United Nations Population Award 2020

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Why in News

Recently, **HelpAge India** has been presented the **UN Population Award for 2020 in the institutional category.**

> **Bhutan's Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck** has been awarded the United Nations Population Award in the **individual category** for 2020 for her work on sexual health and ending gender violence.

Key Points

- **United Nations Population Award:**
  - **Each year,** the Committee for the United Nations Population Award honours **an individual and/or institution** in recognition of outstanding **contributions to population and reproductive health issues** and solutions.
  - The Award was **established by the General Assembly in 1981,** and was **first presented in 1983.** It **consists of** a gold medal, a diploma and a monetary prize.
  - The **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** serves as its **secretariat.**
- **HelpAge India:**
  - It is a **leading charity in India** working with and **for disadvantaged elderly** for nearly 4 decades. It was set up in 1978 and is registered under the Societies' Registration Act of 1860.
  - For the **first time** in the history of the UN Population Award, the honour is being **conferred on an Indian institution.**

    > **Only two Indians have been awarded** in the past four decades since the award was established in 1981: former Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi in 1983** and industrialist-philanthropist **J.R.D.Tata in 1992.**