgery placed Odisha on the global map for groundbreaking medical achievements.*

*Expressing his gratitude, Dr. Mahapatra thanked Lord Jagannath and acknowledged both the Government of India and the Odisha Government for this honor. He humbly stated, "I have always served people without expecting any accolades. This award is a recognition of my lifelong commitment to medicine."*

*With an illustrious career spanning decades in neurosurgery and medical education, Dr. Mahapatra has mentored countless students, contributed to medical research, and played a pivotal role in improving healthcare services in India. His Padma Shri honor reflects the nation's appreciation for his dedication and impact in the medical field.*

**Source:** One India , 25/01/2025

**Link:** <https://www.oneindia.com/india/odisha-doctor-a-k-mahapatra-sculptor-a-c-gadanayak-padma-shri-011-4053189.html>



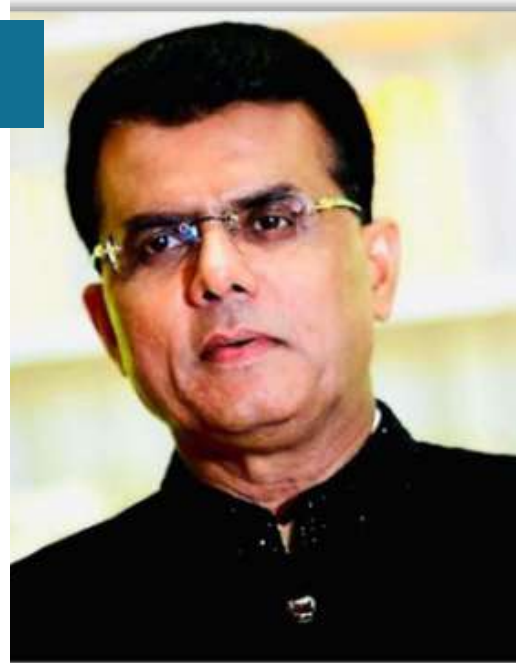
## DR. SADANAND R. SHETTY HONORED WITH BEST DOCTOR OF MUMBAI AWARD

*Dr. Sadanand R. Shetty, a distinguished cardiologist, has been recognized with Outlook's Best Doctor of Mumbai Award 2025, conferred by Neb Media. The award acknowledges his exceptional contributions to cardiology, his dedication to patient care, and his role in advancing medical knowledge.*

*Fondly referred to as Badavara Bandhu (Friend of the Poor), Dr. Shetty is known for his compassionate approach and commitment to serving people from all walks of life. Over the years, he has authored several widely acclaimed books on heart disease, providing valuable insights into cardiac health and prevention.*

*Dr. Shetty's expertise is globally recognized, holding multiple prestigious degrees, including MD (Medical), FACC, FSCAI (America), APPS, FISE, SI, and FESC. The Tulu Kannadiga community takes immense pride in his achievements, celebrating his dedication to healthcare.*

*The Best Doctors of Mumbai 2025 awards were determined based on a survey conducted by an advisory panel of Mumbai-based doctors, further solidifying Dr. Shetty's reputation as one of the most respected medical professionals in Brihan Mumbai.*



**Source:** : Daaji World, 04/01/2025

**Link:** <https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay?newsID=1259167>



## GAPIO CONGRATULATES ALL THE ACHIEVERS FOR MAKING INDIA PROUD

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# GAPIO MID YEAR CONFERENCE

*Kenya*

18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> JULY 2025

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