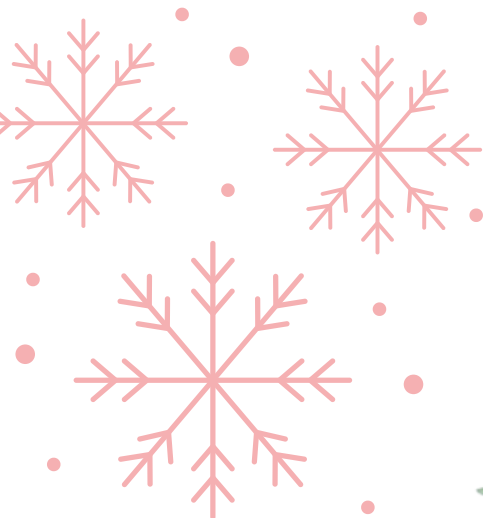


GLOBAL INDIAN PHYSICIANS IN THE NEWS (NOVEMBER 2025)



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NEW YEAR**
2026



DR. SONU BHASKAR NAMED OVERALL WINNER AT ASIAN AUSTRALIAN LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Dr. Sonu Bhaskar, physician-scientist and neurologist, has been named the Overall Winner of the Asian Australian Leadership Awards, recognising his outstanding contributions to medicine, scientific innovation, and inclusive leadership in Australia.

The honour was announced at a gala ceremony held in Melbourne on November 19 as part of the seventh edition of the awards, an initiative of Asialink at the University of Melbourne in partnership with executive search firm Johnson Partners. Dr. Bhaskar described the recognition as “a message sent back through time,” reflecting on a journey that began in modest circumstances in India and evolved into global leadership in neuroscience and health equity.

A leading voice in neurology and global health, Dr. Bhaskar is known for pioneering work that bridges laboratory science with real-world healthcare impact. He founded the NSW Brain Clot Bank, the world’s first initiative to systematically collect and analyse blood clots retrieved during stroke procedures, transforming what was once considered surgical waste into a powerful diagnostic tool. His work has reshaped understanding of stroke, dementia, Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s disease, and vascular brain health. Dr. Bhaskar also leads the Global Health Neurology Lab and several international consortia focused on translating scientific discovery into scalable, equitable health solutions across Australia, the Asia-Pacific region, and low-resource settings globally. His career has been guided by a strong commitment to health equity, shaped by early experiences witnessing disparities in access to care.

A recipient of numerous international honours—including the EU Marie Curie Fellowship, Australian Global Talent Award, and multiple European Academy of Neurology Investigator Awards—Dr. Bhaskar has consistently championed diversity, inclusion, and representation in science and leadership. He has spoken openly about growing up as a neurodivergent child and credits that perspective with shaping his ability to identify overlooked patterns and challenge conventional approaches.

The award citation highlighted his role in redefining leadership for Asian Australians and advancing a more inclusive national narrative. Dr. Bhaskar dedicated the recognition to migrants, neurodivergent individuals, and families whose quiet sacrifices enable future generations to thrive.

Source: Indian Link, 19/11/2025

Link: <https://www.indianlink.com.au/dr-sonu-bhaskar-takes-top-asian-australian-honour/>



DR. SHUCHIN BAJAJ RECEIVES STEWARD LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR HEALTHCARE INNOVATION

Dr. Shuchin Bajaj, physician, social entrepreneur, and Founder-Director of Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services, has been conferred with the Steward Leadership Award for his commitment to ethical, purpose-driven innovation and transformative impact in healthcare delivery.

The award is part of the internationally recognised Steward Leadership 25 platform, which honours organisations and leaders demonstrating moral courage, responsible decision-making, and measurable sectoral transformation. Among nominations from 23 countries, only 25 organisations worldwide were selected, with Ujala Cygnus representing India.

The recognition highlights Dr. Bajaj's leadership in building scalable healthcare models that integrate clinical excellence with empathy, digital innovation, and social responsibility. Under his leadership, Ujala Cygnus has significantly expanded access to quality healthcare in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, addressing longstanding gaps in affordability and availability.

Dr. Bajaj's initiatives have contributed to measurable improvements in public health outcomes, including enhanced neonatal survival, reductions in maternal mortality, and expanded access to advanced care through government insurance schemes. The network's teleconsultation programmes have enabled thousands of patients in remote regions to receive timely medical care while reducing travel-related environmental impact.

In addition to strengthening clinical services, Dr. Bajaj has championed digital health integration, public-private partnerships, and sustainable hospital practices, positioning Ujala Cygnus as a future-ready healthcare model. The organisation has also contributed to local economic development through increased employment generation and community-focused healthcare programmes.

The Steward Leadership Award underscores Dr. Bajaj's role in advancing ethical innovation in healthcare and reinforces the growing global recognition of Indian physician-leaders shaping inclusive and sustainable healthcare systems.

Source: B W Healthcare World, 26/11/2025

Link: <https://www.bwhealthcareworld.com/article/dr-shuchin-bajaj-receives-steward-leadership-award-for-impactful-healthcare-innovation-581201>



DR. SANJAY UGEMUGE HONOURED WITH DR. WANKAR MEMORIAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Dr. Sanjay Ugemuge, Founder President of the Sanjeevan Socio-Medical Foundation and a senior ENT specialist from Nagpur, has been conferred with the prestigious Dr. Wankar Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to medicine and social service.

The award was presented during the 23rd Annual Conference of the Indian Medical Association (IMA), acknowledging Dr. Ugemuge's decades-long commitment to patient care, community health, and medical service beyond the clinical setting.

A specialist in ENT and throat cancer, Dr. Ugemuge has been actively serving the medical and social sectors for over 30 years. Through the Sanjeevan initiative, he has been instrumental in providing holistic care, including the operation of an old-age home alongside a naturopathy and yoga centre at Sanjeevan Gram. His work has had a sustained impact on healthcare access and social welfare in the region.

In recognition of his contributions, Dr. Ugemuge was felicitated by IMA office-bearers and dignitaries and was presented with a citation, memento, shawl, coconut, and a cash award. The event was attended by senior medical leaders and academicians, reflecting the wide professional respect he commands.

Demonstrating his commitment to service, Dr. Ugemuge dedicated the award amount to the 'Sanjeevan' initiative and offered the honour in memory of his family members.

The Lifetime Achievement Award underscores Dr. Ugemuge's enduring legacy as a physician whose career seamlessly integrates medical excellence with compassion-driven social service.

Source: Times of India, 12/11/2025

Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nagpur/bawankule-warns-of-stern-action-against-stamp-officials-over-irregularities/articleshow/125258385.cms>



FIVE SANKARA NETHRALAYA OPHTHALMOLOGISTS HONOURED WITH ELIZABETH BLACKWELL AWARD

Five senior ophthalmologists from Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai, have been honoured with the Elizabeth Blackwell Award for Excellence in Teaching, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to ophthalmic education, mentorship, and clinical training.

The award was jointly conferred by the Women Ophthalmologists Society and the Women Ophthalmologists Worldwide during WOWOS 2025, acknowledging sustained excellence in teaching and academic leadership in ophthalmology.

*The awardees include **Dr. Veena Baskaran, Dr. Suganeswari, Dr. Niveditha Narayanan, Dr. Dhanashree Ratra, and Dr. C. K. Parameswari**—all of whom are nationally and internationally respected clinician-educators associated with Sankara Nethralaya.*

The recipients have collectively contributed decades of service across subspecialties such as medical and surgical retina, vitreoretinal surgery, cataract services, ocular oncology, and comprehensive ophthalmology. Their work spans postgraduate education, fellowship training, research publications, clinical trials, and leadership in institutional and professional bodies.

In addition to their clinical roles, the awardees have played a pivotal role in mentoring young ophthalmologists, strengthening structured training programmes, and advancing evidence-based ophthalmic practice in India and abroad.

The Elizabeth Blackwell Award underscores the enduring commitment of Sankara Nethralaya's faculty to excellence in teaching and highlights the institution's continued leadership in ophthalmic education and capacity building.

Source: Medical Dialogues, 12/11/2025

Link: <https://medicaldialogues.in/news/health/doctors/5-sankara-nethralaya-ophthalmologists-honoured-with-elizabeth-blackwell-award-158489>



DR. VEENA BASKARAN



DR. SUGANESWARI



DR. NIVEDITHA NARAYANAN



DR. DHANASHREE RATRA



DR. C. K. PARAMESWARI

ASSOCIATION OF INDIANS IN AMERICA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO 10 STUDENTS IN NEW YORK

The Association of Indians in America - New York Chapter (AIA-NY) has awarded scholarships to 10 students of Queensborough Community College (QCC) as part of its continued commitment to education and community development.

The scholarships were presented during the Deepavali - Festival of Lights celebration held in October at QCC. The initiative is part of the Student Success Scholarship Fund, launched in January 2025 under the leadership of Jagdish K. Gupta, then President of AIA-NY. The programme began with an initial contribution of USD 10,000, providing ten scholarships of USD 1,000 each to students from low-income families enrolled in certificate and associate degree programmes.

QCC, one of the most diverse institutions within the City University of New York system, serves students from more than 110 countries and is recognised for its inclusive academic environment. The partnership with AIA-NY reflects shared values of educational empowerment, cultural exchange, and community service.

Since the collaboration began, AIA-NY and QCC have jointly hosted several cultural and academic initiatives, including the Holi Festival of Colors and the Deepavali celebration, bringing together students, faculty, families, and community leaders.

During the scholarship recognition ceremony, recipients were congratulated by senior representatives from both institutions, including Christine Mangino, President of Queensborough Community College, and AIA leadership led by Beena Kothari, President of AIA-NY.

The scholarships, administered through QCC's Academic Senate Scholarships and Awards Committee, were credited directly to students' accounts to support their academic and professional pursuits.

Founded in 1967, AIA-NY is one of the oldest Indian-American community organisations in the United States and continues to promote education, cultural heritage, and community service through scholarships, programmes, and collaborative initiatives across New York.

Source: News India Times, 27/11/2025

Link: <https://newsindiatimes.com/association-of-indians-in-america-awards-scholarships-to-10-students/>



DR. YASH PANDEY HONOURED BY LONDON & ASIAN BOOK OF RECORDS FOR SURGICAL MILESTONE

Dr. Yash Pandey has been honoured by the London Book of Records and the Asian Book of Records for successfully performing 1,000 surgeries in 100 days, a remarkable achievement recognised for balancing speed with surgical precision and patient safety.

The recognition acknowledges Dr. Pandey's exceptional surgical discipline, teamwork, and clinical expertise in delivering high-volume procedures without compromising standards of care. The milestone was achieved through meticulous planning, adherence to safety protocols, and the effective use of modern surgical techniques. Based in Varanasi, Dr. Pandey's accomplishment highlights the growing capability of Indian surgeons and healthcare institutions beyond metropolitan centres.

The honour reflects how innovation, efficiency, and ethical medical practice are increasingly shaping India's global reputation in surgical excellence.

The London & Asian Book of Records frequently recognise achievements that demonstrate innovation and human skill, and Dr. Pandey's record has been cited as an example of how technology, precision, and compassion can coexist in modern healthcare delivery.



Source: ANI News, 05/11/2025

Link: <https://www.aninews.in/news/business/dr-yash-pandey-honoured-by-london-amp-asian-book-of-record-for-1000-surgeries-in-100-days20251105100823/>

INDIA-BORN PHYSICIAN PADMAJA PATEL APPOINTED TO TEXAS NUTRITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

India-born physician Dr. Padmaja Patel has been appointed to the Texas Nutrition Advisory Committee by Texas Governor Greg Abbott, according to an official announcement.

Based in Midland, Dr. Patel will serve on the state advisory panel through September 1, 2029. The committee advises the state on matters related to diet and nutrition, with a focus on the role of food in preventing and managing chronic diseases, improving food access, and supporting evidence-based public health strategies.

Members of the Texas Nutrition Advisory Committee are appointed by the governor for staggered terms and represent a broad spectrum of medical, nutrition, and public health expertise. Dr. Patel's appointment was part of a wider slate of appointments announced by the governor's office.



Source: Economic Times , 25/11/2025

Link: <https://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/industry/pgi-doctor-becomes-first-indian-to-win-gold-medal-for-ocular-inflammation-study/125649660>

DR. ANJANI SINHA APPOINTED UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO SINGAPORE

Dr. Anjani Sinha, a renowned orthopaedic surgeon with decades of experience in orthopaedic surgery and sports medicine, has been officially appointed as the United States Ambassador to Singapore, marking a significant transition from medical leadership to international diplomacy.

Dr. Sinha assumed office in Singapore in early November 2025 following confirmation along with a group of diplomatic nominees. Over the course of his medical career, he has established and led specialised orthopaedic practices across multiple locations in the United States and has also served as a senior consultant in Florida. His work has focused not only on clinical excellence but also on improving healthcare delivery through collaboration with public and private sector stakeholders.

He earned his medical degree from MGM Medical College and the University of Delhi and later completed a Master's degree in Orthopaedic Surgery. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Dr. Sinha is widely recognised for his philanthropic efforts in both the United States and India, supporting institutions of higher education and community initiatives along with his wife, Dr. Kuntala Sinha.

On assuming his new role, Dr. Sinha expressed his commitment to strengthening cooperation between the United States and Singapore, particularly in areas such as healthcare, technology, energy, and security. U.S. officials noted that his appointment reflects the importance of Singapore as a strategic partner and regional hub for innovation and economic growth.

Dr. Sinha's appointment highlights the expanding global influence of physicians of Indian origin, whose leadership increasingly spans healthcare, public service, and international relations.

Source: Medical Dialogues, 12/11/2025

Link:<https://medicaldialogues.in/news/health/doctors/renowned-orthopaedic-surgeon-dr-anjani-sinha-appointed-us-ambassador-to-singapore-158488>



DR. HAKIM IRFAN CONFERRED FELLOWSHIP OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW

Dr. Hakim Irfan has been awarded the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (FRCP Glasgow), a distinguished international honour conferred on senior physicians for sustained excellence in clinical practice, leadership, and contribution to medical advancement.

The fellowship represents an honorary elevation beyond membership and is granted in recognition of years of professional achievement, academic contribution, and service to healthcare. With fellows across more than 90 countries, FRCP Glasgow is regarded as a global mark of distinction in medicine.

Dr. Irfan's election to Fellowship underscores his professional integrity, clinical expertise, and continued commitment to advancing patient care and medical standards.

Source: Kashmir Observer, 25/11/2025

Link: <https://kashmirobservers.net/2025/11/25/dr-hakim-irfan-awarded-glasgow-frcp/>



DR. B. KESAVAMOORTHY WINS INTERNATIONAL HONOUR AT TCT 2025



Dr. B. Kesavamoorthy, Head of the Department of Cardiology at Meenakshi Hospital Thanjavur, has won the runner-up award for his scientific presentation at the Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics Conference (TCT) 2025, organised by the Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF).

The recognition was awarded for Dr. Kesavamoorthy's case-study paper titled "Handmade Covered Stent: For Type III Coronary Artery Perforation," which was commended for its clinical innovation and technical precision. The work demonstrated a creative, life-saving approach to managing a rare and high-risk coronary artery complication using a custom-prepared covered stent.

The presentation was delivered at the TCT 2025 Conference held in San Francisco during the last week of October, an event that brings together leading interventional cardiologists, researchers, and innovators from across the world. The runner-up award reflects the scientific merit and real-world clinical relevance of the work presented.

Source: The Hindu, 06/11/2025

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Tiruchirapalli/meenakshi-hospitals-cardiologist-bags-international-award/article70248040.ece>

DR. RAFI AHMED JAN AWARDED FELLOWSHIP OF INDIAN SOCIETY OF CHEST PHYSICIANS AT NAPCON

Dr. Rafi Ahmed Jan, Professor of Respiratory Medicine at Government Medical College Anantnag, has been awarded the Fellowship of the Indian Society of Chest Physicians (ISCP) during the National Conference on Pulmonary Diseases (NAPCON) held in Jaipur.

With this honour, Dr. Jan becomes the first doctor from Jammu and Kashmir to receive the prestigious fellowship, bringing national recognition to both his professional contributions and the Department of Respiratory Medicine at GMC Anantnag. The fellowship acknowledges sustained excellence in pulmonary medicine, clinical leadership, and contributions to advancing respiratory care in India.

Dr. Jan has over two decades of experience in pulmonary medicine and has previously served as Head of the Department of Internal and Pulmonary Medicine at Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura. His clinical expertise spans interventional pulmonology, including bronchoscopy, airway stenting, and pleural interventions.

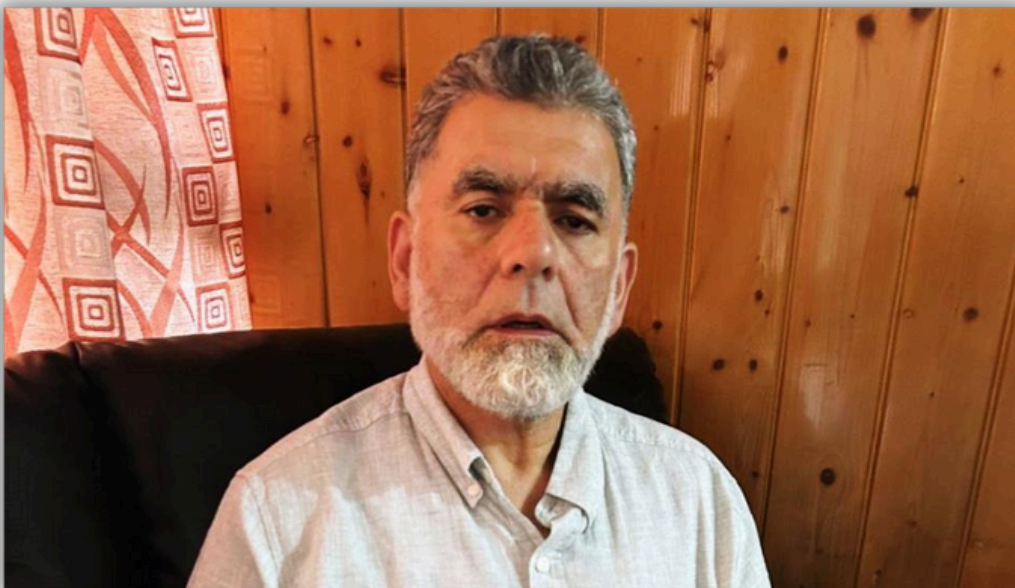
In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Jan has been actively involved in research, postgraduate training, and professional medical societies, contributing to the development of pulmonary services in the region. Notably, he was also the first doctor from Kashmir to receive a fellowship from the Indian Association for Bronchology last year.

Speaking after receiving the honour, Dr. Jan stated that the recognition reflected the collective efforts of GMC Anantnag and the broader healthcare community in strengthening pulmonary medicine and respiratory care in Jammu and Kashmir.

The fellowship underscores Dr. Jan's role in advancing interventional pulmonology and reinforces the growing national presence of physicians from the region in academic and clinical excellence.

Source: : Kashmir Observer, 17/11/2025

Link: <https://kashmirobsver.net/2025/11/17/kashmir-doctor-awarded-prestigious-fellowship-at-napcon/>



PGI CHANDIGARH'S PROF. VAISHALI GUPTA BECOMES FIRST INDIAN TO RECEIVE IUSG GOLD MEDAL

Prof. Vaishali Gupta, from the Advanced Eye Centre at Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, has been selected for the Gold Medal of the International Uveitis Study Group (IUSG), becoming the first Indian doctor educated and practising in India to receive this prestigious honour.

The IUSG Gold Medal, awarded once every four years, is regarded as the highest global recognition in the field of uveitis care and research. The honour is conferred on a single expert worldwide in each cycle following a rigorous two-stage voting process conducted by the IUSG, which comprises approximately 150 leading ophthalmologists globally.

Prof. Gupta will formally receive the medal at the IUSG meeting in Tübingen, Germany, in July 2026, where she will also deliver the Gold Medal Lecture. The award recognises her sustained and impactful contributions to the diagnosis, management,

and research of uveitis, a complex inflammatory eye disorder that can lead to severe vision loss if not appropriately treated.

Acknowledging the recognition, Prof. Gupta described the award as a milestone not only for her professional journey but also for Indian medical research and ophthalmology on the global stage. She credited the mentorship of Prof. Amod Gupta and the academic environment at PGIMER for enabling her work to gain international prominence.

The honour underscores Prof. Gupta's role in advancing uveitis care worldwide and highlights the growing global impact of Indian physician-scientists in specialised medical research.



Source: : True Scoop News, 27/10/2025

Link:<https://www.truescoopnews.com/chandigarh/pgi-chandigarhs-prof-vaishali-gupta-becomes-first-indian-to-receive-iusg-gold-medal>



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